

# Math 260

## 10/17 Notes Continued

### Introduction to Chapter 5

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In chapter 5 we will begin a systematic study of how certain bases are more useful than others when working with specific operators. As an introduction to this chapter we will revisit some important examples.

#### Differentiation with different bases

We saw in chapter 3 that the application of a linear map  $T$  on a vector  $v \in V$  gives us a unique vector  $Tv \in W$  regardless of how we express  $v$  in terms of a basis for  $V$ . Here is the answer to the exercise at the end of the 10/17/18 notes:

Let  $B_1 = 1, x, x^2$  and  $B_2 = 1, (x-3), (x-3)^2$  be bases for  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{F}, x)$ . It is easy to check that the matrices associated to the differentiation operator  $D \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{F}, x))$ <sup>1</sup> with respect to these two bases are the same. That is,

$$[D]_{B_1}^{B_1} = [D]_{B_2}^{B_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The entries of column 1 of the matrix are the image of the first basis vector 1 under the differentiation map represented in terms of the bases, That is  $[D1]_{B_1} = [D1]_{B_2}$ . We check that in either basis the results are the same:

$$D(1) = 0 = 0(1) + 0x + 0x^2 = 0(1) + 0(x-3) + 0(x-3)^2.$$

Taking the second basis vector of  $B_1$ ,  $x$ , and representing the image  $Dx$  in terms of the basis  $B_1$ , we have  $Dx = 1(1) + 0x + 0x^2$ . Thus the associated column vector,  $[Dx]_{B_1}$  matches the second column of  $[D]_{B_1}^{B_1}$ . Similarly, representing  $D(x-3)$  with respect to  $B_2$ , we have  $D(x-3) = 1(1) + 0(x-3) + 0(x-3)^2$  and therefore  $[D(x-3)]_{B_2}$  also matches the second column.

Let us also check that  $[Dx^2]_{B_1} = [D(x-3)^2]_{B_2}$  and that this column vector matches the third column of the matrix. With respect to  $B_1$ ,  $Dx^2 = 0(1) + 2x + 0x^2$ . With respect to  $B_2$   $D(x-3)^2 = 0(1) + 2(x-3) + 0(x-3)^2$ . Thus the third columns match and the matrices are the same as desired.

Now lets show that the vector  $p(x) = 2+9x+5x^2$  looks different with respect to these two bases.

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<sup>1</sup>recall that the extra argument  $x$  of  $\mathcal{P}_2(\mathbf{F}, x)$  signifies that we are talking about the vectorspace of polynomials of degree at most 2 with coefficients in  $\mathbf{F}$  in indeterminate  $x$

Clearly,

$$[p(x)]_{B_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 9 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

however representing  $p(x)$  with respect to  $B_2$  is slightly more complicated.

Only  $(x-3)^2$  has an  $x^2$  term so for now,  $p(x) = a(1) + b(x-3) + 5(x-3)^2$ . Now we may solve for  $b$ . We know that  $p(x)$  must have 9 as the coefficient for the  $x$  term. Expanding  $5(x-3)^2 = 5x^2 - 30x + 45$  so  $b = 39$ . We now have  $p(x) = 2 + 9x + 5x^2 = a(1) + 39(x-3) + 5(x-3)^2 = a - 39(3) + 45 + 9x + 5x^2$ . Thus  $2 = a - 117 + 45$ . So  $a = 74$  and  $p(x) = 74(1) + 39(x-3) + 5(x-3)^2$ . Thus

$$[p(x)]_{B_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 74 \\ 39 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Performing the matrix multiplication,  $[D]_{B_1}^{B_1}[p(x)]_{B_1} = [D(p(x))]_{B_1}$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 9 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We have that in terms of  $B_1$   $D(p(x)) = 9(1) + 10x + 0x^2$ .

We also have that with respect to the second basis,  $[D]_{B_2}^{B_2}[p(x)]_{B_2} = [D(p(x))]_{B_2}$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 74 \\ 39 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 39 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So in terms of  $B_2$   $D(p(x)) = 39(1) + 10(x-3) + 0(x-3)^2$ . Checking this is correct:  $10x - 30 + 39 = 10x + 9$  as desired.

