

Introduction

When a matrix A multiplies a vector \mathbf{v} , it “transforms” \mathbf{v} into another vector $A\mathbf{v}$. *In goes \mathbf{v} , out comes $T(\mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{v}$.* A transformation T follows the same idea as a function. In goes a number x , out comes $f(x)$. For one vector \mathbf{v} or one number x , we multiply by the matrix or we evaluate the function. The deeper goal is to see all vectors \mathbf{v} at once. We are transforming the whole space V when we multiply every \mathbf{v} by A .

Start again with a matrix A . It transforms \mathbf{v} to $A\mathbf{v}$. It transforms \mathbf{w} to $A\mathbf{w}$. Then we *know* what happens to $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$. There is no doubt about $A\mathbf{u}$, it has to equal $A\mathbf{v} + A\mathbf{w}$. Matrix multiplication $T(\mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{v}$ gives an important *linear transformation* :

A *transformation* T assigns an output $T(\mathbf{v})$ to each input vector \mathbf{v} in V .

The transformation is *linear* if it meets these requirements for all \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} :

$$(a) \quad T(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w}) \qquad (b) \quad T(c\mathbf{v}) = cT(\mathbf{v}) \quad \text{for all } c.$$

If the input is $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$, the output must be $T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}$. We combine rules (a) and (b) into one :

Linear transformation $T(c\mathbf{v} + d\mathbf{w})$ *must equal* $cT(\mathbf{v}) + dT(\mathbf{w})$.

Again I can test matrix multiplication for linearity: $A(c\mathbf{v} + d\mathbf{w}) = cA\mathbf{v} + dA\mathbf{w}$ is *true*.

A linear transformation is highly restricted. Suppose T adds \mathbf{u}_0 to every vector. Then $T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}_0$ and $T(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}_0$. This isn't good, or at least *it isn't linear*. Applying T to $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$ produces $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}_0$. That is not the same as $T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w})$:

Shift is not linear $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}_0$ is not $T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}_0) + (\mathbf{w} + \mathbf{u}_0)$.

Examples

Example 1 Choose a fixed vector $\mathbf{a} = (1, 3, 4)$, and let $T(\mathbf{v})$ be the dot product $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}$:

The input is $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$. The output is $T(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v} = v_1 + 3v_2 + 4v_3$.

Dot products are linear. The inputs \mathbf{v} come from three-dimensional space, so $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{R}^3$. The outputs are just numbers, so the output space is $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{R}^1$. We are multiplying by the row matrix $A = [1 \ 3 \ 4]$. Then $T(\mathbf{v}) = A\mathbf{v}$.

You will get good at recognizing which transformations are linear. If the output involves squares or products or lengths, v_1^2 or v_1v_2 or $\|\mathbf{v}\|$, then T is not linear.

Examples

Example 2 The length $T(\mathbf{v}) = \|\mathbf{v}\|$ is not linear. Requirement (a) for linearity would be $\|\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}\| = \|\mathbf{v}\| + \|\mathbf{w}\|$. Requirement (b) would be $\|c\mathbf{v}\| = c\|\mathbf{v}\|$. Both are false!

Not (a): The sides of a triangle satisfy an *inequality* $\|\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}\| \leq \|\mathbf{v}\| + \|\mathbf{w}\|$.

Not (b): The length $\|-\mathbf{v}\|$ is $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ and not $-\|\mathbf{v}\|$. For negative c , linearity fails.

Example 3 (Rotation) T is the transformation that *rotates every vector by 30°* . The “*domain*” of T is the xy plane (all input vectors \mathbf{v}). The “*range*” of T is also the xy plane (all rotated vectors $T(\mathbf{v})$). We described T without a matrix: rotate the plane by 30° .

Is rotation linear? *Yes it is.* We can rotate two vectors and add the results. The sum of rotations $T(\mathbf{v}) + T(\mathbf{w})$ is the same as the rotation $T(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$ of the sum. **The whole plane is turning together, in this linear transformation.**

The rule of linearity extends to combinations of three vectors or n vectors :

Linearity $\mathbf{u} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{v}_n$ **must transform to**

$$T(\mathbf{u}) = c_1T(\mathbf{v}_1) + c_2T(\mathbf{v}_2) + \cdots + c_nT(\mathbf{v}_n)$$

(1)

The 2-vector rule starts the 3-vector proof: $T(c\mathbf{u} + d\mathbf{v} + e\mathbf{w}) = T(c\mathbf{u}) + T(d\mathbf{v} + e\mathbf{w})$.
Then linearity applies to both of those parts, to give three parts: $cT(\mathbf{u}) + dT(\mathbf{v}) + eT(\mathbf{w})$.

