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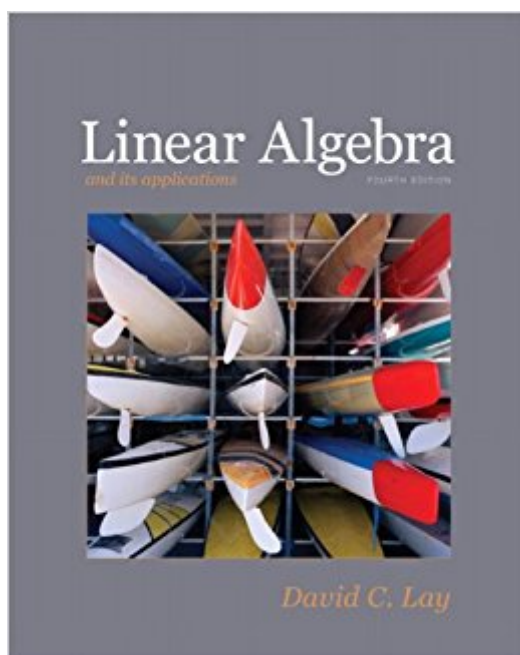# Linear Algebra And Its Applications, 4th Edition

Linear Algebra
and its applications
FOURTH EDITION

David C. Lay

Synopsis

Linear algebra is relatively easy for students during the early stages of the course, when the material is presented in a familiar, concrete setting. But when abstract concepts are introduced, students often hit a brick wall. Instructors seem to agree that certain concepts (such as linear independence, spanning, subspace, vector space, and linear transformations), are not easily understood, and require time to assimilate. Since they are fundamental to the study of linear algebra, students' understanding of these concepts is vital to their mastery of the subject. David Lay introduces these concepts early in a familiar, concrete Rn setting, develops them gradually, and returns to them again and again throughout the text so that when discussed in the abstract, these concepts are more accessible. Ã Â   Note: This is the standalone book, if you want the book/access card order the ISBN below. Ã Â   0321399145 / 9780321399144 Linear Algebra plus MyMathLab Getting Started Kit for Linear Algebra and Its Applications   Package consists of:Ã Â Ã Â Ã Â 0321385179 / 9780321385178 Linear Algebra and Its Applications 0321431308 / 9780321431301 MyMathLab/MyStatLab -- Glue-in Access Card 0321654064 / 9780321654069 MyMathLab Inside Star Sticker Ã Â

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Customer Reviews

David C. Lay holds a B.A. from Aurora University (Illinois), and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. Lay has been an educator and research mathematician since 1966, mostly at the University of Maryland, College Park. He has also served as a visiting professor at the University of Amsterdam, the Free University in Amsterdam, and the University of

Kaiserslautern, Germany. He has over 30 research articles published in functional analysis and linear algebra. As a founding member of the NSF-sponsored Linear Algebra Curriculum Study Group, Lay has been a leader in the current movement to modernize the linear algebra curriculum. Lay is also co-author of several mathematics texts, including Introduction to Functional Analysis, with Angus E. Taylor, Calculus and Its Applications, with L.J. Goldstein and D.I. Schneider, and Linear Algebra Gems-Assets for Undergraduate Mathematics, with D. Carlson, C.R. Johnson, and A.D. Porter. Professor Lay has received four university awards for teaching excellence, including, in 1996, the title of Distinguished Scholar-Teacher of the University of Maryland. In 1994, he was given one of the Mathematical Association of America's Awards for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics. He has been elected by the university students to membership in Alpha Lambda Delta National Scholastic Honor Society and Golden Key National Honor Society. In 1989, Aurora University conferred on him the Outstanding Alumnus award. Lay is a member of the American Mathematical Society, the Canadian Mathematical Society, the International Linear Algebra Society, the Mathematical Association of America, Sigma Xi, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Since 1992, he has served several terms on the national board of the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences.

We used this book in my Linear Algebra class my sophomore year of undergrad, and I loved it. Don't get me wrong, the book is challenging, but the author does a great job of making the *material*, rather than the *book itself* the main challenge. The whole book seems to me an exposition of all the logical equivalencies of the invertible matrix theorem, which is good in its own right because it keeps the book on track yet gives enough room to explore other topics. As a major in mathematics, I recommend it highly.

Linear Algebra and Its Applications, 3rd Edition is an excellent college-level text on Linear Algebra. Working with it for the past month, I can attest to the quality of this work. At times, when showing the solution to a practice problem, certain intermediate steps are skipped, which is all too common in college textbooks. But the exercises really make you think and help you master the material. The enclosed CD 'Study Guide' is an essential part of the textbook, and the two work together quite well. My main criticism is that the number of exercises and difficulty level make it a little too time-consuming to keep up with a standard syllabus. Also, some of the problems require a broad understanding of math and problem solving beyond the noted prerequisites. It would benefit from having a few more examples with solutions broken down into simple steps. All in all, an excellent

textbook.

My school still uses this 4th edition when the fifth already came out. The author presents the ideas very clearly and it is very easy to learn the materials. My only complaint for this book is that I received one that was printed kind of weirdly. The papers do not align very well. But other than that, I am very satisfied with this book. You buy this book for its contents after all.

This book is worthless! I thought, eh, even with the bad reviews I'll give it try but it really is a waste of money. It gives very few examples and it does not ellaborate further. Most of the time it says to read the book and make sure you read it thoroughly. If you need help with this class, I recommend youtube.All of that being said, this is a poor review due to content, not seller. The seller was just fine, and book arrived in a condition to be expected.

Good Book, little wordy. The Third and Fourth editions vary SIGNIFICANTLY. They should not be used interchangeably if required for a course. Having acknowledged this, The Fourth edition is nicer in that it's explanations are more brief. Answers at the back of the book are actually correct... that's rare today.

I think I went through a dozen of Linear Algebra books trying to brush up my knowledge of the subject. Until I got this one. Expensive - yes , worth it - YES! The author has a specific style of writing which I like - start simple with a numerical example, then generalize, give plenty of examples at the end. The introductions to text talking about various applications helps you "keep it real" and foresee where you would use it. It all makes sense and clicks together at some point just follow along and go back if necessary . Surprisingly this is a math book that I could read from start to finish ...

This textbook wasn't that great honestly. The examples in it aren't that helpful and the questions can get a lot harder than the examples they provide. And there is a good handful of solutions (from the back of the book) that say "See in Study Guide" or something, which is just another book to pay a lot of money for. If you buy this book, I urgently suggest you somehow get a hold of the ENTIRE solutions manual (You can find it online for free somehow). Good luck!

In teaching an elementary linear algebra course to advanced high school students, I've tried many

textbooks and found no success till I've found Lay's Linear Algebra. Clearly written, students understood the concepts without mathematical math jargon getting in the way. Examples are plentiful and solved thoroughly. Questions at the end of each section provide "true or false" type conceptual questions, which I love because I always use such type of reasoning questions myself. Best linear algebra text I've seen thus far!

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