

FIGURE 5.3

Projection of  $[a_1, a_2, a_3]$  to the  $xy$ -plane

consider the mapping  $j: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  given by  $j([a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4]) = [0, a_2, 0, a_4]$ . This mapping takes each vector in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  to a corresponding vector whose first and third coordinates are zero. The functions  $h$  and  $j$  are both linear operators (see Exercise 5). Such mappings, where at least one of the coordinates is “zeroed out,” are examples of **projection mappings**. You can verify that all such mappings are linear operators. (Other types of projection mappings are illustrated in Exercises 6 and 7.)

### Example 9

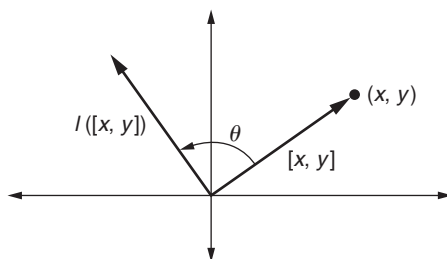
**Rotations:** Let  $\theta$  be a fixed angle in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and let  $l: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be given by

$$l\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\ x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}.$$

In Exercise 9 you are asked to show that  $l$  rotates  $[x, y]$  counterclockwise through the angle  $\theta$  (see Figure 5.4).

Now, let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = [x_1, y_1]$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = [x_2, y_2]$  be two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} l(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} (\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 + \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &= l(\mathbf{v}_1) + l(\mathbf{v}_2). \end{aligned}$$

**FIGURE 5.4**

Counterclockwise rotation of  $[x, y]$  through an angle  $\theta$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$

Similarly,  $I(c\mathbf{v}) = cI(\mathbf{v})$ , for any  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Hence,  $I$  is a linear operator. ■

Beware! Not all geometric operations are linear operators. Recall that the translation function is not a linear operator!

## Multiplication Transformation

The linear operator in Example 9 is actually a special case of the next example, which shows that multiplication by an  $m \times n$  matrix is always a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

### Example 10

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a given  $m \times n$  matrix. We show that the function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  defined by  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ , for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , is a linear transformation. Let  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $f(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_2 = f(\mathbf{x}_1) + f(\mathbf{x}_2)$ . Also, let  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,  $f(c\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}(c\mathbf{x}) = c(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}) = cf(\mathbf{x})$ . ■

For a specific example of the multiplication transformation, consider the matrix  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 5 & 6 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ . The mapping given by

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 5 & 6 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1 + 4x_2 + 2x_3 \\ 5x_1 + 6x_2 - 3x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . In the next section, we will show that the converse of the result in Example 10 also holds; every linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$  is equivalent to multiplication by an appropriate  $m \times n$  matrix.

### Elementary Properties of Linear Transformations

We now prove some basic properties of linear transformations. From here on, we usually use italicized capital letters, such as “ $L$ ,” to represent linear transformations.

**Theorem 5.1** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  be vector spaces, and let  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  be a linear transformation. Let  $\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}$  be the zero vector in  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{W}}$  be the zero vector in  $\mathcal{W}$ . Then

- (1)  $L(\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}) = \mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{W}}$
- (2)  $L(-\mathbf{v}) = -L(\mathbf{v})$ , for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$
- (3)  $L(a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + a_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + a_n\mathbf{v}_n) = a_1L(\mathbf{v}_1) + a_2L(\mathbf{v}_2) + \cdots + a_nL(\mathbf{v}_n)$ , for all  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n \in \mathcal{V}$ , for  $n \geq 2$ .

