

# 1 Vector Spaces

## 1.1 Fields and Vector Spaces

### Definition 1.1.1: Definition of a field

A field  $F$  is a set with two functions

- Addition:  $+: F \times F \rightarrow F, (\lambda, \mu) \mapsto \lambda + \mu$
- Multiplication:  $\cdot: F \times F, (\lambda, \mu) \mapsto \lambda\mu$

which satisfy the following axioms:

1.  $(F, +)$  is an abelian group  $F^+$ , with identity  $0_F$
2.  $(F \setminus \{0_F\}, \cdot)$  is an abelian group  $F^\times$ , with identity  $1_F$
3. **Distributive law:** For all  $a, b$ , and  $c$  in  $F$ , we have

$$a(b + c) = ab + ac \in F$$

and the following lemmas:

1. The elements  $0_F$  and  $1_F$  of  $F$  are distinct
2. For all  $a \in F$ ,  $a \cdot 0_F = 0_F$  and  $0_F \cdot a = 0_F$
3. Multiplication in  $F$  is associative, and  $1_F$  is an identity element

A **vector space**  $V$  over a field  $F$  is a pair consisting of an abelian group  $V = (V, +)$  and a mapping

$$F \times V \rightarrow V : (\lambda, \vec{v}) \mapsto \lambda\vec{v}$$

s.t. for all  $\lambda, \mu \in F$  and  $\vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$  the following identities hold:

- **Distributivity 1:**  $\lambda(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \lambda\vec{v} + \lambda\vec{w}$
- **Distributivity 2:**  $(\lambda + \mu)\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} + \mu\vec{v}$
- **Associativity:**  $\lambda(\mu\vec{v}) = (\lambda\mu)\vec{v}$
- **Identity:**  $1\vec{v} = \vec{v}$

and so do the following lemmas:

1. If  $V$  is a vector space and  $\vec{v} \in V$ , then  $0\vec{v} = \vec{0}$
2. If  $V$  is a vector space and  $\vec{v} \in V$ , then  $(-1)\vec{v} = -\vec{v}$
3. If  $V$  is a vector space over a field  $F$ , then  $\lambda\vec{0} = \vec{0}$  for all  $\lambda \in F$ . Furthermore, if  $\lambda\vec{v} = \vec{0}$  then either  $\lambda = 0$  or  $\vec{v} = \vec{0}$

## 1.2 Working with Vector Spaces

### Definition 1.2.1: Cartesian Product of $n$ sets

$$X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n := \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_i \in X_i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

The elements of a product are called  **$n$ -tuples**. An individual entry  $x_i = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is called a **component**. There are special mappings called **projections** for a cartesian product:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pr}_i : X_1 \times \cdots \times X_n &\rightarrow X_i \\ (x_1, \dots, x_n) &\mapsto x_i \end{aligned}$$

The cartesian product of  $n$  copies of a set  $X$  is written in short as:  $X^n$

### Definition 1.2.2: Vector Subspace

A subset  $U$  of a vector space  $V$  is called a **vector subspace** or **subspace** if  $U$  contains the zero vector, and whenever  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in U$  and  $\lambda \in F$  we have  $\vec{u} + \vec{v} \in U$  and  $\lambda\vec{u} \in U$

### Definition 1.2.3: Spans and Linear Independence

Let  $T \subset V$  for some vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ . Then amongus all subspaces of  $V$  that include  $T$  there is a smallest subspace

$$\langle T \rangle = \langle T \rangle_F \subseteq V$$

“the set of all vectors  $\alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \cdots + \alpha_r\vec{v}_r$  with  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in F$  and  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_r \in T$ , together with the zero vector in the case  $T = \emptyset$ ”

### Terminology Dump

- An expression of the form  $\alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \cdots + \alpha_r\vec{v}_r$  is called a **linear combination** of vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_r$
- The smallest vector subspace  $\langle T \rangle \subseteq V$  containing  $T$  is called the **vector subspace generated by  $T$**  or the vector subspace **spanned by  $T$**  or even the **span of  $T$**
- If we allow the zero vector to be the “empty linear combination of  $r = 0$  vectors”, then the span of  $T$  is exactly the set of all linear combinations of vectors from  $T$
- A subset of a vector space that spans the entire space is called a **generating** or **spanning set**. A vector space that has a finite generating set is said to be **finitely generated**

### Linear Independence

A subset  $L$  of a vector space  $V$  is called **linearly independent** if for all pairwise different vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_r \in L$  and arbitrary scalars  $\alpha, \dots, \alpha_r \in F$ ,

$$\alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \cdots + \alpha_r\vec{v}_r = \vec{0} \implies \alpha_1 = \cdots = \alpha_r = 0$$

A subset  $L$  of a vector space  $V$  is called **linearly dependent** if it is not linearly independent (duh.). This means there exists pairwise different vectors  $\vec{v}_{j_1}, \dots, \vec{v}_r \in L$  and scalars  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in F$ , not all zero, such that  $\alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \cdots + \alpha_r\vec{v}_r = \vec{0}$

## 1.3 Linear Independence and Bases

### Definition 1.3.1: Basis of a Vector Space

A **basis of a vector space**  $V$  is a linearly independent generating set in  $V$

### Example 1.3.2: Standard Basis

Let  $F$  be a field and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We consider the following vectors in  $F^n$

$$\vec{e}_i = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

with one 1 in the  $i$ -th place and zero everywhere else. Then  $\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n$  form an ordered basis of  $F^n$ , the so-called **standard basis of  $F^n$**

