

Linear Algebra: An Introduction

By Richard Bronson

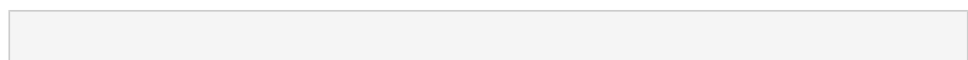
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Linear Algebra: An Introduction By Richard Bronson

In this appealing and well-written text, Richard Bronson gives readers a substructure for a firm understanding of the abstract concepts of linear algebra and its applications. The author starts with the concrete and computational (a 3×5 matrix describing a stores inventory) and leads the reader to a choice of major applications (Markov chains, least squares approximation, and solution of differential equations using Jordan normal form). The first three chapters address the basics: matrices, vector spaces, and linear transformations. The next three cover eigenvalues, Euclidean inner products, and Jordan canonical forms, offering possibilities that can be tailored to the instructors taste and to the length of the course. Bronsons approach to computation is modern and algorithmic, and his theory is clean and straightforward. Throughout, the views of the theory presented are broad and balanced. Key material is highlighted in the text and summarized at end of each chapter. The book also includes ample exercises with answers and hints. With its inclusion of all the needed pedagogical features, this text will be a pleasure for teachers and students alike.

- * Gives a firm substructure for understanding linear algebra and its applications
- * Introduces deductive reasoning and helps the reader develop a facility with mathematical proofs
- * Begins with the concrete and computational (a 3×5 matrix describing a stores inventory) and leads the reader to a choice of major applications (Markov chains, least squares approximation, and solution of differential equations using Jordan normal form)
- * Covers matrices, vector spaces, linear transformations, as well as applications to Jordan canonical forms, differential equations, and Markov chains
- * Gives computational algorithms for finding eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- * Provides a balanced approach to computation and theory
- * Highlights key material in the text as well as in summaries at the end of each chapter
- * Includes ample exercises with answers and hints, in addition to other learning features



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Editorial Review

Review

"The text is unusually well and carefully written for a textbook and the exposition is very clear."

- George Feldvoss, University of South Alabama

"The quality of the exercises is better than that of Anton. Bronson's exercises seem more original and less trivial. While he does have routine drill problems his non-routine problems require the student to either extend the student's knowledge base or fill in a portion of a proof. The range on these problem sets is quite large, spanning the routine drill problems needed by all students to the theoretical problems for the better students."

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"I appreciate the slow increase in the progression of difficulty with proofs... I regard the exposition as superior. Prof. Bronson's text is the best example I've ever seen of motivating definitions in linear algebra, right from the very first page... Bronson incorporates the application first, thus motivating the definition, going from concrete to abstract, instead of the reverse."

-Michael Ecker, The Pennsylvania State University

From the Back Cover

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Written by the Recipient of the 1994 Mathematical Association of America-New Jersey Distinguished Teaching Award! An Innovative textbook at an affordable price

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