

1. Find all possible Jordan forms for 8×8 real matrices having $x^2(x-2)^3$ as minimal polynomial. (20 points.)
2. Let V be a vector space over a field \mathbb{F} of infinite elements, and let v_1, \dots, v_n be vectors in V , where n is a positive integer. Suppose that $v_0 + zv_1 + \dots + z^n v_n = 0$ for infinitely many z in \mathbb{F} . Prove that all v_i 's are zero. (20 points.)
3. Let $V = M(n, \mathbb{R})$ be the vector space of all $n \times n$ matrices and $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a linear transformation. Assume that $f(AB) = f(BA)$ for all $A, B \in V$ and $f(I_n) = n$, where I_n is the identity matrix in V . Prove that f is the trace function. (20 points. *Hint:* Consider the cases $A = E_{ij}$ and $B = E_{kl}$ for various E_{ij} and E_{kl} . Here E_{ij} denotes the matrix whose (i, j) -entry is 1 and whose other entries are 0.)
4. Let V be an n -dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} and $B : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a symmetric bilinear form on V . (*Symmetric* means $B(u, v) = B(v, u)$ for all $u, v \in V$. *Bilinear* means that B is linear in each of the two variables.)

(a) Let W be a vector subspace of V and let

$$W^\perp = \{u \in V : B(u, v) = 0 \text{ for all } v \in W\}.$$

Prove that if $\dim W = m$, then $\dim W^\perp \geq n - m$. (10 points. *Hint:* Choose a basis $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ for W and consider the map

$$u \longmapsto (B(u, v_1), \dots, B(u, v_m))$$

from V into \mathbb{R}^m .)

- (b) Prove that $V = W \oplus W^\perp$ if and only if the restriction of B to W is nondegenerate. (*Nondegenerate* means that $v = 0$ is the only vector of W such that $B(u, v) = 0$ for all $u \in W$.) (15 points.)
- (c) Prove that if B is nondegenerate on V , then there is a nonnegative integer p with $p \leq n$ and a basis $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ such that

$$B(v_i, v_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 1 \leq i = j \leq p, \\ -1, & \text{if } p+1 \leq i = j \leq n, \\ 0, & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

(15 points.)