

1. (a) Extend the set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  to a basis for  $\mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}$ .  
(b) Reduce the set  $\{1 + x + x^3, 2 - x + 2x^3, x + x^3, x^2 - x, 1 - x + x^2, x^3\}$  to a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_3$ .  
(c) Find a basis for  $\text{span}\{1, \sin^2 x, \cos^2 x, \sin 2x, \cos 2x\}$  in  $\mathcal{F}$ .
2. Find a basis for the subspace  $\{p(x) : xp'(x) = p(x)\}$  of  $\mathcal{P}_3$ .
3. Find a formula for the dimension of the vector space of symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{R}$ .
4. Let  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a basis of the vector space  $V$ . Prove that

$$\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3, \dots, \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_n\}$$

is also a basis of  $V$ .