### Theorem 1.3.3: Linear combinations of basis elements

Let  $F$  be a field,  $V$  a vector space over  $F$  and  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_r \in V$  vectors. The family  $(\vec{v}_i)_{1 \leq i \leq r}$  is a basis of  $V$  if and only if the following “evaluation” mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : F^r &\rightarrow V \\ (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r) &\mapsto \alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \cdots + \alpha_r\vec{v}_r \end{aligned}$$

is a bijection

If we label our ordered family by  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_r)$ , then we done the above mapping by

$$\psi = \psi_{\mathcal{A}} : F^r \rightarrow V$$

### Theorem 1.3.4: Characterisations of Bases

The following are equivalent for a subset  $E$  of a vector space  $V$ :

1.  $E$  is a basis, i.e. a linearly independent generating set
2.  $E$  is minimal among all generating sets, meaning that  $E \setminus \{\vec{v}\}$  does not generate  $V$ , for any  $\vec{v} \in E$
3.  $E$  is maximal among all linearly independent subsets, meaning that  $E \cup \{\vec{v}\}$  is linearly dependent for any  $\vec{v} \in V$

**Corollary:** Let  $V$  be a finitely generated vector space over a field  $F$ . Then  $V$  has a finite basis

### Basis Characterisation Variant

1. If  $L \subset V$  is a linearly independent subset and  $E$  is minimal amongst all generating sets of  $V$  with the property that  $L \subseteq E$ , then  $E$  is a basis.
2. If  $E \subseteq V$  is a generating set and if  $L$  is maximal amongst all linearly independent sets of  $V$  with the property  $L \subseteq E$ , then  $L$  is a basis.

### Definition 1.3.5: Free Vector Space

Let  $X$  be a set and  $F$  a field. The set  $\text{Maps}(X, F)$  of all mappings  $f : X \rightarrow F$  becomes an  $F$ -vector space with the operations of pointwise addition and multiplication by a scalar. The subset of all mappings which send almost all elements of  $X$  to zero is a vector subspace

$$F\langle X \rangle \subseteq \text{Maps}(X, F)$$

This subspace is called the **free vector space on the set  $X$**

### Theorem 1.3.6: Variant of Linear Combinations

Let  $F$  be a field,  $V$  be an  $F$ -vector space and  $(\vec{v}_i)_{i \in I}$  a family of vectors from the vector space  $V$ . The following are equivalent:

1. The family  $(\vec{v}_i)_{i \in I}$  is a basis for  $V$
2. For each  $\vec{v} \in V$  there is precisely one family  $(a_i)_{i \in I}$  of elements of  $F$ , almost all which are zero and such that

$$\vec{v} = \sum_{i \in I} a_i \vec{v}_i$$

## 1.4 Dimension of a Vector Space

### Theorem 1.4.1: Fundamental Estimate of LinAlg

No linearly independent subset of a given vector has more elements than a generating set. Thus if  $V$  is a vector space,  $L \subset V$  a linearly independent subset and  $E \subseteq V$  a generating set, then

$$|L| \leq |E|$$

### Theorem 1.4.2: Steinitz Exchange Theorem

Let  $V$  be a vector space,  $L \subset V$  a finite linearly independent subset and  $E \subseteq V$  a generating set. Then there is an injection  $\phi : L \hookrightarrow E$  such that  $(E \setminus \phi(L)) \cup L$  is also a generating set for  $V$

Let  $V$  be a vector space,  $M \subseteq V$  a linearly independent subset, and  $E \subseteq V$  a generating subset, such that  $M \subseteq E$ . If  $\vec{w} \in V \setminus M$  is a vector  $\notin M$  such that  $M \cup \{\vec{w}\}$  is linearly independent, then there exists  $\vec{e} \in E \setminus M$  such that  $(E \setminus \{\vec{e}\}) \cup \{\vec{w}\}$  is a generating set

### Theorem 1.4.3: Cardinality of Bases

Let  $V$  be a finitely generated vector space.

1.  $V$  has a finite basis
2.  $V$  cannot have an infinite basis
3. Any two bases of  $V$  have the same number of elements

### Definition 1.4.4: Dimension of a Vector Space

The cardinality of a basis of a finitely generated vector space  $V$  is called the **dimension** of  $V$ , written  $\dim V$ . If  $F$  is a field, and we want to denote that we mean dimension as an  $F$ -vector space, then we write  $\dim_F V$ . If the vector space is not finitely generated, then we say  $\dim V = \infty$  and call  $V$  **infinite dimensional**.

### Theorem 1.4.5: Dimension Theorems

#### Cardinality Criterion for Bases

1. Each linearly independent subset  $L \subset V$  has at most  $\dim V$  elements, and if  $|L| = \dim V$  then  $L$  is a basis
2. Each generating set  $E \subseteq V$  has at least  $\dim V$  elements, and if  $|E| = \dim V$  then  $E$  is a basis

**Dimension Estimate for Vector Subspaces:** A proper vector subspace of a finite dimensional vector space has itself a strictly smaller dimension

If  $U \subseteq V$  is a vector subspace of an arbitrary vector space, then we have  $\dim U \leq \dim V$  and if we have  $\dim U = \dim V < \infty$  then it follows that  $U = V$

## 1.5 Linear Mappings

### Definition 1.5.1: Linear Mappings

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces over a field  $F$ . A mapping  $f : V \rightarrow W$  is called **linear**, or  **$F$ -linear**, or even a **homomorphism of  $F$ -vector spaces** if for all  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in V$  and  $\lambda \in F$  we have

$$f(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) = f(\vec{v}_1) + f(\vec{v}_2)$$

$$f(\lambda \vec{v}_1) = \lambda f(\vec{v}_1)$$

A bijective linear mapping is called an **isomorphism** of vector spaces. If there is an isomorphism between two vector spaces, we call them **isomorphic**. A homomorphism  $V \rightarrow V$  is called an **endomorphism** of  $V$ . An isomorphism  $V \rightarrow V$  is called an **automorphism** of  $V$