**Proof.**

**Part (1):**

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}) &= L(0\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}) && \text{part (2) of Theorem 4.1, in } \mathcal{V} \\
 &= 0L(\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}) && \text{property (2) of linear transformation} \\
 &= \mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{W}} && \text{part (2) of Theorem 4.1, in } \mathcal{W}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Part (2):**

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(-\mathbf{v}) &= L(-1\mathbf{v}) && \text{part (3) of Theorem 4.1, in } \mathcal{V} \\
 &= -1(L(\mathbf{v})) && \text{property (2) of linear transformation} \\
 &= -L(\mathbf{v}) && \text{part (3) of Theorem 4.1, in } \mathcal{W}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Part (3):** (Abridged) This part is proved by induction. We prove the Base Step ( $n = 2$ ) here and leave the Inductive Step as Exercise 29. For the Base Step, we must show that  $L(a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + a_2\mathbf{v}_2) = a_1L(\mathbf{v}_1) + a_2L(\mathbf{v}_2)$ . But,

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + a_2\mathbf{v}_2) &= L(a_1\mathbf{v}_1) + L(a_2\mathbf{v}_2) && \text{property (1) of linear transformation} \\
 &= a_1L(\mathbf{v}_1) + a_2L(\mathbf{v}_2) && \text{property (2) of linear transformation. } \square
 \end{aligned}$$

The next theorem asserts that the composition  $L_2 \circ L_1$  of linear transformations  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is again a linear transformation (see Appendix B for a review of composition of functions).

**Theorem 5.2** Let  $\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2$ , and  $\mathcal{V}_3$  be vector spaces. Let  $L_1: \mathcal{V}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_2$  and  $L_2: \mathcal{V}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_3$  be linear transformations. Then  $L_2 \circ L_1: \mathcal{V}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_3$  given by  $(L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}) = L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v}))$ , for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}_1$ , is a linear transformation.

**Proof.** (Abridged) To show that  $L_2 \circ L_1$  is a linear transformation, we must show that for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathcal{V}$ ,

$$(L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) = (L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_1) + (L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_2)$$

$$\text{and } (L_2 \circ L_1)(c\mathbf{v}) = c(L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}).$$

The first property holds since

$$\begin{aligned} (L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) &= L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2)) \\ &= L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v}_1) + L_1(\mathbf{v}_2)) && \text{because } L_1 \text{ is a linear transformation} \\ &= L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v}_1)) + L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v}_2)) && \text{because } L_2 \text{ is a linear transformation} \\ &= (L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_1) + (L_2 \circ L_1)(\mathbf{v}_2). \end{aligned}$$

We leave the proof of the second property as Exercise 33. □

### Example 11

Let  $L_1$  represent the rotation of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  through a fixed angle  $\theta$  (as in Example 9), and let  $L_2$  represent the reflection of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  through the  $x$ -axis. That is, if  $\mathbf{v} = [v_1, v_2]$ , then

$$L_1(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad L_2(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ -v_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Because  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are both linear transformations, Theorem 5.2 asserts that

$$L_2(L_1(\mathbf{v})) = L_2\left(\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \cos \theta - v_2 \sin \theta \\ v_1 \sin \theta + v_2 \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \cos \theta - v_2 \sin \theta \\ -v_1 \sin \theta - v_2 \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

is also a linear transformation.  $L_2 \circ L_1$  represents a rotation of  $\mathbf{v}$  through  $\theta$  followed by a reflection through the  $x$ -axis. ■

Theorem 5.2 generalizes naturally to more than two linear transformations. That is, if  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_k$  are linear transformations and the composition  $L_k \circ \dots \circ L_2 \circ L_1$  makes sense, then  $L_k \circ \dots \circ L_2 \circ L_1$  is also a linear transformation.

## Linear Transformations and Subspaces

The final theorem of this section assures us that, under a linear transformation  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$ , subspaces of  $\mathcal{V}$  “correspond” to subspaces of  $\mathcal{W}$ , and vice versa.

**Theorem 5.3** Let  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  be a linear transformation.

- (1) If  $\mathcal{V}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ , then  $L(\mathcal{V}') = \{L(\mathbf{v}) \mid \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}'\}$ , the image of  $\mathcal{V}'$  in  $\mathcal{W}$ , is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ . In particular, the range of  $L$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ .
- (2) If  $\mathcal{W}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ , then  $L^{-1}(\mathcal{W}') = \{\mathbf{v} \mid L(\mathbf{v}) \in \mathcal{W}'\}$ , the pre-image of  $\mathcal{W}'$  in  $\mathcal{V}$ , is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

We prove part (1) and leave part (2) as Exercise 31.

