

3.4 COORDINATES

LET $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ BE A SUBSPACE AND LET $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\} \subseteq V$. RECALL THAT \mathcal{B} IS A BASIS OF V IFF EACH $\vec{x} \in V$ CAN BE WRITTEN UNIQUELY AS A LINEAR COMBINATION OF ELEMENTS OF \mathcal{B} , I.E. THERE EXIST UNIQUE COEFFICIENTS $c_1, \dots, c_m \in \mathbb{R}$ SUCH THAT

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_m \vec{v}_m$$

THIS EQUATION CAN BE WRITTEN AS

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{pmatrix}$$

OR AS

$$\vec{x} = S \vec{c}$$

WHERE $S = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_m \end{bmatrix}$ AND $\vec{c} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{pmatrix}$.

DEFN

THE VECTOR $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ IS CALLED THE COORDINATE VECTOR OF \vec{x} WITH RESPECT TO \mathcal{B} OR JUST THE \mathcal{B} -COORDINATE VECTOR OF \vec{x} . WE WRITE

$$[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \vec{c} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^m.$$

THUS, THE ABOVE EQUATIONS CAN BE EXPRESSED AS

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$$\vec{x} = \mathcal{L} [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

EX. LET $V = \text{SPAN} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$. THEN V IS A PLANE THROUGH $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^3$, AND OBVIOUSLY

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

FORMS A BASIS OF V . LET \vec{x} BE THE VECTOR

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \in V$$

THEN $[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$. ONE CHECKS EASILY THAT

$$\mathcal{L} [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{x}$$

AS EXPECTED,

THEOREM

LET $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_m\}$ BE A BASIS OF $V \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$
 AND LET $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in V$, $k \in \mathbb{R}$. THEN

$$a.) [\vec{x} + \vec{y}]_{\mathcal{B}} = [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} + [\vec{y}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

$$b.) [k\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = k[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

PROOF:

SINCE \mathcal{B} IS A BASIS, THERE EXIST UNIQUE
 $c_1, \dots, c_m, d_1, \dots, d_m$ SUCH THAT

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_m \vec{v}_m$$

AND

$$\vec{y} = d_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + d_m \vec{v}_m$$

$$\text{SO } \vec{x} + \vec{y} = (c_1 + d_1) \vec{v}_1 + \dots + (c_m + d_m) \vec{v}_m .$$

BUT THESE EQUATIONS SAY

$$[\vec{x} + \vec{y}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 + d_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_m + d_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} + [\vec{y}]_{\mathcal{B}} ,$$

PROVING (a). WE LEAVE (b) AS AN
 EXERCISE .

A SPECIAL CASE OCCURS WHEN $m = n$, i.e. WHEN $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ IS A BASIS FOR \mathbb{R}^n ITSELF. IN THIS CASE

$$S = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]$$

IS AN INVERTIBLE $n \times n$ MATRIX, AND EQUATION * CAN BE WRITTEN

$$[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = S^{-1} \vec{x}$$

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EX. FIND THE COORDINATES OF $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ WITH RESPECT TO THE BASIS

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

IN THIS CASE

$$S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

AND

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \right]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

INDEED, ONE CHECKS

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} = 5 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - 3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

THUS EACH BASIS \mathcal{B} DEFINES ITS OWN COORDINATE SYSTEM IN \mathbb{R}^n . EVERY POINT (VECTOR) OTHER THAN $\vec{0}$, HAS A DIFFERENT NAME IN EACH COORDINATE SYSTEM. SIMILARLY, LINEAR TRANSFORMATIONS ARE EXPRESSED DIFFERENTLY IN DIFFERENT COORDINATE SYSTEMS.

LET $\mathcal{B} = \{ \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n \}$ BE A BASIS OF \mathbb{R}^n AND SUPPOSE

$$T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

IS A LINEAR TRANSFORMATION (NOT NECESSARILY INVERTIBLE), AND SUPPOSE A IS THE $(n \times n)$ MATRIX FOR T .

LET $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ BE THE FUNCTION WHICH MAPS THE \mathcal{B} -COORDINATES OF $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ TO THE \mathcal{B} -COORDINATES OF $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$.

$$\text{i.e. } F([x]_{\mathcal{B}}) = [T(\vec{x})]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

FIRST OBSERVE THAT F IS A LINEAR TRANSFORMATION. INDEED,

$$\begin{aligned} F([x]_{\mathcal{B}} + [y]_{\mathcal{B}}) &= F([x+y]_{\mathcal{B}}) \\ &= [T(x+y)]_{\mathcal{B}} \\ &= [T(x) + T(y)]_{\mathcal{B}} \\ &= [T(x)]_{\mathcal{B}} + [T(y)]_{\mathcal{B}} \\ &= F([x]_{\mathcal{B}}) + F([y]_{\mathcal{B}}), \end{aligned}$$

AND WE LEAVE IT AS AN EXERCISE TO SHOW.

$$F(k[x]_{\mathcal{B}}) = k F([x]_{\mathcal{B}})$$

LET \mathcal{B} BE THE $n \times n$ MATRIX FOR F ,
 I.E. \mathcal{B} IS DEFINED BY THE EQUATION

$$\mathcal{B} [x]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T(\vec{x})]_{\mathcal{B}}.$$

WE CALL \mathcal{B} THE MATRIX OF T WITH RESPECT TO \mathcal{B} , OR SIMPLY THE \mathcal{B} -MATRIX OF T .