Two vector subspaces  $V_1, V_2$  of a vector space  $V$  are called **complementary** if addition defines a bijection

$$V_1 \times V_2 \xrightarrow{\sim} V$$

something about direct sums

### Theorem 1.5.2: Classifying VecSpaces by Dimension

Let  $n$  be a natural number. Then a vector space over a field  $F$  is isomorphic to  $F^n$  iff it has dimension  $n$

### Theorem 1.5.3: Linear Mapping and Bases

Let  $V, W$  be vector spaces over a field  $F$ . The set of all homomorphisms from  $V$  to  $W$  is denoted by

$$\text{Hom}_F(V, W) = \text{Hom}(V, W) \subseteq \text{Maps}(V, W)$$

Let  $B \subset V$  be a basis. Then restriction of a mapping gives a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_F(V, W) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Maps}(B, W) \\ f &\mapsto f|_B \end{aligned}$$

### Theorem 1.5.4: Inverse Mappings

1. Every injective linear mapping  $f : V \hookrightarrow W$  has a **left inverse**, or a linear mapping  $g : W \rightarrow V$  s.t.  $g \circ f = \text{id}_V$
2. Every surjective linear mapping  $f : V \twoheadrightarrow W$  has a **right inverse**, or a linear mapping  $G : W \rightarrow V$  s.t.  $f \circ g = \text{id}_W$

### Definition 1.5.5: Image and Kernel of a map

The **image** of a linear mapping  $f : V \rightarrow W$  is the subset  $\text{im}(f) = f(V) \subseteq W$ . It is a vector subspace of  $W$ . The preimage of the zero vector of a linear mapping  $f : V \rightarrow W$  is denoted by:

$$\ker(f) := f^{-1}(0) = \{v \in V : f(v) = 0\}$$

and is called the **kernel** of the linear mapping  $f$ . The kernel is a subspace of  $V$

**Mini lemma:** A linear mapping is injective iff its kernel is zero

### Theorem 1.5.6: Rank-Nullity / Dimension Theorem

Let  $f : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear mapping between vector spaces. Then:

$$\dim V = \dim(\ker f) + \dim(\text{im } f)$$

Dimension of  $\text{im } f =$  **rank** of  $f$ , dimension of  $\ker f =$  **nullity** of  $f$

Let  $V$  be a vector space, and  $U, W \subseteq V$  vector subspaces. Then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W$$

## 2 Linear Mappings and Matrices

### 2.1 Linear Mappings $F^m \rightarrow F^n$ and Matrices

#### Theorem 2.1.1: Linear Maps $F^m \rightarrow F^n$ and Matrices

Let  $F$  be a field and let  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . There is a bijection between the space of linear mappings  $F^m \rightarrow F^n$  and the set of matrices with  $n$  rows,  $m$  columns, and entries in  $F$ :

$$M : \text{Hom}_F(F^m, F^n) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Mat}(n \times m; F)$$

$$f \mapsto [f]$$

This attaches to each linear mapping  $f$  its **representing matrix**  $M(f) := [f]$ . The columns of this matrix are the images under  $f$  of the standard basis elements of  $F^m$

$$[f] := (f(\vec{e}_1) | f(\vec{e}_2) | \dots | f(\vec{e}_m))$$

#### Definition 2.1.2: Matrix Multiplication

Let  $n, m, \ell \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $F$  a field, and let  $A \in \text{Mat}(n \times m; F)$  and  $B \in \text{Mat}(m \times \ell; F)$  be matrices. The **product**  $A \circ B = AB \in \text{Mat}(n \times \ell; F)$  is the matrix defined by

$$(AB)_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^m A_{ij} B_{jk}$$

#### Theorem 2.1.3: Composition of maps to products

Let  $g : F^\ell \rightarrow F^m$  and  $f : F^m \rightarrow F^n$  be linear mappings. The representing matrix of their composition is the product of their representing matrices:

$$[f \circ g] = [f] \circ [g]$$

#### Theorem 2.1.4: Calculating with Matrices

- $(A + A')B = AB + A'B$
- $AI = A$
- $A(B + B') = AB + AB'$
- $(AB)C = A(BC)$
- $IB = B$

## 2.2 Matrix Definitions

### Definition 2.2.1: Big def-thm pairs

**Def:** A matrix  $A$  is called **invertible** if there exists matrices  $B$  and  $C$  such that  $BA = I$  and  $AC = I$

**Thm: Invertible Equivalence**

1. There exists a square matrix  $B$  such that  $BA = I$
2. There exists a square matrix  $C$  such that  $AC = I$
3. The square matrix  $A$  is invertible

**Def:** An **elementary matrix** is any square matrix that differs from the identity matrix in at least one entry

**Thm:** Every square matrix with entries in a field can be written as a product of elementary matrices

**Def:** Any matrix whose only non-zero entries lie on the diagonal, and which has first 1's along the diagonal and then 0's, is said to be in **Smith Normal Form**

**Thm:** For each matrix  $A \in \text{Mat}(n \times m; F)$  there exist invertible matrices  $P$  and  $Q$  such that  $PAQ$  is a matrix in Smith Normal Form

**Thm:** Let  $f : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear map between finite dim.  $F$ -vector spaces. There exists two ordered bases  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $V$ , and  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $W$  s.t. the representing matrix  $_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}}$  has zero entries everywhere except possibly on the diagonal, and along the diagonal there are 1's first, followed by 0's

**Def:** The **column rank** of a matrix  $A \in \text{Mat}(n \times m; F)$  is the dimension of the subspace of  $F^n$  generated by the columns of  $A$ . Similarly, the **row rank** of  $A$  is the dimension of the subspace of  $F^m$  generated by the rows of  $A$ .