**Proof. Part (1):** Suppose that  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation and that  $\mathcal{V}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Now,  $L(\mathcal{V}')$ , the image of  $\mathcal{V}'$  in  $\mathcal{W}$  (see Figure 5.5), is certainly nonempty (why?). Hence, to show that  $L(\mathcal{V}')$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ , we must prove that  $L(\mathcal{V}')$  is closed under addition and scalar multiplication.

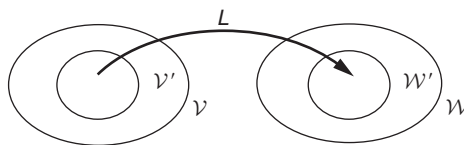
First, suppose that  $\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2 \in L(\mathcal{V}')$ . Then, by definition of  $L(\mathcal{V}')$ , we have  $\mathbf{w}_1 = L(\mathbf{v}_1)$  and  $\mathbf{w}_2 = L(\mathbf{v}_2)$ , for some  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathcal{V}'$ . Then,  $\mathbf{w}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2 = L(\mathbf{v}_1) + L(\mathbf{v}_2) = L(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2)$  because  $L$  is a linear transformation. However, since  $\mathcal{V}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ ,  $(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) \in \mathcal{V}'$ . Thus,  $(\mathbf{w}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2)$  is the image of  $(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) \in \mathcal{V}'$ , and so  $(\mathbf{w}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2) \in L(\mathcal{V}')$ . Hence,  $L(\mathcal{V}')$  is closed under addition.

Next, suppose that  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbf{w} \in L(\mathcal{V}')$ . By definition of  $L(\mathcal{V}')$ ,  $\mathbf{w} = L(\mathbf{v})$ , for some  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}'$ . Then,  $c\mathbf{w} = cL(\mathbf{v}) = L(c\mathbf{v})$  since  $L$  is a linear transformation. Now,  $c\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}'$ , because  $\mathcal{V}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ . Thus,  $c\mathbf{w}$  is the image of  $c\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}'$ , and so  $c\mathbf{w} \in L(\mathcal{V}')$ . Hence,  $L(\mathcal{V}')$  is closed under scalar multiplication.  $\square$

### Example 12

Let  $L: \mathcal{M}_{22} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $L\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}\right) = [b, 0, c]$ .  $L$  is a linear transformation (verify!). By Theorem 5.3, the range of any linear transformation is a subspace of the codomain. Hence, the range of  $L = \{[b, 0, c] \mid b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Also, consider the subspace  $\mathcal{U}_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & d \end{bmatrix} \mid a, b, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  of  $\mathcal{M}_{22}$ . Then the image of  $\mathcal{U}_2$  under  $L$  is  $\{[b, 0, 0] \mid b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . This image is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , as Theorem 5.3 asserts. Finally, consider the subspace  $\mathcal{W} = \{[b, e, 2b] \mid b, e \in \mathbb{R}\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The pre-image of  $\mathcal{W}$  consists of all



**FIGURE 5.5**

Subspaces of  $\mathcal{V}$  correspond to subspaces of  $\mathcal{W}$  under a linear transformation  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$

matrices in  $\mathcal{M}_{22}$  of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 2b & d \end{bmatrix}$ . Notice that this pre-image is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_{22}$ , as claimed by Theorem 5.3. ■

## New Vocabulary

codomain (of a linear transformation)	pre-image (of a vector in the codomain)
composition of linear transformations	projection (mapping)
contraction (mapping)	range (of a linear transformation)
dilation (mapping)	reflection (mapping)
domain (of a linear transformation)	rotation (mapping)
identity linear operator	shear (mapping)
image (of a vector in the domain)	translation (mapping)
linear operator	zero linear operator
linear transformation	