**BASIS
TELLS
ALL**

Suppose you know $T(\mathbf{v})$ for all vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ in a basis
Then you know $T(\mathbf{u})$ for every vector \mathbf{u} in the space.

You see the reason: Every \mathbf{u} in the space is a combination of the basis vectors \mathbf{v}_j .
Then linearity tells us that $T(\mathbf{u})$ is the same combination of the outputs $T(\mathbf{v}_j)$.

Geometric Transformations

- Mathematical operations that change the position, orientation, shape, or size of geometric objects (like points, lines, and shapes) within a space, such as a 2D plane or 3D space.
- These transformations are essential in computer graphics, computer vision, and physics.
- Linear algebra provides the foundation to represent these transformations using matrices and vectors, making the computation efficient and structured.

Key Types of Geometric Transformations

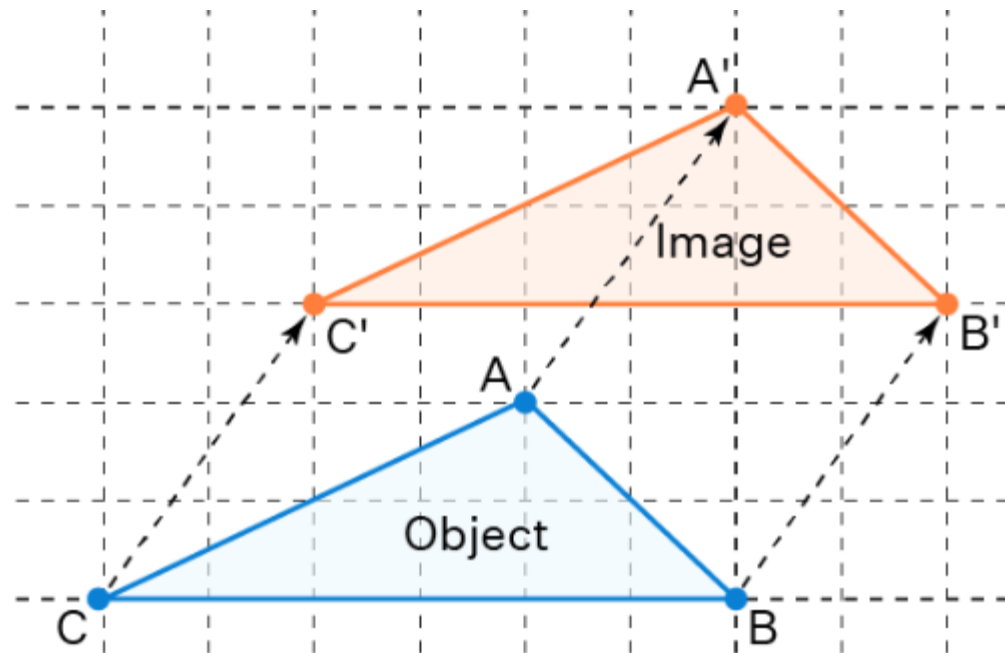
- Translation
- Scaling
- Rotation
- Reflection
- Shearing

Translation

- A translation moves every point of an object by a certain distance in a specific direction.
- Translation is not a linear transformation by itself because it does not preserve the origin, but it can be represented using matrices in homogeneous coordinates.

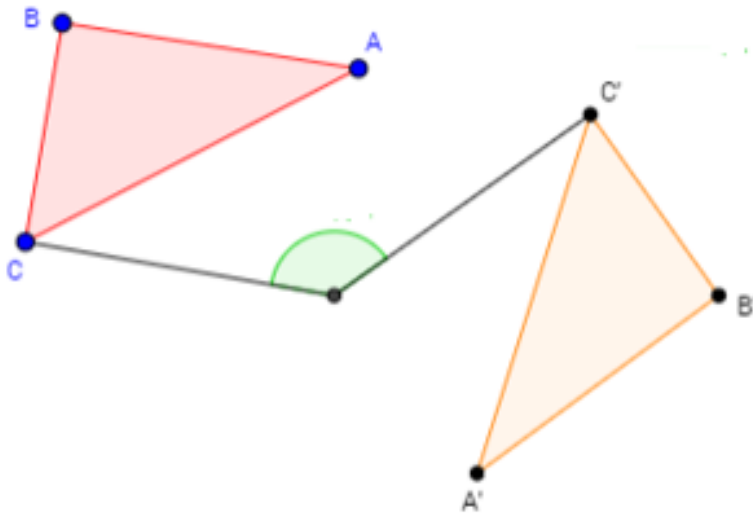
$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + t_x \\ y + t_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & t_x \\ 0 & 1 & t_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

