

**Math 550 - Final Exam**  
**180 minutes**

**Max Score: 35**

Name:

ID:

**Q1.** Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $U_1$ ,  $U_2$ , and  $U_3$  be subspaces of  $V$ .

- (a) Give an example to show that  $U_1 \cap (U_2 + U_3) \neq (U_1 \cap U_2) + (U_1 \cap U_3)$ .
- (b) Prove that if  $U_1 \subseteq U_3$ , then  $U_1 + (U_2 \cap U_3) = (U_1 + U_2) \cap U_3$ .

**Q2.**

- (a) Define what an inner product is.
- (b) Define what a normal operator is.
- (c) Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional inner product space and  $T$  a normal operator on  $V$ . Suppose  $\alpha \in V$ . Prove that  $\alpha$  is an eigenvector for  $T$  associated with the eigenvalue  $c$  if and only if  $\alpha$  is an eigenvector for  $T^*$  associated with the eigenvalue  $\bar{c}$ .

**Q3.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . and define

$$T : \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$$

$$T(B) = AB - BA$$

- (a) Find  $G := [T]_S$ , the matrix of  $T$  with respect to the standard basis of  $\mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ .
- (b) Find the minimal polynomial of  $G$ , knowing that the characteristic polynomial is  $\det(\lambda I - G) = \lambda^2(\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 4)$ .
- (c) Is  $G$  diagonalizable? Justify.
- (d) Find the Jordan form of  $G$ .
- (e) Show that if  $T(B) = nI$ , then  $n = 0$ .

**Q4.** Suppose that  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_8$  are eight  $6 \times 6$  complex matrices, whose cube is zero (that is,  $A_i^3 = 0$ ). Prove that two of these matrices must be similar.

**Q5.** Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional inner product space over  $\mathbb{F}$ , and  $T$  a self-adjoint linear operator on  $V$ .

- (a) Prove that each eigenvalue of  $T$  is real.
- (b) Prove that the eigenvectors of  $T$  associated with distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal.

**Q6.** Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional inner product space over  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

- (a) Give an example of a linear operator  $S$  on  $V$  such that  $(Av|v) = 0, \forall v \in V$ , but  $(A^2v|v) \neq 0, \forall v \neq 0$ .
- (b) Prove that if  $S$  is a self-adjoint linear operator on  $V$  (hence  $S$  is symmetric), then  $(Sv|v) = 0, \forall v \in V \implies S = 0$ .

**Q7.** Consider the quadratic form  $q \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = kx^2 - 4xy + ky^2, k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Find  $k$  so that the quadratic form is positive definite.
- (b) Suppose that  $q = v^t D v$  where  $D$  is a diagonal matrix. Prove that the diagonal entries of  $D$  are all positive if and only if  $k > 2$ .
- (c) Find  $k$  so that the symmetric bilinear form corresponding to  $q$  is non-degenerate.
- (d) Let  $k = 3$ , find the symmetric bilinear form  $f$  corresponding to  $q$ .