

Books, watches, notes or cell phones are **not** allowed. The **only** calculators allowed are the Sharp EL-531**. You **must** show all your work, the correct answer is worth 1 mark the remaining marks are given for the work.

Question 1. (2 marks) Consider the vectors $\mathbf{u} = (1, 2, -3)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (0, 7, 1)$ where $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$ is a basis for a vector space W . Find the coordinates of the vector $\mathbf{w} = (1, 23, 0)$ relative to \mathcal{B} .

Question 2. (5 marks) Consider the space $M_{3 \times 3}$ of all square matrices of size 3×3 and the subset W of skew-symmetric matrices:

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ -a & 0 & c \\ -b & -c & 0 \end{bmatrix}, a, b, c \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

and consider the matrices:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Determine whether $S = \{A, B, C\}$ is a basis for W and state the dimension of W .

Question 3. (5 marks) Let A be a nonzero 2×2 matrix and write $U = \{X \in \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2} \mid XA = AX\}$. Show that $\dim(U) \geq 2$. *Hint: I and A are in U and prove by contradiction.*

Bonus Question.

definition:¹ A *group* G is a set of elements satisfying the four conditions below, relative to some binary operation.

1. $\exists e \in G \forall g \in G : e \cdot g = g \cdot e = g$. (Identity.)
2. $\forall x, y, z \in G : (x \cdot y) \cdot z = x \cdot (y \cdot z)$. (Associativity.)
3. $\forall x \in G, \exists y \in G x \cdot y = y \cdot x = e$. (Inverse.)
4. $\forall x, y \in G : x \cdot y \in G$. (Closure.)

where e is called the *identity*.

- a. (2 marks) Show that the identity is unique.
- b. (2 marks) Is a vector space a group?

¹https://web.williams.edu/Mathematics/sjmillier/public_html/mathlab/public_html/handouts/GroupTheoryIntro.tex