

Linear Algebra

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Linear Algebra

wikipedia

- **Linear algebra** is the branch of [mathematics](#) concerning [vector spaces](#) and [linear mappings](#) between such spaces. Such an investigation is initially motivated by a [system of linear equations](#) containing several unknowns. Such equations are naturally represented using the formalism of [matrices](#) and vectors.
- Linear algebra is central to both pure and applied mathematics. Techniques from linear algebra are also used in [analytic geometry](#), [engineering](#), [physics](#), [natural sciences](#), [computer science](#), [computer animation](#), and the [social sciences](#) (particularly in [economics](#)). Because linear algebra is such a well-developed theory, nonlinear [mathematical models](#) are sometimes approximated by linear ones.

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- The study of linear algebra first emerged from the study of [determinants](#), which were used to solve systems of linear equations.
- Determinants were used by [Leibniz](#) in 1693, and subsequently, [Gabriel Cramer](#) devised [Cramer's Rule](#) for solving linear systems in 1750.
- Later, [Gauss](#) further developed the theory of solving linear systems by using [Gaussian elimination](#), which was initially listed as an advancement in [geodesy](#).

Goals

- The goals for this class are using matrices and also understanding them. Here are key computations and some of the ideas behind them:
 1. Solving $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ for square systems by elimination (pivots, multipliers, back substitution, invertibility of A , factorization into $A = LU$)
 2. Complete solution to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ (column space containing \mathbf{b} , rank of A , nullspace of A and special solutions to $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ from row reduced R)
 3. Basis and dimension (bases for the four fundamental subspaces)
 4. Least squares solutions (closest line by understanding projections)
 5. Orthogonalization by Gram-Schmidt (factorization into $A = QR$)
 6. Properties of determinants (leading to the cofactor formula and the sum over all $n!$ permutations, applications to $\text{inv}(A)$ and volume)
 7. Basic to Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Question?