## Highlights

- A linear transformation is a function from one vector space to another that preserves the operations of addition and scalar multiplication. That is, under a linear transformation, the image of a linear combination of vectors is the linear combination of the images of the vectors having the same coefficients.
- A linear operator is a linear transformation from a vector space to itself.
- A nontrivial translation of the plane ( $\mathbb{R}^2$ ) or of space ( $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) is never a linear operator, but all of the following are linear operators: contraction (of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ), dilation (of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ), reflection of space through the  $xy$ -plane (or  $xz$ -plane or  $yz$ -plane), rotation of the plane about the origin through a given angle  $\theta$ , projection (of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ) in which one or more of the coordinates are zeroed out.
- Multiplication of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  on the left by a fixed  $m \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- Multiplying a vector on the left by the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$  is equivalent to rotating the vector counterclockwise about the origin through the angle  $\theta$ .
- Linear transformations always map the zero vector of the domain to the zero vector of the codomain.
- A composition of linear transformations is a linear transformation.
- Under a linear transformation, subspaces of the domain map to subspaces of the codomain, and the pre-image of a subspace of the codomain is a subspace of the domain.

## EXERCISES FOR SECTION 5.1

1. Determine which of the following functions are linear transformations. Prove that your answers are correct. Which are linear operators?
  - ★(a)  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  given by  $f([x, y]) = [3x - 4y, -x + 2y]$
  - ★(b)  $h: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  given by  $h([x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]) = [x_1 + 2, x_2 - 1, x_3, -3]$
  - (c)  $k: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $k([x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [x_2, x_3, x_1]$
  - ★(d)  $l: \mathcal{M}_{22} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{22}$  given by  $l\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} a - 2c + d & 3b - c \\ -4a & b + c - 3d \end{bmatrix}$
  - (e)  $n: \mathcal{M}_{22} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $n\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}\right) = ad - bc$
  - ★(f)  $r: \mathcal{P}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_2$  given by  $r(ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d) = (\sqrt[3]{a})x^2 - b^2x + c$
  - (g)  $s: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $s([x_1, x_2, x_3]) = [\cos x_1, \sin x_2, e^{x_3}]$
  - ★(h)  $t: \mathcal{P}_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $t(a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0) = a_3 + a_2 + a_1 + a_0$
  - (i)  $u: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $u([x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]) = |x_2|$
  - ★(j)  $v: \mathcal{P}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $v(ax^2 + bx + c) = abc$
  - ★(k)  $g: \mathcal{M}_{32} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_4$  given by  $g\left(\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{bmatrix}\right) = a_{11}x^4 - a_{21}x^2 + a_{31}$
  - ★(l)  $e: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $e([x, y]) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$
2. Let  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  be vector spaces.
  - (a) Show that the identity mapping  $i: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  given by  $i(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}$ , for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$ , is a linear operator.
  - (b) Show that the zero mapping  $z: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  given by  $z(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{W}}$ , for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{V}$ , is a linear transformation.
3. Let  $k$  be a fixed scalar in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Show that the mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  given by  $f([x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]) = k[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$  is a linear operator.
4. (a) Show that  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $f([x, y, z]) = [-x, y, z]$  (reflection of a vector through the  $yz$ -plane) is a linear operator.
  - (b) What mapping from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$  would reflect a vector through the  $xz$ -plane? Is it a linear operator? Why or why not?
  - (c) What mapping from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  would reflect a vector through the  $y$ -axis? through the  $x$ -axis? Are these linear operators? Why or why not?
5. Show that the projection mappings  $h: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $h([a_1, a_2, a_3]) = [a_1, a_2, 0]$  and  $j: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  given by  $j([a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4]) = [0, a_2, 0, a_4]$  are linear operators.

6. The mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f([x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n]) = x_i$  is another type of projection mapping. Show that  $f$  is a linear transformation.
7. Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a fixed nonzero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Show that the mapping  $g: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $g(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{proj}_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{y}$  is a linear operator.
8. Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a fixed vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that  $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $L(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$  is a linear transformation.
9. Let  $\theta$  be a fixed angle in the  $xy$ -plane. Show that the linear operator  $L: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  given by  $L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$  rotates the vector  $[x, y]$  counterclockwise through the angle  $\theta$  in the plane. (Hint: Consider the vector  $[x', y']$ , obtained by rotating  $[x, y]$  counterclockwise through the angle  $\theta$ . Let  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ . Then  $x = r \cos \alpha$  and  $y = r \sin \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the angle shown in Figure 5.6. Notice that  $x' = r(\cos(\theta + \alpha))$  and  $y' = r(\sin(\theta + \alpha))$ . Then show that  $L([x, y]) = [x', y']$ .)
10. (a) Explain why the mapping  $L: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by

$$L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

is a linear operator.

