

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Linear Systems: Elimination Method</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1	An Example of the Basic Problem . . . . .	7
1.2	Two Instructive Examples . . . . .	8
1.2.1	Covering a Sphere with Hexagons and Pentagons . . . . .	8
1.2.2	A Chemical Reaction . . . . .	11
1.3	Homogeneous Systems: Terminology . . . . .	16
1.4	Elimination Algorithm . . . . .	18
1.4.1	Comparison of the systems $(S)$ and $(HS)$ . . . . .	20
1.5	Appendix . . . . .	21
1.5.1	Potentials on a Grid . . . . .	21
1.5.2	Another Illustration of the Fundamental Principle . . . . .	23
1.5.3	The Euler Relation $f + v = e + 2$ . . . . .	24
1.5.4	Fullerenes . . . . .	25
1.5.5	Radiolarians . . . . .	25
1.6	Exercises . . . . .	26
<b>2</b>	<b>Vector Spaces</b>	<b>27</b>
2.1	Definitions and Examples . . . . .	27
2.2	Subspaces, Generators . . . . .	29
2.3	Linear Independence . . . . .	32
2.4	Bases, Dimension . . . . .	35
2.5	Appendix . . . . .	38
2.5.1	Set Theory, Notation . . . . .	38
2.5.2	Axioms for Commutative Fields $K$ . . . . .	41
2.5.3	Axioms for Vector Spaces $E$ . . . . .	41
2.6	Exercises . . . . .	42
<b>3</b>	<b>Matrix Multiplication</b>	<b>43</b>
3.1	Row by Column Multiplication . . . . .	43
3.1.1	Linear Fractional Transformations . . . . .	43
3.1.2	Definition of the Product of Matrices. . . . .	44
3.1.3	Linear Map Produced by Matrix Multiplication. . . . .	47
3.2	Row Operations and Matrix Multiplication . . . . .	48
3.2.1	Elementary Matrices . . . . .	48
3.2.2	Inversion of Matrices . . . . .	49
3.2.3	Inversion Algorithm . . . . .	50
3.2.4	Simultaneous Resolution of Linear Systems. . . . .	51
3.3	Matrix Product by Blocks . . . . .	52

3.3.1	The Field $\mathbf{C}$ of Complex Numbers . . . . .	54
3.3.2	The Field $\mathbf{H}$ of Quaternions . . . . .	55
3.4	Appendix: The Strassen Algorithm . . . . .	56
3.5	Exercises . . . . .	56
<b>4</b>	<b>Linear Maps</b> . . . . .	<b>59</b>
4.1	Linearity . . . . .	59
4.1.1	Definition and First Properties . . . . .	60
4.1.2	Examples of Linear Maps . . . . .	61
4.2	General Results . . . . .	62
4.2.1	Image and Kernel of a Linear Map . . . . .	62
4.2.2	Defining Linear Maps . . . . .	63
4.2.3	Matrix Description of Linear Maps . . . . .	64
4.3	Results Concerning Dimensions . . . . .	67
4.3.1	Dimensions of Kernel and Image . . . . .	67
4.3.2	Row-Rank versus Column-Rank . . . . .	68
4.3.3	Regular Matrices . . . . .	69
4.4	Isomorphisms . . . . .	70
4.4.1	Generalities . . . . .	70
4.4.2	Models of Finite-Dimensional Vector Spaces . . . . .	71
4.4.3	Change of Basis: Components of Vectors . . . . .	72
4.4.4	Change of Basis: Matrices of Linear Maps . . . . .	73
4.4.5	The Trace of Square Matrices . . . . .	73
4.5	Appendix . . . . .	74
4.5.1	Inverting Maps between Sets . . . . .	74
4.5.2	Another Proof of Invertibility . . . . .	75
4.6	Exercises . . . . .	76
<b>5</b>	<b>The Rank Theorem — Varia</b> . . . . .	<b>77</b>
5.1	More on Row- versus Column-Rank . . . . .	77
5.1.1	Factorizations of a Matrix . . . . .	77
5.1.2	Low Rank Examples . . . . .	78
5.1.3	A Basis for the Image . . . . .	79
5.1.4	An Isomorphism between Row- and Column Spaces . . . . .	80
5.2	Direct Sum of Vector Spaces, Projectors . . . . .	80
5.2.1	Sum of Vector Spaces . . . . .	80
5.2.2	Generalized Projectors . . . . .	82
5.2.3	Tricks of the Trade . . . . .	85
5.3	Pyramid of Ages . . . . .	86
5.4	Color Theory . . . . .	87
5.5	Genetics . . . . .	90
5.6	Einstein Summation Convention . . . . .	91
5.7	Exercises . . . . .	92
<b>6</b>	<b>Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues</b> . . . . .	<b>95</b>
6.1	Introduction . . . . .	95
6.2	Definitions and Examples . . . . .	96
6.2.1	Definitions . . . . .	96
6.2.2	Simple $2 \times 2$ Examples . . . . .	97
6.2.3	A $4 \times 4$ Example . . . . .	98