**Thm:** The column and row rank of any matrix are equal

**Def:** Since they are both the same, "column" and "row" can be omitted for the **rank of a matrix**, written as  $\text{rk } A$ . If the rank is equal to the no. of rows/columns, then the matrix has **full rank**

**Def:** The **trace** of a square matrix is defined to be the sum of its diagonal entries, denoted by  $\text{tr}(A)$

## 2.3 Abstract Linear Mappings and Matrices

### Theorem 2.3.1: Representing Matrices

Let  $F$  be a field,  $V$  and  $W$  vector spaces over  $F$  with ordered bases  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m)$  and  $\mathcal{B} = (\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_n)$ . Then to each linear mapping  $f : V \rightarrow W$  we associate a **representing matrix**  $_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}}$  whose entries  $a_{ij}$  are defined by the identity

$$f(\vec{v}_j) = a_{1j}\vec{w}_1 + \dots + a_{nj}\vec{w}_n \in W$$

This makes a bijection, which is an isomorphism of vector spaces:

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}} : \text{Hom}_F(V, W) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Mat}(n \times m; F) \\ f &\mapsto {}_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}} \end{aligned}$$

### Theorem 2.3.2: Repr. Mat of Compositions

Let  $F$  be a field and  $U, V, W$  finite dimensional vector spaces over  $kF$  with ordered bases  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}$ . If  $f : U \rightarrow V$  and  $g : V \rightarrow W$  are linear mappings, then the representing matrix of the composition  $g \circ f : U \rightarrow W$  is the matrix product of the representing matrices of  $f$  and  $g$ :

$$_{\mathcal{C}}[g \circ f]_{\mathcal{A}} = {}_{\mathcal{C}}[g]_{\mathcal{B}} \circ {}_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}}$$

### Definition 2.3.3: Representation of a vector

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space with an ordered basis  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m)$ . We'll denote the inverse to the bijection in 1.3.3 " $\Phi_{\mathcal{A}} : F^m \xrightarrow{\sim} V, (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)^T \mapsto \alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_m\vec{v}_m$ " by

$$\vec{v} \mapsto {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\vec{v}]$$

The column vector  $_{\mathcal{A}}[\vec{v}]$  is called the **representation of the vector  $\vec{v}$  with respect to the basis  $\mathcal{A}$**

**Thm: Representation of the Image of a Vector:** Let  $V, W$  be finite dim. vector spaces over  $F$  with ordered bases  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  and let  $f : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear mapping. The following holds for  $\vec{v} \in V$ :

$$_{\mathcal{B}}[f(\vec{v})] = {}_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}} \circ {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\vec{v}]$$

## 2.4 Change of a Matrix by Change of Basis

### Definition 2.4.1: Change of Basis Matrix

Let  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$  and  $\mathcal{B} = (\vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_n)$  be ordered basies of the same  $F$ -vector space  $V$ . Then the matrix representing the identity mapping w.r.t. these bases

$$_{\mathcal{B}}[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{A}}$$

is called a **change of basis matrix**. By definition, its entries are given by the equalities  $\vec{v}_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij}\vec{w}_i$

### Theorem 2.4.2: Change of Basis

Let  $V$  and  $W$  be finite dimensional vector spaces over  $F$  and let  $f : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear mapping. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}'$  are ordered bases of  $V$  and  $\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'$  are ordered bases of  $W$ . Then

$$_{\mathcal{B}'}[f]_{\mathcal{A}'} = {}_{\mathcal{B}'}[\text{id}_W]_{\mathcal{B}} \circ {}_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}} \circ {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{A}'}$$

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space and let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of  $V$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}'$  are ordered bases of  $V$ . Then

$$_{\mathcal{A}'}[f]_{\mathcal{A}'} = {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{A}'}^{-1} \circ {}_{\mathcal{A}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}} \circ {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{A}'}$$

3 Rings

I can't be bothered doing changes of basis and stuff, time for something more interesting :D

3.1 Ring basics

Definition 3.1.1: Definition of a Ring

A **ring** is a set with two operations  $(\mathbb{R}, +, \cdot)$  that satisfy:

- 1.  $(R, +)$  is an abelian group
- 2.  $(R, \cdot)$  is a **monoid** - this means that the second operation  $\cdot : R \times R \rightarrow R$  is associative and that there is an **identity element**  $1 = 1_R \in R$ , often just called the identity, with the property that  $1 \cdot a = a \cdot 1 = a$  for all  $a \in R$ .
- 3. The distributive laws hold, meaning that for all  $a, b, c \in R$ ,

$$a \cdot (b + c) = (a \cdot b) + (a \cdot c)$$
$$(a + b) \cdot c = (a \cdot c) + (b \cdot c)$$

The two operations are called **addition** and **multiplication** in our ring. A ring in which multiplication, that is  $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$  for all  $a, b \in R$ , is a **commutative ring**

**Note:** We'll call the element  $1 \in R$  as the identity element of the monoid  $(R, \cdot)$ , and we call the additive identity of  $(R, +)$  zero, written as  $0_R$  or  $0$

**Example:** We can define the **null ring** or **zero ring** as a ring where  $R$  is a single element set, e.g.  $\{0\}$ , with the operations  $0 + 0 = 0$  and  $0 \times 0 = 0$ . We will call any ring that isn't the zero ring a **non-zero ring**

Example 3.1.2: Modulo Rings

Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  be an integer. Then the set of **integers modulo  $m$** , written

$$\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$$

is a ring. The elements of  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  consist of **congruence classes** of integers modulo  $m$  - that is the elements are the subsets  $T$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  of the form  $T = a + m\mathbb{Z}$  with  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Think of these as the set of integers that have the same remainder when you divide them by  $m$ . I denote the above congruence class by  $\bar{a}$ . Obviously  $\bar{a} = \bar{b}$  is the same as  $a - b \in m\mathbb{Z}$ , and often I'll write

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

3.2 Linking Rings to Fields and Further Properties

Definition 3.2.1: Ring definition of a field

A **field** is a non-zero commutative ring  $F$  in which every non-zero element  $a \in F$  has an inverse  $a^{-1} \in F$ , that is an element  $a^{-1}$  with the property that  $a \cdot a^{-1} = a^{-1} \cdot a = 1$

Theorem 3.2.2: Prime property of fields

Let  $m$  be a positive integer. The commutative ring  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is a field if and only if  $m$  is prime.

