

Finitely generated Abelian groups and similarity of matrices over a field

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Deskripsi Lengkap: <https://lib.ui.ac.id/detail?id=20419308&lokasi=lokal>

Abstrak

Starting with matrices over the integers, part 1 of this book provides a measured introduction to such groups, two finitely generated abelian groups are isomorphic if and only if their invariant factor sequences are identical. The analogous theory of matrix similarity over a field is then developed in part 2 starting with matrices having polynomial entries, two matrices over a field are similar if and only if their rational canonical forms are equal. Under certain conditions each matrix is similar to a diagonal or nearly diagonal matrix, namely its Jordan form.