

# The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra via Linear Algebra

## FTA Proof

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# Theorem 1

Any nonconstant polynomial with complex coefficients has a complex root.

## Theorem 2

For each  $n \geq 1$ , every  $n \times n$  square matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$  has an eigenvector in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Equivalently, for each  $n \geq 1$ , every linear operator on an  $n$ -dimensional complex vector space  $V$  has an eigenvector in  $V$ .

# Lemma 3

## Fix

- An integer  $m > 1$
- A field  $F$

## Assumption

Suppose that, for every  $F$ -VS  $V$  whose dim not divisible by  $m$ , every linear operator on  $V$  has an eigenvector in  $V$ .

## Proposition

$\implies$  For every  $F$ -VS  $V$  with dim not divisible by  $m$ , each pair of commuting linear operators on  $V$  has a common eigenvector in  $V$ .

- Lemma 3 has not many application
- We use Lemma 3, when  $m$  is a power of 2

## Start

- We induct on the dimension  $d$  of the vector space as  $d$  runs through integers not divisible by  $m$ .

$$d = 1$$

A nonzero vector in a one-dimensional space is an eigenvector of every linear operator on the space (and two such operators commute)

case:  $d > 1$

- $d$  is not dividable by  $m$
- We have settled all dimensions  $< d$ , which are not divisible by  $m$
- Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be commuting linear operators on an  $F$ -VS  $V$  with  $\dim_V = d$

Hypothesis of lemma  $\implies A_1$  has an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  in  $F$



Let  $U = \text{im}(A_1 - \lambda I_V)$ ,  $W = \text{ker}(A_1 - \lambda I_V)$

$A_1$ -stability of subspaces of  $V$

- $u \in U \implies A_1(u) \in U$
- $w \in W \implies A_1(w) \in W$

$\dim_F W \geq 1$

Because  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A_1$

$A_2$ -stability of  $U$  and  $V$

- If  $u \in U$ , write  $u = A_1(v) - \lambda v$
- $A_2(u)$  is also in  $U$

$$\begin{aligned} A_2(u) &= A_2(A_1(v)) - A_2(\lambda v) \\ &= A_1(A_2(v)) - \lambda(A_2(v)) = (A_1 - \lambda I_V)(A_2(v)) \end{aligned}$$

## Note

- $\dim_F U + \dim_F W = d$  is not divisible by  $m \implies$  one of  $U$  or  $W$  has dimension not divisible by  $m$
- If the subspace  $U$  or  $W$  with  $\dim$  not divisible by  $m$  is a proper subspace of  $V \implies A_1$  and  $A_2$  have a common eigenvector in that subspace (and thus in  $V$ ) by induction.
- The other case is that  $U$  or  $W$  is all of  $V$  and the other subspace is  $0$  since the dimensions add up to  $d$ . In that case  $W = V$  since we already noted that  $\dim_F W$  is positive.
- When  $W = V$  every vector in  $V$  is an eigenvector for  $A_1$ , and one of them is an eigenvector for  $A_2$  since  $V$  has dimension not divisible by  $m$ .

```
import Mathlib.LinearAlgebra.Matrix.IsDiag
import Mathlib.Data.Matrix.Basic
import Mathlib.LinearAlgebra.FiniteDimensional
import Mathlib.LinearAlgebra.Eigenspace.IsAlgClosed
import Mathlib.LinearAlgebra.Eigenspace.Basic
import Mathlib.LinearAlgebra.Finrank
import Mathlib.Algebra.Module.LinearMap
import Mathlib.FieldTheory.IsAlgClosed.Spectrum
open Matrix
open Fintype
```

```
variable {m : ℕ} [Fintype (Fin m)] [Field ℂ]

def IsEigenvector (A : Matrix (Fin m) (Fin m) ℂ) (v : Fin
  m → ℂ) := (v ≠ 0) ∧ (∃ μ : ℂ, (mulVec A v) = μ · v)

theorem exists_eigenvector (A : Matrix (Fin m) (Fin m) ℂ)
  : (m ≥ 1) → (∃ v : Fin m → ℂ, IsEigenvector A v) :=
by sorry
```

```
variable {m : ℕ} [Fintype (Fin m)] [Field ℂ]
```

```
def IsEigenvector (A : Matrix (Fin m) (Fin m)  $\mathbb{C}$ ) (v : Fin  
m  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{C}$ ) := (v  $\neq$  0)  $\wedge$  ( $\exists$   $\mu$  :  $\mathbb{C}$ , (mulVec A v) =  $\mu$  · v)
```

```
theorem exists_eigenvector (A : Matrix (Fin m) (Fin m) ℂ)
  : (m ≥ 1) → (∃ v : Fin m → ℂ, IsEigenvector A v) :=
by sorry
```