Theorem 3.2.3: Lemmas for multiplying

Let  $R$  be a ring and let  $a, b \in R$ . Then

- 1.  $0a = 0 = a0$
- 2.  $(-a)b = -(ab) = a(-b)$
- 3.  $(-a)(-b) = ab$

Definition 3.2.4: Multiples of an abelian group

Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The  $m$ -th **multiple**  $ma$  of an element  $a$  in an abelian group  $R$  is:

$$ma = \underbrace{a + a + \dots + a}_{m \text{ terms}} \quad \text{if } m > 0$$

$0a = 0$  and negative multiples are defined by  $(-m)a = -(ma)$

Theorem 3.2.5: Lemmas for multiples

Let  $R$  be a ring, let  $a, b \in R$  and let  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then:

- 1.  $m(a + b) = ma + mb$
- 2.  $(m + n)a = ma + na$
- 3.  $m(na) = (mn)a$
- 4.  $m(ab) = (ma)b = a(mb)$
- 5.  $(ma)(nb) = (mn)(ab)$

Definition 3.2.6: Unit of a ring

Let  $R$  be a ring. An element  $a \in R$  is called a **unit** if it is *invertible* in  $R$  or in other words *has a multiplicative inverse in  $R$* , meaning that there exists  $a^{-1} \in R$  such that

$$aa^{-1} = 1 = a^{-1}a$$

Theorem 3.2.7

The set  $R^\times$  of units in a ring  $R$  forms a group under multiplication

Definition 3.2.8: zero-divisors of a ring

In a ring  $R$ , a non-zero element  $a$  is called a **zero-divisor** or **divisor of zero** if there exists a non-zero element  $b$  such that either  $ab = 0$  or  $ba = 0$ .

Theorem 3.2.9: Cancellation Law

Let  $R$  be an *integral domain* and let  $a, b, c \in R$ . If  $ab = ac$  and  $a \neq 0$  then  $b = c$

Theorem 3.2.10: Prime Property for Integral Domains

Let  $m$  be a natural number. Then  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain if and only if  $m$  is prime.

Theorem 3.2.11

Every **finite** integral domain is a field.

3.3 Polynomials

Definition 3.3.1: Polynomial

Let  $R$  be a ring. A **polynomial over  $R$**  is an expression of the form

$$P = a_0 + a_1X + a_2X^2 + \dots + a_mX^m$$

for some non-negative integer  $m$  and elements  $a_i \in R$  for  $0 \leq i \leq m$ . The set of all polynomials over  $R$  is denoted by  $R[X]$ . In the case where  $a_m$  is non-zero, the polynomial  $P$  has **degree  $m$** , (written  $\deg(P)$ ), and  $a_m$  is its **leading coefficient**. When the leading coefficient is 1 the polynomial is a **monic polynomial**. A polynomial of degree one is called **linear**, a polynomial of degree two is called **quadratic**, and a polynomial of degree three is called **cubic**.

Definition 3.3.2: Ring of Polynomials

The set  $R[X]$  becomes a ring called the **ring of polynomials with coefficients in  $R$ , or over  $R$** . The zero and the identity of  $R[X]$  are the zero and identity of  $R$ , respectively.

Theorem 3.3.3: Zero-Divisors of a Polynomial Ring

If  $R$  is a ring with no zero-divisors, then  $R[X]$  has no zero-divisors and  $\deg(PQ) = \deg(P) + \deg(Q)$  for non-zero  $P, Q \in R[X]$ .

If  $R$  is an integral domain, then so is  $R[X]$

### Theorem 3.3.4: Division and Remainder

Let  $R$  be an integral domain and let  $P, Q \in R[X]$  with  $Q$  monic. Then there exists unique  $A, B \in R[X]$  such that  $P = AQ + B$  and  $\deg(B) < \deg(Q)$  or  $B = 0$

### Definition 3.3.5: Formal definition of a function

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $P \in R[X]$  a polynomial. Then the polynomial  $P$  can be **evaluated** at the element  $\lambda \in R$  to produce  $P(\lambda)$  by replacing the powers of  $X$  in the polynomial  $P$  by the corresponding powers of  $\lambda$ . In this way we have a mapping

$$R[X] \rightarrow \text{Maps}(R, R)$$

This is the precise mathematical description of thinking of a polynomial as a function. An element  $\lambda \in R$  is a **root** of  $P$  is  $P(\lambda) = 0$

### Theorem 3.3.6: Roots of a Polynomial

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, let  $\lambda \in R$  and  $P(X) \in R[X]$ . Then  $\lambda$  is a root of  $P(X)$  if and only if  $(X - \lambda)$  divides  $P(X)$

### Theorem 3.3.7: Degrees of Polynomial Roots

Let  $R$  be a field, or more generally an integral domain. Then a non-zero polynomial  $P \in R[X] \setminus \{0\}$  has at most  $\deg(P)$  roots in  $R$

### Definition 3.3.8: Algebraically closed fields

A field  $F$  is **algebraically closed** if each non-constant polynomial  $P \in F[X] \setminus F$  with coefficients in our field has a root in our field  $F$

### Theorem 3.3.9: Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

The field of complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed.

