



Linear Algebra: An Introduction, Second Edition

By Richard Bronson, Gabriel B. Costa

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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, 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 instructor's taste and to the length of the course. Bronson's 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 the end of each chapter. The book also includes ample exercises with answers and hints. With its inclusion of all the needed features, this text will be a pleasure for professionals, teachers, and students.

- Introduces deductive reasoning and helps the reader develop a facility with mathematical proofs
- Gives computational algorithms for finding eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- Provides a balanced approach to computation and theory
- Superb motivation and writing
- Excellent exercise sets, ranging from drill to theoretical/challenging
- Useful and interesting applications not found in other introductory linear algebra texts

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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."

-Renee Britt - Louisiana State University

"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

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 store's 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 instructor's taste and to the length of the course. Bronson's 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 the end of each chapter. The book also includes ample exercises with answers and hints. With its inclusion of all the needed features, this text will be a pleasure for professionals, teachers, and students.

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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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