

The Vector Space of Linear Maps

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

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

Notation: $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F})$

$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F})$ is the vector space of all polynomials with coefficients in \mathbf{F} .

Definition of Linear Map

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Notation: $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$

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

Examples of Linear Maps

- Zero: Define $0 \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ by $0u = 0$ for all $u \in V$.

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$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) = (x_2, x_3, \dots).$$
- From \mathbf{R}^3 to \mathbf{R}^2 : Define $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{R}^3, \mathbf{R}^2)$ by
$$T(x, y, z) = (2x - y + 3z, 7x + 5y - 6z).$$

Linear maps and basis of domain

Suppose v_1, \dots, v_n is a basis of V and $w_1, \dots, w_n \in W$. Then there exists a unique linear map $T: V \rightarrow W$ such that

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Linear Map Determined By What It Does On a Basis

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Proof

Define $T: V \rightarrow W$ by

$$T(c_1v_1 + \dots + c_nv_n) = c_1w_1 + \dots + c_nw_n,$$

where c_1, \dots, c_n are arbitrary elements of \mathbf{F} . ■

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

Definition: *addition and scalar multiplication on $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$*

Suppose $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ and $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$. The *sum* $S + T$ and the *product* λT are the linear maps from V to W defined by

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$\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ **is a vector space**

With the operations of addition and scalar multiplication as defined above, $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$ is a vector space.

Definition: *Product of Linear Maps*

If $T \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$ and $S \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, then the *product* $ST \in \mathcal{L}(U, W)$ is defined by

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Composition of Linear Maps

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Algebraic properties of products of linear maps

- **Associativity:** $(T_1T_2)T_3 = T_1(T_2T_3)$

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Algebraic properties of products of linear maps

- Associativity: $(T_1T_2)T_3 = T_1(T_2T_3)$
- Identity: $TI = IT = T$
- **Distributive Properties:**
 $(S_1 + S_2)T = S_1T + S_2T$ and $S(T_1 + T_2) = ST_1 + ST_2$

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By additivity, we have

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Proof

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Add the additive inverse of $T(0)$ to each side of the equation above to conclude that $0 = T(0)$. ■

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