### Theorem 3.3.10: Linear Factors of Closed Fields

If  $F$  is an algebraically closed field, then every non-zero polynomial  $P \in F[X] \setminus \{0\}$  **decomposes into linear factors**

$$P = c(X - \lambda_1) \cdots (X - \lambda_n)$$

with  $n \geq 0$ ,  $c \in F^\times$  and  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in F$ . This decomposition is unique up to reordering the factors

### Definition 4.1.1: Symmetric Groups

The group of all permutations of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , also known as bijections from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  to itself is denoted by  $\mathfrak{S}_n$  (but i will just write  $S_n$  because icba) and called the  **$n$ -th symmetric group**. It is a group under composition and has  $n!$  elements.

A **transposition** is a permutation that swaps two elements of the set and leaves all the others unchanged.

### Definition 4.1.2: Inversions of a permutation

An **inversion** of a permutation  $\sigma \in S_n$  is a pair  $(i, j)$  such that  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  and  $\sigma(i) > \sigma(j)$ . The number of inversions of the permutation  $\sigma$  is called the **length of  $\sigma$**  and written  $\ell(\sigma)$ . In formulas:

$$\ell(\sigma) = |\{(i, j) : i < j \text{ but } \sigma(i) > \sigma(j)\}|$$

The **sign of  $\sigma$**  is defined to be the parity of the number of inversions of  $\sigma$ . In formulas:

$$\text{sgn}(\sigma) = (-1)^{\ell(\sigma)}$$

### Theorem 4.1.3: Multiplicativity of the sign

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the sign of a permutation produces a group homomorphism  $\text{sgn} : S_n \rightarrow \{+1, -1\}$  from the symmetric group to the two-element group of signs. In formulas:

$$\text{sgn}(\sigma\tau) = \text{sgn}(\sigma)\text{sgn}(\tau) \quad \forall \sigma, \tau \in S_n$$

### Definition 4.1.4: Alternating Group of a Permutation

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the set of even permutations in  $S_n$  forms a subgroup of  $S_n$  because it is the kernel of the group homomorphism  $\text{sgn} : S_n \rightarrow \{+1, -1\}$ . This group is the **alternating group** and is denoted  $A_n$

## 4.2 Determinants

### Definition 4.2.1: Determinants

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The **determinant** is a mapping  $\det : \text{Mat}(n; R) \rightarrow R$  from square matrices with coefficients in  $R$  to the ring  $R$  that is given by the following formula

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) a_{1\sigma(1)} \cdots a_{n\sigma(n)}$$

## 4.3 Characterising the Determinant

### Definition 4.3.1: Bilinear Forms

Let  $U, V, W$  be  $F$ -vector spaces. A **bilinear form on  $U \times V$  with values in  $W$**  is a mapping  $H : U \times V \rightarrow W$  which is a linear mapping in both of its entries. This means that it must satisfy the following properties for all  $u_1, u_2 \in U$  and  $v_1, v_2 \in V$  and all  $\lambda \in F$ :

$$H(u_1 + u_2, v_2) = H(u_1, v_2) + H(u_2, v_2)$$

$$H(\lambda u_1, v_1) = \lambda H(u_1, v_1)$$

$$H(u_1, v_2 + v_2) = H(u_1, v_2) + H(u_1, v_2)$$

$$H(u_1, \lambda v_1) = \lambda H(u_1, v_1)$$

### Definition 4.3.2: Multilinear Forms

Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n, W$  be  $F$ -vector spaces. A mapping  $H : V_1 \times V_2 \times \cdots \times V_n \rightarrow W$  is a **multilinear form** or just **multilinear** if for each  $j$ , the mapping  $V_j \rightarrow W$  defined by  $v_j \mapsto H(v_1, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n)$ , with the  $v_i \in V_i$  arbitrary fixed vectors of  $V_i$  for  $i \neq j$  is linear.

### Definition 4.3.3: Alternating Multilinear Forms

Let  $V$  and  $W$  be  $F$ -vector spaces. A multilinear form  $H : V \times \cdots \times V \rightarrow W$  is **alternating** if it vanishes on every  $n$ -tuple of elements of  $V$  that has at least two entries equal, in other words if:

$$(\exists i \neq j \text{ with } v_i = v_j) \rightarrow H(v_1, \dots, v_i, \dots, v_j, \dots, v_n) = 0$$

### Theorem 4.3.4: Characterisation of the Determinant

Let  $F$  be a field. The mapping

$$\det : \text{Mat}(n; F) \rightarrow F$$

is the unique alternating multilinear form on  $n$ -tuples of column vectors with values in  $F$  that takes the value  $1_F$  on the identity matrix

## 4.4 Rules for Calculating with Determinants

### Theorem 4.4.1: Multiplicativity of the Determinant

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and let  $A, B \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$ . Then

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

### Theorem 4.4.2

The determinant of a square matrix with entries in a field  $F$  is non-zero if and only if the matrix is invertible

## 4 Determinants and Eigenvalues Redux

### 4.1 Symmetric Groups



#### 4.4.3 Consequences of determinant rules

- If  $A$  is invertible then  $\det(A^{-1}) = \det(A)^{-1}$
- If  $B$  is a square matrix then  $\det(A^{-1}BA) = \det(B)$

#### Theorem 4.4.4: Determinants of a Transpose Matrix

The determinant of a square matrix and of the transpose of the square matrix are equal, that is for all  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  with  $R$  a commutative ring,

$$\det(A^T) = \det(A)$$

#### Definition 4.4.5: Cofactors of a Matrix

Let  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  for some commutative ring  $R$  and natural number  $n$ . Let  $i$  and  $j$  be integers between 1 and  $n$ . Then the  $(i, j)$  **cofactor** of  $A$  is  $C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A\langle i, j \rangle)$  where  $A\langle i, j \rangle$  is the matrix obtained from  $A$  by deleting the  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column.