This equation can also be written

$$\mathcal{B}[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = [A\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Now recall since $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ is a basis, $S = [\vec{v}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{v}_n]$ is invertible, and

$$[\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = S^{-1}\vec{x} \quad \text{for all } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

In particular

$$[A\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = S^{-1}A\vec{x}.$$

The defining equation for \mathcal{B} is now

$$\mathcal{B}S^{-1}\vec{x} = S^{-1}A\vec{x}.$$

Since this holds for all $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, it follows that $\mathcal{B}S^{-1} = S^{-1}A$, whence

$$\boxed{\mathcal{B} = S^{-1}AS}$$

or equivalently

$$S\mathcal{B} = AS.$$

We've proved:

THEOREM

LET $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ BE LINEAR WITH MATRIX A , AND $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ A BASIS OF \mathbb{R}^n . THEN THE MATRIX OF T WITH RESPECT TO \mathcal{B} IS

$$B = S^{-1} A S$$

WHERE $S = [\vec{v}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{v}_n]$.

NOTE THAT A IS THE MATRIX OF T WITH RESPECT TO THE STANDARD BASIS $\{\vec{e}_1, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ SINCE $I_n = [\vec{e}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{e}_n]$, AND $I_n^{-1} A I_n = A$.

EX LET $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$. FIND THE MATRIX OF $T_A: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ WITH RESPECT TO THE BASIS

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\},$$

AND VERIFY THAT

$$B [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = [A\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

FOR ALL $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

we have $S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
 so the matrix T_S of T_A is

$$\begin{aligned} B &= S^{-1}AS = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Now pick any $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Then

$$\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = (2x_1 - x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (-x_1 + x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$[\vec{x}]_B = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 - x_2 \\ -x_1 + x_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{x} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 \\ 3x_1 + 4x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (-x_1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (2x_1 + 2x_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$[A\vec{x}]_B = \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{R} [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 - x_2 \\ -x_1 + x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} (-2x_1 + x_2) + (x_1 - x_2) \\ (8x_1 - 4x_2) + (-6x_1 + 6x_2) \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} -x_1 \\ 2x_1 + 2x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= [A\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

LET US GIVE ANOTHER PROOF OF THE PRECEDING THEOREM. LET

$$\vec{c} = [\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} = S^{-1} \vec{x} \quad (\text{BY } **)$$

SO THAT

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(\vec{c}) &= F([\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}) = [A\vec{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} \\
 &= [AS\vec{c}]_{\mathcal{B}} \\
 &= S^{-1}AS\vec{c} \quad (\text{AGAIN BY } **).
 \end{aligned}$$

SINCE THIS HOLDS FOR ALL $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, THE MATRIX OF F IS $S^{-1}AS$, AS EXPECTED.

OBSERVE THAT THE j^{th} COLUMN OF $B = S^{-1}AS$ IS

$$\begin{aligned} B \vec{e}_j &= S^{-1}A(S\vec{e}_j) = S^{-1}A\vec{v}_j \\ &= [A\vec{v}_j]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T_A(\vec{v}_j)]_{\mathcal{B}}. \end{aligned}$$

THUS ANOTHER CHARACTERIZATION OF B IS

$$B = \left[[T_A(\vec{v}_1)]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad \cdots \quad [T_A(\vec{v}_n)]_{\mathcal{B}} \right].$$

DEFN.

LET A, B BE $n \times n$ MATRICES. WE SAY THAT A IS SIMILAR TO B IFF THERE EXISTS AN INVERTIBLE $n \times n$ MATRIX S SUCH THAT

$$AS = SB \quad \text{i.e.} \quad B = S^{-1}AS$$

THEOREM:

A IS SIMILAR TO B IFF B IS THE MATRIX OF T_A WITH RESPECT TO SOME BASIS OF \mathbb{R}^n .

PROOF:

(\Leftarrow) THIS IS JUST THE PRECEDING THEOREM.

(\Rightarrow) EXERCISE.

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WE WRITE

$$A \sim B$$

TO MEAN THAT A IS SIMILAR TO B .
OBSERVE THAT THE SIMILARITY RELATION
SATISFIES THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES.

a.) REFLEXIVE. $A \sim A$ SINCE $A = I_n^{-1} A I_n$.

b.) SYMMETRIC. IF $A \sim B$, THEN
 $B \sim A$ SINCE

$$B = S^{-1} A S \Rightarrow A = (S^{-1})^{-1} B (S^{-1})$$

c.) TRANSITIVE. IF $A \sim B$ AND $B \sim C$,
THEN $A \sim C$.

PT. SUPPOSE $B = S_1^{-1} A S_1$, AND $C = S_2^{-1} B S_2$.
THEN

$$C = S_2^{-1} (S_1^{-1} A S_1) S_2 = (S_1 S_2)^{-1} A (S_1 S_2)$$

SINCE $S_1 S_2$ IS INVERTIBLE WITH $(S_1 S_2)^{-1}$
 $= S_2^{-1} S_1^{-1}$. HENCE $A \sim C$.

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A RELATION SATISFYING PROPERTIES (a), (b), AND (c) ABOVE IS CALLED AN EQUIVALENCE RELATION.

EXERCISE

LET $A \sim B$ AND LET $p \geq 0$ BE AN INTEGER. SHOW THAT

$$A^p \sim B^p.$$

EXERCISE

LET $A \sim B$. SHOW THAT

$$\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(B).$$

(HINT: LET $B = S^{-1}AS$, $r = \text{rank}(B)$, AND SUPPOSE $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_r\}$ IS A BASIS FOR $\text{im}(B)$. SHOW THAT $\{S\vec{u}_1, \dots, S\vec{u}_r\}$ IS A BASIS FOR $\text{im}(A)$, WHENCE $\text{rank}(A) = \dim(\text{im } A) = r = \text{rank}(B)$.)

HW (3.4): 6-30 even, 40, 52, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64