

**M20580 L.A. and D.E.**  
**Quiz 6**

1. Let  $V = M_{2 \times 3}$  be the vector space of  $2 \times 3$  matrices and consider the subspace

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix} \mid a + b + c = 0 \text{ and } d = 0 \right\}.$$

What is the dimension of  $W$ ?

**Solution:** Substituting the relations  $a = -b - c$  and  $d = 0$  into a typical element of  $M_{2 \times 3}$ , we see that a typical element of  $W$  is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} -b - c & b & c \\ 0 & e & f \end{bmatrix} = b \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + e \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + f \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now the four matrices appearing on the right hand side of the above equation are easily seen to be linearly independent, and so they are a basis for  $W$ , which therefore then has dimension 4.

2. If  $\mathcal{B} = \{1 + t^2, t^2, -4t\}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_2$ , then what is  $p(t)$  if  $[p(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ?

**Solution:** We know from  $[p(t)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  that

$$p(t) = 1(1 + t^2) - 2(t^2) + 0(-4t) = 1 + t^2 - 2t^2 = 1 - t^2.$$