$$C_{23} = (-1)^{2+3} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \textcolor{red}{a_{13}} \\ \textcolor{red}{a_{21}} & \textcolor{red}{a_{22}} & \textcolor{red}{a_{23}} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \textcolor{red}{a_{33}} \end{pmatrix} = -a_{11}a_{32} + a_{31}a_{12}$$

#### Theorem 4.4.6: Laplace's Expansion

Let  $A = (a_{ij})$  be an  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with entries from a commutative ring  $R$ . For a fixed  $i$ , the  **$i$ -th row expansion of the determinant** is

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} C_{ij}$$

and for a fixed  $j$ , the  **$j$ -th column expansion of the determinant** is

$$\det(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} C_{ij}$$

#### Definition 4.4.7: Adjugate Matrix

Let  $A$  be a  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with entries in a commutative ring  $R$ . The **adjugate matrix**  $\text{adj}(A)$  is the  $(n \times n)$ -matrix whose entries are  $\text{adj}(A)_{ij} = C_{ji}$  where  $C_{ji}$  is the  $(j, i)$ -cofactor

#### Theorem 4.4.8: Cramer's Rule

Let  $A$  be a  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with entries in a commutative ring  $R$ . Then

$$A \cdot \text{adj}(A) = (\det A) I_n$$

#### 4.4.9 Alternative Definition of Cramer's

In many sources, such as Wikipedia, Cramer's Rule means the formula

$$x_i = \frac{\det(a_{*1} \mid \cdots \mid b_* \mid \cdots \mid a_{*n})}{\det(a_{*1} \mid \cdots \mid a_{*i} \mid \cdots \mid a_{*n})}$$

for solving a field  $F$  the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  of  $n$  linear equations in  $n$  unknowns, provided that a unique solution exists. A unique solution exists if and only if  $A$  is invertible. So, instead of applying the Gaussian algorithm, you can calculate lots of determinants, replacing the  $i$ -th column of  $A$  by the given solution vector  $\vec{b}$ . It turns out that if you implement this rule on a computer, it has the same efficiency as the Gaussian algorithm. The relationship between this version of Cramer's rule and the above theorem is got by successively taking the vector  $\vec{b}$  in the system of linear equations to be the standard basis elements  $\vec{e}_i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

#### Theorem 4.4.10: Invertibility of Matrices

A square matrix with entries in a commutative ring  $R$  is invertible if and only if its determinant is a unit in  $R$ . That is,  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(A) \in R^\times$

So for instance, an integral matrix  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; \mathbb{Z})$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(A)$  is 1 or  $-1$ , since  $\mathbb{Z}^\times = \{\pm 1\}$ . On the other hand, a matrix  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; F)$  with entries in a field  $F$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(A) \neq 0$  since  $F^\times$  consists of the non-zero elements of  $F$ .

#### Theorem 4.4.11: Jacobi's Formula

Let  $A = (a_{ij})$  where the coefficients  $a_{ij} = a_{ij}(t)$  are functions of  $t$ . Then

$$\frac{d}{dt} \det A = \text{Tr} \text{Adj} A \frac{dA}{dt}$$

### 4.5 Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

#### Definition 4.5.1: Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of an  $F$ -vector space  $V$ . A scalar  $\lambda \in F$  is an **eigenvalue** of  $f$  if and only if there exists a non-zero vector  $\vec{v} \in V$  such that  $f(\vec{v}) = \lambda \vec{v}$ . Each such vector is called an **eigenvector of  $f$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$** . For any  $\lambda \in F$ , the **eigenspace of  $f$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$**  is

$$E(\lambda, f) = \{\vec{v} \in V : f(\vec{v}) = \lambda \vec{v}\}$$

#### Theorem 4.5.2: Existence of Eigenvalues

Each endomorphism of a non-zero finite dimensional vector space over an algebraically closed field has an eigenvalue

#### Definition 4.5.3: Characteristic Polynomial

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and let  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  be a square matrix with entries in  $R$ . The polynomial  $\det(xI_n - A) \in R[x]$  is called the **characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A$** . It is denoted by

$$\chi_A(x) := \det(xI_n - A)$$

(where  $\chi$  stands for  $\chi$ aracteristic, lol)

#### Theorem 4.5.4: EVs and Characteristic Polynomials

Let  $F$  be a field and  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; F)$  a square matrix with entries in  $F$ . The eigenvalues of the linear mapping  $A : F^n \rightarrow F^n$  are exactly the roots of the characteristic polynomial  $\chi_A$

#### 4.5.5 Eigenvalue remarks

1. Square matrices  $A, B \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  of the same size are *conjugate* if

$$B = P^{-1}AP \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$$

for an invertible  $P \in \text{GL}(n; R)$ . Conjugacy is an equivalence relation on  $\text{Mat}(n; R)$ . (The definition makes sense for any commutative ring  $R$ , although we will mainly be concerned with the case of a field)

2. The motivation for conjugacy comes from the various matrix representations for an endomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow V$  of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ . Let

$$A = (a_{ij}) = {}_{\mathcal{A}}[f]_{\mathcal{A}}, B = (b_{ij}) = {}_{\mathcal{B}}[f]_{\mathcal{B}} \in \text{Mat}(n; f)$$

be the matrices of  $f$  with respect to bases  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = (\vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2, \dots, \vec{w}_n)$  for  $V$

$$f(\vec{v}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} \vec{v}_i, f(\vec{w}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ij} \vec{w}_i \in V$$

