

# Notes on Axler's Linear Algebra Done Right

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# 1 Vector Spaces

## 1.1 R and C

## 1.2 Definition of a Vector Space

## 1.3 Subspaces

A subset  $U$  of a vector space  $V$  is called a **subspace** if  $U$  is also a vector space, using the same addition and scalar multiplication defined on  $V$ .

### 1.3.1 Conditions to be a subspace

- Additive Identity:  $0 \in U$ .
- Closed under addition.
- Closed under multiplication.

### 1.3.2 Sums of Subspaces

Let  $U_1 \dots U_m$  be subsets of  $V$ . The sum of  $U_1 \dots U_m$  is the set of all possible sums of elements of  $U_1 \dots U_m$ .

$$U_1 + \dots + U_m = \{u_1 + u_2 + \dots + u_m : u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_m \in U_m\}$$

The sum of subspaces is the smallest subspace containing all the summands.

### 1.3.3 Direct Sums

A sum  $U_1 \dots U_m$  is called a direct sum if each element of  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  can be written in only one way. To simplify, there is only one way to write each element of the resulting space using a sum of elements of  $U_1 \dots U_m$ .

### 1.3.4 Conditions for a Direct Sum

- Suppose that  $U_1 \dots U_m$  are subspaces of  $V$ . Then  $U_1 + \dots + U_m$  is a direct sum if and only if the only way to create the 0-vector is to take each  $u_j$  in the sum expression  $u_1 + \dots + u_m = 0$  to be 0.
- Corollary: Suppose that  $U$  and  $W$  are subspaces of  $V$ . Then  $U + \dots + U_m$  is a direct sum if and only if  $U \cap W = 0$ .

# 2 Finite Dimensional Vector Spaces

## 2.1 Span and Linear Independence

### 2.1.1 Span

The set of all linear combinations of a list of vectors  $v_1 \dots v_m$  in  $V$  is called the span of  $v_1 \dots v_m$ . The span of the empty list  $()$  is defined to be  $\{0\}$ .

### 2.1.2 Finite Dimension

A vector space is finite dimensional if there is a list of vectors that spans the space. Note that lists are, by definition, finite dimensional.

### 2.1.3 Polynomials

- A function  $p : \mathbb{F} \mapsto \mathbb{F}$  is called a polynomial with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}$  if there exists  $a_0 \dots a_m \in \mathbb{F}$  such that

$$p(z) = a_0 + a_1z + a_2z^2 + \dots + a_mz^m \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{F}$$

- $P(\mathbb{F})$  is the set of all polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}$ .

### 2.1.4 Linear Dependence

- A list  $v_1 \dots v_m$  is linearly independent if the only choice of  $a_1 \dots a_m \in \mathbb{F}$  that makes  $a_1v_1 + \dots + a_mv_m = 0$  is  $a_1 = \dots = a_m = 0$ . That is to say, all the coefficients in the sum must be 0.
- The empty list is declared to be linearly independent.

## 2.2 Bases

### 2.2.1 Basis

A basis of  $V$  is a list of vectors in  $V$  that is linearly independent and spans  $V$ .

### 2.2.2 Criterion for basis

A list  $v_1 \dots v_n$  of vectors in  $V$  is a basis of  $V$  if and only if every  $v \in V$  can be written in the form  $v = a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n$  where  $a_1 \dots a_n \in \mathbb{F}$  and the list is linearly independent.

### 2.2.3 Direct Sums, Subspaces, and Bases

If  $V$  is finite dimensional and  $U$  is a subspace of  $V$ , there exists a subspace  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $V = W \oplus U$ . To simplify, every subspace of a finite dimensional vector space has a partner, which is also a subspace of  $V$ , which it forms a direct sum equal to  $V$  with.

## 3 Linear Maps

### 3.1 The Vector Space of Linear Maps

#### 3.1.1 Definition of Linear Maps

A **linear map** from  $V$  to  $W$  is a function  $T : V \mapsto W$  such that the following properties are true:

- Additivity:

$$T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v)$$

- Homogeneity:

$$T(\lambda v) = \lambda(Tv)$$

The set of all linear maps from  $V$  to  $W$  is denoted  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ .

### 3.1.2 Linear maps and basis of domain

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose  $v_1 \dots v_n$  is a basis of  $V$  and  $w_1 \dots w_n \in W$ . Then  $\exists T : V \mapsto W$  such that  $Tv_j = w_j$  for each  $j$  in  $1 \dots n$ .*

This theorem asserts that once we know the behavior of a linear map over the basis of vectors, the linear map is uniquely defined for all the vectors in the space.

### 3.1.3 Algebraic Operations on $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$

- Addition:  $(S + T)(u) = Su + Tu$
- Scalar Multiplication:  $(\lambda T)(v) = \lambda(Tv)$

**Theorem 2.**  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is a vector space with the addition and scalar multiplication defined above.

### 3.1.4 Product of Linear Maps

The product of two linear maps is just function composition when the domains make sense.

### 3.1.5 Algebraic Properties of Linear Maps

- Associativity  $(T_1 T_2) T_3 = T_1 (T_2 T_3)$
- Identity
- Distributivity
- Linear maps take 0 to 0.

Multiplication of linear maps is not commutative.

## 3.2 Null Spaces and Ranges

### 3.2.1 Null Space

- For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , the **null space** of  $T$ , denoted **null T** is the subset of  $V$  containing those vectors that  $T$  maps to 0. This can also be called the kernel.
- Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ . Then null T is a subspace of  $V$ .

### 3.2.2 Injectivity and Null Spaces

- A function  $T : V \mapsto W$  is called injective if  $Tu=TV$  implies  $u=v$ .
- Let  $T \in L(V, W)$ . Then  $T$  is injective iff  $\text{null } T = 0$ .

### 3.2.3 Definition of Range

For  $T$  a function for  $V$  to  $W$ , the range of  $T$  is the subset of  $W$  consisting of those vectors which are of the form  $Tv$  for some  $v \in V$ . This means the same as image.

### 3.2.4 Ranges and Subspaces

If  $T \in L(V, W)$ , then  $\text{range } T$  is a subspace of  $W$ .

### 3.2.5 Definition of Surjective

A function  $T : V \mapsto W$  is called surjective if its range equals  $W$ . This means the same as onto.

### 3.2.6 Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps

Suppose  $V$  is finite dimensional and  $T \in L(V, W)$ . Then  $\text{range } T$  is finite-dimensional and  $\dim V = \dim \text{null } T + \dim \text{range } T$ .