

1. (20%) Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$  where  $F$  is a field.
- (a) Show that if  $k$  is the largest integer such that some  $k \times k$  submatrix of  $A$  has a nonzero determinant, then  $\text{rank}(A) = k$ .
- (b) If  $A$  is nilpotent of index  $m$  (that is,  $A^m = 0$  but  $A^{m-1} \neq 0$ ), and if, for each vector  $v$  in  $F^n$ ,  $W_v$  is defined to be the subspace generated by  $v, Av, \dots, A^{m-1}v$ , how large can the dimension of  $W_v$  be? (Justify your answer.)

2. (30%)

- (a) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -6 & -6 \\ -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & -6 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find the general solution to the system of differential equations

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = AX, \text{ where } X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ x_3(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

where for each  $i$ ,  $x_i(t)$  is a differentiable real-valued function of the real variable  $t$ .

- (b) Let  $V$  be the space of all real polynomials having degree less than 4 with the inner product  $\langle f(x), g(x) \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(t)g(t)dt$ . Let  $T$  be a linear operator on  $V$  defined by  $T(f(x)) = f'(x) + 3f(x)$ . Use the Gram-Schmidt process to replace  $\beta = \{1, 1+x, x+x^2, x^2+x^3\}$  by an orthonormal basis for  $V$  and find the matrix representation of the adjoint  $T^*$  of  $T$  in this orthonormal basis.

3. (30%)

- (a) Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Show that there exists an orthogonal matrix  $Q$  and a positive semi-definite symmetric matrix  $P$  such that  $A = QP$ .
- (b) Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $T$  be a linear operator on  $V$ . Show that  $T$  is normal if and only if its adjoint  $T^* = g(T)$  for some polynomial  $g(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ .

4. (20 %) Let  $T \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V)$  for a finite-dimensional  $\mathbb{C}$ -vector space  $V$ .

- (a) Show that we have an expression of  $T$  as  $T = S + N$  with  $S, N \in \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(V)$ , such that  $S$  is diagonalisable,  $N$  is nilpotent and  $SN = NS$ .
- (b) Show that both  $S$  and  $N$  are uniquely defined by these conditions.
- (c) Show that there is a polynomial  $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  with  $p(0) = 0$  such that  $S = p(T)$ .