Although we got the same answer, the computations with one of these two bases was much more difficult. An even more awful supposition: suppose we had used the basis  $B_3 = 1, x, \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1)$ <sup>2</sup>. You should check that  $[D]_{B_3}^{B_3} \neq [D]_{B_1}^{B_1} = [D]_{B_2}^{B_2}$ . Furthermore, check that  $B_3$  is a basis. Find  $[D]_{B_3}^{B_3}$  and  $[p(x)]_{B_3}$ . When you are finished, see the section **Answers**.

Carry out the multiplication  $[D]_{B_3}^{B_3}[p(x)]_{B_3}$  to obtain  $[D(p(x))]_{B_3}$ . Show that unbracketing this expression also gives us the correct answer for  $D(p(x))$ .

Different bases result in different matrix representations of the same differentiation operator  $D$ . However, matrix multiplication always gives us the correct response. For any basis  $B$ ,  $[D]_B^B[p]_B = [Dp]_B$ :

<sup>2</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legendre\\_polynomials](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legendre_polynomials) The legendre polynomials are a special basis for  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F}, x)$ . In chapter 6 we will have a notion of angle between two vectors. We will see that the vectors of  $B_3$  stick out at "right angles" to one another, whatever that means.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
p & \xrightarrow{D} & Dp \\
\downarrow [\ ]_B & & \downarrow [\ ]_B \\
[p]_B & \xrightarrow{[D]_B^B} & \frac{[Dp]_B}{[D]_B^B[p]_B}
\end{array}$$

## Changing Basis

Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be bases for a vector space  $V$ . Let  $v \in V$ . Let  $I$  denote the identity operator on  $V$ . Using matrices,

$$[I]_{B_2}^{B_1}[v]_{B_1} = [Iv]_{B_2}$$

However since  $Iv = v$ , we have  $[Iv]_{B_2} = [v]_{B_2}$ . So we have the change of basis formula for vectors:

$$[I]_{B_2}^{B_1}[v]_{B_1} = [v]_{B_2}$$

The result is similar for matrices.

Let  $T$  be an operator on  $V$ . Let  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  be bases for  $V$ . If we have the matrix of  $T$  with respect to  $B$  and  $C$ ,  $[T]_B^C$ , and we would like to see it with respect to  $A$  and  $D$ , we use the following argument. Recall that matrix multiplication was defined to preserve composition of linear maps:

$$[I]_D^C[T]_C^B = [I \circ T]_D^B = [T]_D^B$$

since  $I \circ T = T$ . Similarly  $T = T \circ I$  gives us via precomposing,

$$[I]_D^C[T]_C^B[I]_B^A = [I \circ T]_D^B[I]_B^A = [I \circ T \circ I]_D^A = [T]_D^A$$

so the change of basis formula for matrices is then:

$$[I]_D^C[T]_C^B[I]_B^A = [T]_D^A$$

In general  $A = D$  and  $B = C$ . Although it is possible to represent an operator from  $V$  to  $V$  using two different bases we will avoid this usually.

You should check the following computations using the data from the running example in the previous section:

1.

$$[I]_{B_1}^{B_2}[D]_{B_2}^{B_2}[I]_{B_2}^{B_1}[p]_{B_1} = [Dv]_{B_1}$$

2.

$$[I]_{B_1}^{B_2}[D]_{B_2}^{B_2}[I]_{B_2}^{B_1} = [D]_{B_1}^{B_1}$$

3.

$$[I]_{B_2}^{B_1}[D]_{B_1}^{B_1}[I]_{B_1}^{B_2} = [D]_{B_2}^{B_2}$$

4.

$$[I]_{B_3}^{B_2} [D]_{B_2}^{B_2} [I]_{B_2}^{B_3} = [D]_{B_3}^{B_3}$$

5.

$$[I]_{B_2}^{B_3} [D]_{B_3}^{B_3} [I]_{B_3}^{B_2} = [D]_{B_2}^{B_2}$$

## Answers

1.

$$[D]_{B_3}^{B_3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

2.

$$[p(x)]_{B_3} = \begin{pmatrix} 11/3 \\ 9 \\ 10/3 \end{pmatrix}$$