- (b) Show that the mapping  $L$  in part (a) rotates every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  about the  $z$ -axis through an angle of  $\theta$  (as measured relative to the  $xy$ -plane).
- ★(c) What matrix should be multiplied times  $[x, y, z]$  to create the linear operator that rotates  $\mathbb{R}^3$  about the  $y$ -axis through an angle  $\theta$  (relative to the  $xz$ -plane)? (Hint: When looking down from the positive  $y$ -axis toward

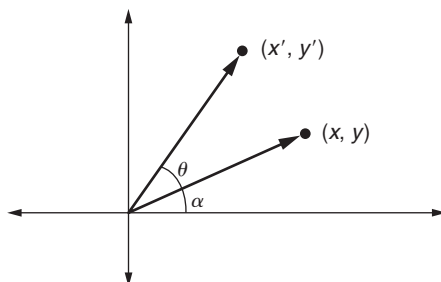


FIGURE 5.6

The vectors  $[x, y]$  and  $[x', y']$



the  $xz$ -plane in a right-handed system, the positive  $z$ -axis rotates  $90^\circ$  counterclockwise into the positive  $x$ -axis.)

11. **Shears:** Let  $f_1, f_2: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be given by

$$f_1\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + ky \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$f_2\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ kx + y \end{bmatrix}.$$

The mapping  $f_1$  is called a **shear in the  $x$ -direction with factor  $k$** ;  $f_2$  is called a **shear in the  $y$ -direction with factor  $k$** . The effect of these functions (for  $k > 1$ ) on the vector  $[1, 1]$  is shown in Figure 5.7. Show that  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are linear operators directly, without using Example 10.

12. Let  $f: \mathcal{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(\mathbf{A}) = \text{trace}(\mathbf{A})$ . (The trace is defined in Exercise 14 of Section 1.4.) Prove that  $f$  is a linear transformation.
13. Show that the mappings  $g, h: \mathcal{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{nn}$  given by  $g(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T$  and  $h(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T$  are linear operators on  $\mathcal{M}_{nn}$ .
14. (a) Show that if  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , then the (indefinite integral) function  $f: \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$ , where  $f(\mathbf{p})$  is the vector  $\int \mathbf{p}(x) dx$  with zero constant term, is a linear transformation.
- (b) Show that if  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_n$ , then the (definite integral) function  $g: \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $g(\mathbf{p}) = \int_a^b \mathbf{p} dx$  is a linear transformation, for any fixed  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ .
15. Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be the vector space of all functions  $f$  from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  that are infinitely differentiable (that is, for which  $f^{(n)}$ , the  $n$ th derivative of  $f$ , exists for every

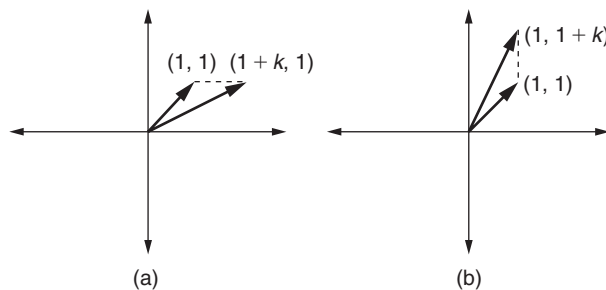


FIGURE 5.7

(a) Shear in the  $x$ -direction; (b) shear in the  $y$ -direction (both for  $k > 0$ )

integer  $n \geq 1$ ). Use induction and Theorem 5.2 to show that for any given integer  $k \geq 1$ ,  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  given by  $L(f) = f^{(k)}$  is a linear operator.

