

# Invertibility and Isomorphic Vector Spaces

Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics

UTM

Sheldon Axler


## Linear Algebra Done Right

*Third Edition*

*Apollonius's Identity*

$$a^2 + b^2 = \frac{1}{2}c^2 + 2d^2$$



 Springer

# Notation

$\mathbf{F}$  denotes either  $\mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$ .

$V$  and  $W$  denote vector spaces over  $\mathbf{F}$ .

# Invertible Linear Maps

**Definition:** *invertible*

A linear map  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is called *invertible* if there exists a linear map  $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$  such that  $ST$  equals the identity map on  $V$  and  $TS$  equals the identity map on  $W$ .

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## Definition: *inverse*

A linear map  $S \in \mathcal{L}(W, V)$  satisfying  $ST = I$  and  $TS = I$  is called an *inverse* of  $T$  (note that the first  $I$  is the identity map on  $V$  and the second  $I$  is the identity map on  $W$ ).

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## *Inverse is unique*

An invertible linear map has a unique inverse.

# Invertibility

**Notation:**  $T^{-1}$

If  $T$  is invertible, then its inverse is denoted by  $T^{-1}$ . In other words, if  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is invertible, then  $T^{-1}$  is the unique element of  $\mathcal{L}(W, V)$  such that  $T^{-1}T = I$  and  $TT^{-1} = I$ .

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***Invertibility is equivalent to injectivity and surjectivity***

A linear map is invertible if and only if it is injective and surjective.

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- Two vector spaces are called *isomorphic* if there is an isomorphism from one vector space onto the other one.



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## *Dimension shows whether vector spaces are isomorphic*

Two finite-dimensional vector spaces over  $\mathbf{F}$  are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension.

# The Dimension of $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$

$\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  *and*  $\mathbf{F}^{m,n}$  *are isomorphic*

Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $V$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $W$ .  
Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is an isomorphism between  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $\mathbf{F}^{m,n}$ .

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$$\dim \mathcal{L}(V, W) = (\dim V)(\dim W)$$

Suppose  $V$  and  $W$  are finite-dimensional. Then  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is finite-dimensional and

$$\dim \mathcal{L}(V, W) = (\dim V)(\dim W).$$

# Matrix of a Vector

**Definition:** *matrix of a vector*,  $\mathcal{M}(u)$

Suppose  $u \in V$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $V$ . The *matrix of  $u$*  with respect to this basis is the  $n$ -by-1 matrix

$$\mathcal{M}(u) = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are the scalars such that

$$u = c_1v_1 + \cdots + c_nv_n.$$

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The matrix of  $(5, 8, 2)$  with respect to the standard basis of  $\mathbf{F}^3$  is

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The matrix of  $(5, 8, 2)$  with respect to the standard basis of  $\mathbf{F}^3$  is

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The matrix of  $3 - 7x + 5x^2$  with respect to the standard basis of  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{R})$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Linear Maps Act Like Matrix Multiplication

## ***Linear maps act like matrix multiplication***

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $u \in V$ . Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $V$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $W$ . Then

$$\mathcal{M}(Tu) = \mathcal{M}(T)\mathcal{M}(u).$$



# Operators

**Definition:** *operator*,  $\mathcal{L}(V)$

- A linear map from a vector space to itself is called an *operator*.
- The notation  $\mathcal{L}(V)$  denotes the set of all operators on  $V$ . In other words,  $\mathcal{L}(V) = \mathcal{L}(V, V)$ .

***Injectivity is equivalent to surjectivity in finite dimensions***

Suppose  $V$  is finite-dimensional and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- $T$  is invertible;
- $T$  is injective;
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**Proof** The Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps states that  
$$\dim V = \dim \text{null } T + \dim \text{range } T.$$

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Thus

$$\dim \text{null } T = 0 \iff \dim \text{range } T = \dim V$$

or

$$T \text{ is injective} \iff T \text{ is surjective.}$$

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