## Linear Algebra Resit September 1999 Ali Nesin

**1.** Let  $V = \{f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} : f \text{ is differentiable}\}$ . We know (from calculus) that *V* is a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Show that the set  $(\sin^n x)_n$  is a linearly independent subset of *V*. (10 pts.)

**2.** Show that  $\mathbb{R} \approx \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$  as vector spaces over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . (5 pts.)

**3.** Let V be a vector space and W a subspace of V. Show that W has a complement in V (i.e. a subspace  $W_1$  of V such that  $V = W + W_1$  and  $W \cap W_1 = \{0\}$ ). (10 pts.)

**4.** Let *V* be a vector space over a field *K*. Let  $f \in \text{End}_{K}(V)$  be such that  $f \circ f = f$ .

**4a.** Show that  $v - f(v) \in \text{Ker}(f)$  for all  $v \in V$ . (1 pt.)

**4b.** Show that  $Ker(f) \cap Im(f) = \{0\}$ . (3 pts.)

**4c.** Show that  $V \approx \text{Ker}(f) \times \text{Im}(f)$  (8 pts.)

**4b.** Show that f is the identity map on Im(f) and that it is the zero map on Ker(f). (2 pts.)

**5.** Recall that  $GL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$  is the group of invertible  $n \times n$  matrices over the field  $\mathbf{F}_q$ ,  $SL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$  is the group of  $n \times n$  matrices of determinant 1 over the field  $\mathbf{F}_q$ ,  $PGL_n(\mathbf{F}_q) = GL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)/(\mathbf{F}_q^* \operatorname{Id}_n)$  and  $PSL_n(\mathbf{F}_q) = SL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)/(\mathbf{F}_q^* \operatorname{Id}_n \cap SL_n(\mathbf{F}_q))$ .

**5a.** Find the number of elements of  $GL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$ ,  $SL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$ ,  $PGL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$  and  $PSL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$ . (10 pts.)

**5b.** Let *p* be a prime number. Does  $PSL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$  has an element of order *p*? (4 pts.)

**5c.** Assume n > 1 and that p divides q. Find an element of order p of  $PSL_n(\mathbf{F}_q)$ . (5 pts.)

**6.** Let  $k \le K \le L$  be field extensions. Show that  $\dim_k(L)$  is finite if and only if  $\dim_k(K)$  and  $\dim_K(L)$  are finite. Show that in that case we have  $\dim_k(L) = \dim_k(K)\dim_K(L)$ . (10 pts.)

**7a.** Let *A* be an abelian group of prime exponent *p*. Show that *A* is, in a natural way, a vector space over  $\mathbf{F}_{p}$ . (10 pts.)

**7b.** Show that, up to isomorphism, there is a unique abelian group of prime exponent of a given cardinality. (5 pts.)

**8a.** Let *A* be a torsion-free divisible abelian group. Show that *A* is, in a natural way, a vector space over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . (10 pts.)

**8b.** Show that, up to isomorphism, there is a unique torsion-free divisible abelian group of a given infinite cardinality. (5 pts.)