16. Consider the function  $f: \mathcal{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{nn}$  given by  $f(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{A}$ , where  $\mathbf{B}$  is some fixed  $n \times n$  matrix. Show that  $f$  is a linear operator.
17. Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a fixed nonsingular matrix in  $\mathcal{M}_{nn}$ . Show that the mapping  $f: \mathcal{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{nn}$  given by  $f(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}$  is a linear operator.
18. Let  $a$  be a fixed real number.
  - (a) Let  $L: \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $L(\mathbf{p}(x)) = \mathbf{p}(a)$ . (That is,  $L$  evaluates polynomials in  $\mathcal{P}_n$  at  $x = a$ .) Show that  $L$  is a linear transformation.
  - (b) Let  $L: \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_n$  be given by  $L(\mathbf{p}(x)) = \mathbf{p}(x + a)$ . (For example, when  $a$  is positive,  $L$  shifts the graph of  $\mathbf{p}(x)$  to the *left* by  $a$  units.) Prove that  $L$  is a linear operator.
19. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a fixed matrix in  $\mathcal{M}_{nn}$ . Define  $f: \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{nn}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0) \\ = a_n \mathbf{A}^n + a_{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 \mathbf{A} + a_0 \mathbf{I}_n. \end{aligned}$$

Show that  $f$  is a linear transformation.

20. Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be the unusual vector space from Example 7 in Section 4.1. Show that  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $L(x) = \ln(x)$  is a linear transformation.
21. Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a vector space, and let  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  be a fixed vector in  $\mathcal{V}$ . Prove that the translation function  $f: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$  given by  $f(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{x}$  is not a linear transformation.
22. Show that if  $\mathbf{A}$  is a fixed matrix in  $\mathcal{M}_{mm}$  and  $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is a fixed vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , then the mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  given by  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$  is not a linear transformation by showing that part (1) of Theorem 5.1 fails for  $f$ .
23. Prove that  $f: \mathcal{M}_{33} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(\mathbf{A}) = |\mathbf{A}|$  is not a linear transformation. (A similar result is true for  $\mathcal{M}_{nn}$ , for  $n > 1$ .)
24. Suppose  $L_1: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation and  $L_2: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is defined by  $L_2(\mathbf{v}) = L_1(2\mathbf{v})$ . Show that  $L_2$  is a linear transformation.
25. Suppose  $L: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a linear operator and  $L([1, 0, 0]) = [-2, 1, 0]$ ,  $L([0, 1, 0]) = [3, -2, 1]$ , and  $L([0, 0, 1]) = [0, -1, 3]$ . Find  $L([-3, 2, 4])$ . Give a formula for  $L([x, y, z])$ , for any  $[x, y, z] \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .
- ★26. Suppose  $L: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a linear operator and  $L(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}) = \mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}$  and  $L(-2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}) = -4\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$ . Express  $L(\mathbf{i})$  and  $L(\mathbf{j})$  as linear combinations of  $\mathbf{i}$  and  $\mathbf{j}$ .
27. Let  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  be a linear transformation. Show that  $L(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) = L(\mathbf{x}) - L(\mathbf{y})$ , for all vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{V}$ .