The change of basis matrix  $P = (p_{ij}) = {}_{\mathcal{A}}[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{B}} \in \text{Mat}(n; F)$  is invertible, with

$$\vec{w}_j = \sum_{i=1}^n p_{ij} \vec{v}_i \in V$$

We have the identity

$$B = P^{-1}AP \in \text{Mat}(n; F)$$

so  $A, B$  are conjugate

3. **Key observation:** the characteristic polynomials of conjugate  $A, B \in \text{Mat}(n, R)$  are the same

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_B(x) &= \det(xI_n - B) = \det(xI_n - P^{-1}AP) \\ &= \det(P^{-1}(xI_n - A)P) = \det(P)^{-1} \det(xI_n - A) \det(P) \\ &= \det(xI_n - A) = \chi_A(x) \in R[x] \end{aligned}$$

4. In view of 2 and 3 we can define the characteristic polynomial of an endomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow V$  of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  to be

$$\chi_f(x) = \chi_A(x) \in F[x]$$

with  $A = \mathcal{A}[f]_{\mathcal{A}} \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  the matrix of  $f$  with respect to *any* basis  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $V$ . Thanks to 4.5.4, the eigenvalues of  $f$  are exactly the roots of  $\chi_f$ , the characteristic polynomial of  $f$

**Remark:** Let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$ . Suppose given an  $m$ -dimensional subspace  $W \subseteq V$  such that  $f(W) \subseteq W$ , so that there are defined endomorphisms of the subspace and the quotient space

$$\begin{aligned} g : W &\rightarrow W; \vec{w} \mapsto f(\vec{w}) \\ h : V/W &\rightarrow V/W; W + \vec{v} \mapsto W + f(\vec{v}) \end{aligned}$$

Any ordered basis  $\mathcal{A} = (\vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2, \dots, \vec{w}_m)$  for  $W$  can be extended to an ordered basis for  $V$

$$\mathcal{B} = (\vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2, \dots, \vec{w}_m, \vec{v}_{m+1}, \vec{v}_{m+2}, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$$

The images of the  $\vec{v}_j$ 's under the canonical projection  $\text{can} : V \rightarrow V/W$  are then an ordered basis for  $V/W$

$$\mathcal{C} = (\text{can}(\vec{v}_{m+1}), \text{can}(\vec{v}_{m+2}), \dots, \text{can}(\vec{v}_n))$$

Let  $a_{ij}, b_{jk}, c_{ik} \in F$  be the coefficients in the linear combinations

$$f(\vec{w}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} \vec{w}_i \in W, \quad f(\vec{v}_k) = \sum_{j=m+1}^n b_{jk} \vec{v}_j + \sum_{i=1}^m c_{ik} \vec{w}_i \in V$$

[WIP SO MUCH WRITING OMG]

## 4.6 Triangularisable, Diagonalisable, and Cayley-Hamilton

### Definition 4.6.1: Triangularisability

Let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of a finite dimensional  $F$ -vector space  $V$ .  $f$  is **triangularisable** if the vector space  $V$  has an ordered basis  $\mathcal{B} = (\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{v}_1) &= a_{11} \vec{v}_1, \\ f(\vec{v}_2) &= a_{12} \vec{v}_1 + a_{22} \vec{v}_2, \\ &\vdots \\ f(\vec{v}_n) &= a_{1n} \vec{v}_1 + a_{2n} \vec{v}_2 + \dots + a_{nn} \vec{v}_n \in V \end{aligned}$$

(so that the first basis vector  $\vec{v}_1$  is an eigenvector, with eigenvalue  $a_{11}$ ) or equivalently such that the  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathcal{B}[f]_{\mathcal{B}} = (a_{ij})$  representing  $f$  with respect to  $\mathcal{B}$  is upper triangular (or any other triangular)

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

### Theorem 4.6.2

Let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of a finite dimensional  $F$ -vector space  $V$ . Then  $f$  is triangularisable iff the characteristic polynomial  $\chi_f$  decomposes into linear factors in  $F[x]$

### Theorem 4.6.3: Triangularisability and Conjugacy

An endomorphism  $A : F^n \rightarrow F^n$  is triangularisable if and only if  $A = (a_{ij})$  is conjugate to an upper triangular matrix  $B = (b_{ij})$  ( $b_{ij} = 0$  for  $i > j$ ), with  $P^{-1}AP = B$  for an invertible matrix  $P$

### Definition 4.6.4: Diagonalisability

An endomorphism  $f : V \rightarrow V$  of an  $F$ -vector space  $V$  is **diagonalisable** if and only if there exists a basis of  $V$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $f$ . If  $V$  is finite dimensional then this is the same as saying that there exists an ordered basis  $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$  such that corresponding matrix representing  $f$  is diagonal, that is  $\mathcal{B}[f]_{\mathcal{B}} = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ . In this case, of course,  $f(\vec{v}_i) = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$ . A square matrix  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; F)$  is **diagonalisable** if and only if the corresponding linear mapping  $F^n \rightarrow F^n$  given by left multiplication by  $A$  is diagonalisable. Thanks to [something] this just means that  $A$  is conjugate to a diagonal matrix, there exists an invertible matrix  $P \in \text{GL}(n; F)$  such that  $P^{-1}AP = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ . In this case the columns  $P$  are the vectors of a basis of  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$

### Theorem 4.6.5: Linear Independence of Eigenvectors

Let  $f : V \rightarrow V$  be an endomorphism of a vector space  $V$  and let  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  be eigenvectors of  $f$  with pairwise different eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Then the vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are linearly independent

### Theorem 4.6.6: Cayley-Hamilton Theorem

Let  $A \in \text{Mat}(n; R)$  be a square matrix with entries in a commutative ring  $R$ . Then evaluating its characteristic polynomial  $\chi_A(x) \in R[x]$  at the matrix  $A$  gives zero.

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