6.2.4	General Examples . . . . .	100
6.3	General Results . . . . .	102
6.3.1	Localization of Eigenvalues . . . . .	102
6.3.2	Estimating the Number of Eigenvalues . . . . .	103
6.3.3	Another Method for Finding Eigenvectors . . . . .	104
6.3.4	Eigenvectors and Commutation . . . . .	105
6.4	Applications of Eigenvectors . . . . .	106
6.4.1	An Example: The Fibonacci Numbers . . . . .	106
6.4.2	Diagonalization . . . . .	109
6.5	Appendix . . . . .	111
6.5.1	Eigenvectors of $AB$ and of $BA$ . . . . .	111
6.5.2	A Leslie Matrix . . . . .	111
6.5.3	Fibonacci Numbers Again . . . . .	111
6.5.4	Complements on Fibonacci Numbers . . . . .	112
6.6	Exercises . . . . .	113
<b>7</b>	<b>Inner Product Spaces</b>	<b>115</b>
7.1	About Multiplication and Products . . . . .	115
7.1.1	From Planar Geometry to Inner Products . . . . .	116
7.1.2	Inner Product in $\mathbf{R}^n$ . . . . .	118
7.1.3	Cross product in $\mathbf{R}^3$ . . . . .	119
7.2	Abstract Inner Products and Norms . . . . .	121
7.2.1	The Cauchy-Schwarz-Bunyakovskii Inequality . . . . .	122
7.2.2	The Pythagorean Theorem . . . . .	122
7.2.3	More identities . . . . .	124
7.3	Euclidean Spaces . . . . .	124
7.3.1	Existence of Orthonormal Bases . . . . .	125
7.3.2	Best Approximation Theorem . . . . .	125
7.4	Linear Regressions: Mean Squares Method . . . . .	127
7.5	Orthogonal Subspaces . . . . .	130
7.6	Appendix: Finite Probability Spaces . . . . .	131
7.7	Exercises . . . . .	137
<b>8</b>	<b>Symmetric Operators</b>	<b>139</b>
8.1	Definition and First Properties . . . . .	140
8.1.1	Intrinsic characterization of symmetry . . . . .	140
8.1.2	General Properties of Symmetric Operators . . . . .	141
8.2	Diagonalization . . . . .	142
8.2.1	Existence of Eigenvectors . . . . .	142
8.2.2	Inductive Construction . . . . .	143
8.2.3	Back to Image and Kernel . . . . .	143
8.3	Application 1: Quadratic Forms . . . . .	144
8.4	Application 2: Classification of Quadrics . . . . .	145
8.5	Application 3: Principal Axes and Statistics . . . . .	148
8.6	Exercises . . . . .	149

<b>9</b>	<b>Duality</b>	<b>151</b>
9.1	Introduction . . . . .	151
9.1.1	Duality for Platonic Solids . . . . .	151
9.1.2	The Pappus Theorem and its Dual . . . . .	152
9.1.3	The Theorems of Pascal and Brianchon . . . . .	152
9.2	Dual of a Vector Space . . . . .	153
9.2.1	Examples of Linear Forms . . . . .	153
9.2.2	Dual Bases . . . . .	154
9.2.3	Transposition of Linear Maps . . . . .	155
9.2.4	Bidual of a Vector Space . . . . .	157
9.3	Dual of a Normed Space . . . . .	158
9.4	Dual of a Euclidean Space . . . . .	161
9.5	Exercises . . . . .	162
<b>10</b>	<b>Determinants</b>	<b>163</b>
10.1	From Space Geometry to Determinants . . . . .	163
10.2	Volume Forms in Vector Spaces . . . . .	168
10.2.1	Properties of Volume Forms: Uniqueness . . . . .	168
10.2.2	Construction of Volume Forms in $\mathbf{R}^n$ . . . . .	170
10.3	Determinant of an Operator . . . . .	172
10.4	Some Examples . . . . .	176
10.5	Symbolic Determinants . . . . .	181
10.6	Changing the Field of Scalars . . . . .	184
10.7	Supplementary Examples . . . . .	186
10.8	Exercises . . . . .	189
<b>11</b>	<b>Applications</b>	<b>193</b>
11.1	The Characteristic Polynomial . . . . .	193
11.2	The Spectrum of an Operator . . . . .	195
11.3	Cramer's Rules . . . . .	198
11.4	Inversion of a Regular Matrix . . . . .	199
11.5	Construction of Orthonormal Bases . . . . .	201
11.6	A Few Important Theorems . . . . .	203
11.7	Covariant Components . . . . .	207
11.8	Exercises . . . . .	208
<b>12</b>	<b>Normal Operators</b>	<b>209</b>
12.1	Orthogonal Matrices . . . . .	209
12.2	Transposition and Normal Operators . . . . .	213
12.3	Anticommutation Relations . . . . .	216
12.4	Hermitian Inner Products . . . . .	217
12.5	Mean Squares Method Revisited . . . . .	221
12.6	Heisenberg Uncertainty Relations . . . . .	222
12.7	Appendix: Isometries . . . . .	223
12.8	Exercises . . . . .	225

<b>13 Tables—Axioms</b>	<b>227</b>
13.1 Axioms for Commutative Fields $K$ . . . . .	227
13.2 Axioms for Vector Spaces $E$ . . . . .	228
13.3 Summary for the Cross Product in $\mathbf{R}^3$ . . . . .	228
13.4 Summary of Axioms . . . . .	230
13.5 Greek Alphabet . . . . .	231
<b>14 Answers to selected exercises</b>	<b>233</b>