28. Part (3) of Theorem 5.1 assures us that if  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation, then  $L(a\mathbf{v}_1 + b\mathbf{v}_2) = aL(\mathbf{v}_1) + bL(\mathbf{v}_2)$ , for all  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathcal{V}$  and all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Prove that the converse of this statement is true. (Hint: Consider two cases: first  $a = b = 1$  and then  $b = 0$ .)
- 29. Finish the proof of part (3) of Theorem 5.1 by doing the Inductive Step.
30. (a) Suppose that  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation. Show that if  $\{L(\mathbf{v}_1), L(\mathbf{v}_2), \dots, L(\mathbf{v}_n)\}$  is a linearly independent set of  $n$  distinct vectors in  $\mathcal{W}$ , for some vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n \in \mathcal{V}$ , then  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a linearly independent set in  $\mathcal{V}$ .
- ★(b) Find a counterexample to the converse of part (a).
- 31. Finish the proof of Theorem 5.3 by showing that if  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation and  $\mathcal{W}'$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$  with pre-image  $L^{-1}(\mathcal{W}')$ , then  $L^{-1}(\mathcal{W}')$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ .
32. Show that every linear operator  $L: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has the form  $L(\mathbf{x}) = c\mathbf{x}$ , for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .
33. Finish the proof of Theorem 5.2 by proving property (2) of a linear transformation for  $L_2 \circ L_1$ .
34. Let  $L_1, L_2: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  be linear transformations. Define  $(L_1 \oplus L_2): \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  by  $(L_1 \oplus L_2)(\mathbf{v}) = L_1(\mathbf{v}) + L_2(\mathbf{v})$  (where the latter addition takes place in  $\mathcal{W}$ ). Also define  $(c \odot L_1): \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  by  $(c \odot L_1)(\mathbf{v}) = c(L_1(\mathbf{v}))$  (where the latter scalar multiplication takes place in  $\mathcal{W}$ ).
- (a) Show that  $(L_1 \oplus L_2)$  and  $(c \odot L_1)$  are linear transformations.
- (b) Use the results in part (a) above and part (b) of Exercise 2 to show that the set of all linear transformations from  $\mathcal{V}$  to  $\mathcal{W}$  is a vector space under the operations  $\oplus$  and  $\odot$ .
35. Let  $L: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be a nonzero linear operator. Show that  $L$  maps a line to either a line or a point.
- ★36. True or False:
- (a) If  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a function between vector spaces for which  $L(c\mathbf{v}) = cL(\mathbf{v})$ , then  $L$  is a linear transformation.
- (b) If  $\mathcal{V}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space with ordered basis  $B$ , then  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  given by  $L(\mathbf{v}) = [\mathbf{v}]_B$  is a linear transformation.
- (c) The function  $L: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $L([x, y, z]) = [x + 1, y - 2, z + 3]$  is a linear operator.
- (d) If  $\mathbf{A}$  is a  $4 \times 3$  matrix, then  $L(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}$  is a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^4$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- (e) A linear transformation from  $\mathcal{V}$  to  $\mathcal{W}$  always maps  $\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{V}}$  to  $\mathbf{0}_{\mathcal{W}}$ .

- (f) If  $M_1: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  and  $M_2: \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  are linear transformations, then  $M_1 \circ M_2$  is a well-defined linear transformation.
- (g) If  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation, then the image of any subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$ .
- (h) If  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is a linear transformation, then the pre-image of  $\{0_{\mathcal{W}}\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$ .

## 5.2 THE MATRIX OF A LINEAR TRANSFORMATION

In this section, we show that the behavior of any linear transformation  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  is determined by its effect on a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$ . In particular, when  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  are finite dimensional and ordered bases for  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  are chosen, we can obtain a matrix corresponding to  $L$  that is useful in computing images under  $L$ . Finally, we investigate how the matrix for  $L$  changes as the bases for  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  change.

### A Linear Transformation Is Determined by Its Action on a Basis

If the action of a linear transformation  $L: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$  on a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$  is known, then the action of  $L$  can be computed for all elements of  $\mathcal{V}$ , as we see in the next example.

#### Example 1

You can quickly verify that

$$B = ([0, 4, 0, 1], [-2, 5, 0, 2], [-3, 5, 1, 1], [-1, 2, 0, 1])$$

is an ordered basis for  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Now suppose that  $L: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a linear transformation for which

$$L([0, 4, 0, 1]) = [3, 1, 2], \quad L([-2, 5, 0, 2]) = [2, -1, 1],$$

$$L([-3, 5, 1, 1]) = [-4, 3, 0], \quad \text{and} \quad L([-1, 2, 0, 1]) = [6, 1, -1].$$

We can use the values of  $L$  on  $B$  to compute  $L$  for other vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . For example, let  $\mathbf{v} = [-4, 14, 1, 4]$ . By using row reduction, we see that  $[\mathbf{v}]_B = [2, -1, 1, 3]$  (verify!). So,

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{v}) &= L(2[0, 4, 0, 1] - 1[-2, 5, 0, 2] + 1[-3, 5, 1, 1] + 3[-1, 2, 0, 1]) \\ &= 2L([0, 4, 0, 1]) - 1L([-2, 5, 0, 2]) + 1L([-3, 5, 1, 1]) \\ &\quad + 3L([-1, 2, 0, 1]) \\ &= 2[3, 1, 2] - [2, -1, 1] + [-4, 3, 0] + 3[6, 1, -1] \\ &= [18, 9, 0]. \end{aligned}$$