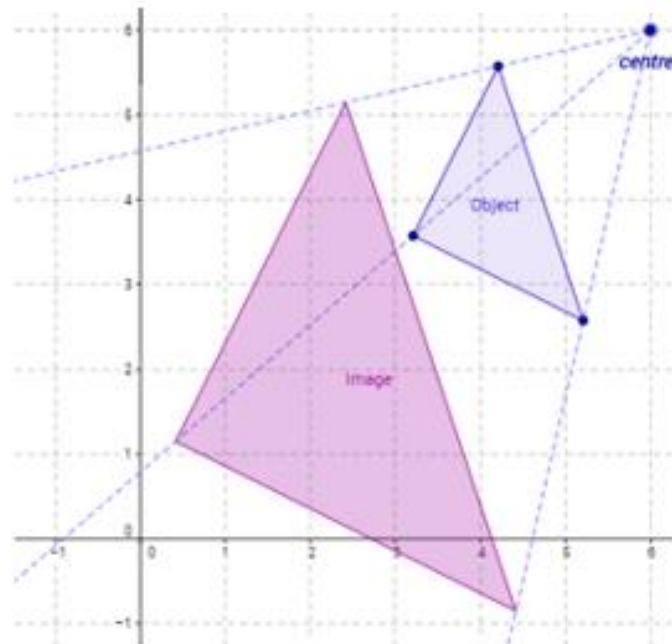


Linear Transformations

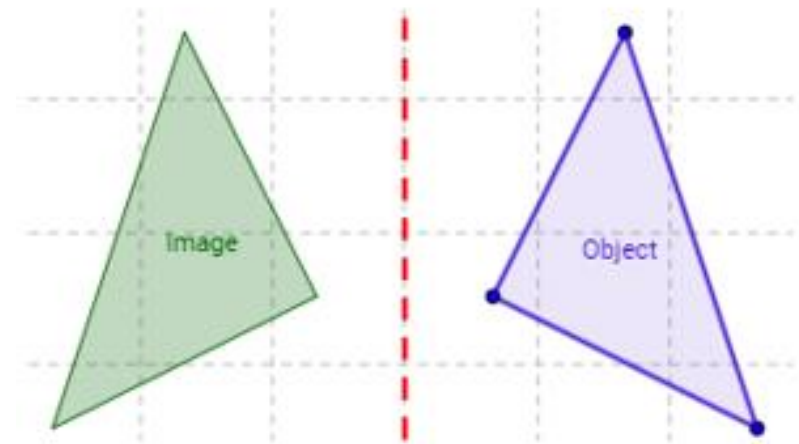
- Linear transformations are a subset of geometric transformations.
- They handle operations like **Scaling**, **Rotation**, **Shearing** and **Reflection** while keeping the origin fixed and preserving the vector space's linear structure.



Rotation



Enlargement



Reflection

Rotation

- Rotation turns an object around a point (usually the origin) by a certain angle.
- In 2D, a rotation transformation by an angle θ around the origin is represented by the matrix:

$$\text{Rotation Matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

For a point $\mathbf{p} = (x, y)$, the new rotated point is:

$$\mathbf{p}' = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

Scaling

- Scaling changes the size of an object, enlarging or shrinking it by a scale factor.
- Scaling can be represented by multiplying each coordinate by a scaling factor. In matrix form, this is a diagonal matrix

$$\text{Scaling Matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s_x & 0 \\ 0 & s_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{p}' = \begin{pmatrix} s_x & 0 \\ 0 & s_y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s_x x \\ s_y y \end{pmatrix}$$

Real life Image Scaling

- For digital images:
- Uniform scaling → zoom in/out (resize).
- Non-uniform scaling → stretch image horizontally/vertically.
- Scaling about a point → e.g., zooming about the mouse cursor in an image editor.

Reflection Transformation

- Reflection flips an object over a specified line or plane. This operation mirrors points about an axis.
- A reflection over the x-axis in 2D can be represented as:

$$\text{Reflection over x-axis} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- A reflection over the y-axis can be represented as:

$$\text{Reflection over y-axis} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Shear Transformation

- A shear transformation slants the shape of an object.
- In 2D, it skews the shape in the x or y direction by shifting coordinates along one axis by an amount proportional to their position on the other axis.
- The matrix for a shear along the x-axis is:

$$\text{Shearing Matrix (x-axis)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- The matrix for a shear along the y-axis:

$$\text{Shearing Matrix (y-axis)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

3D - Rotation

Rotation Around the x-axis:

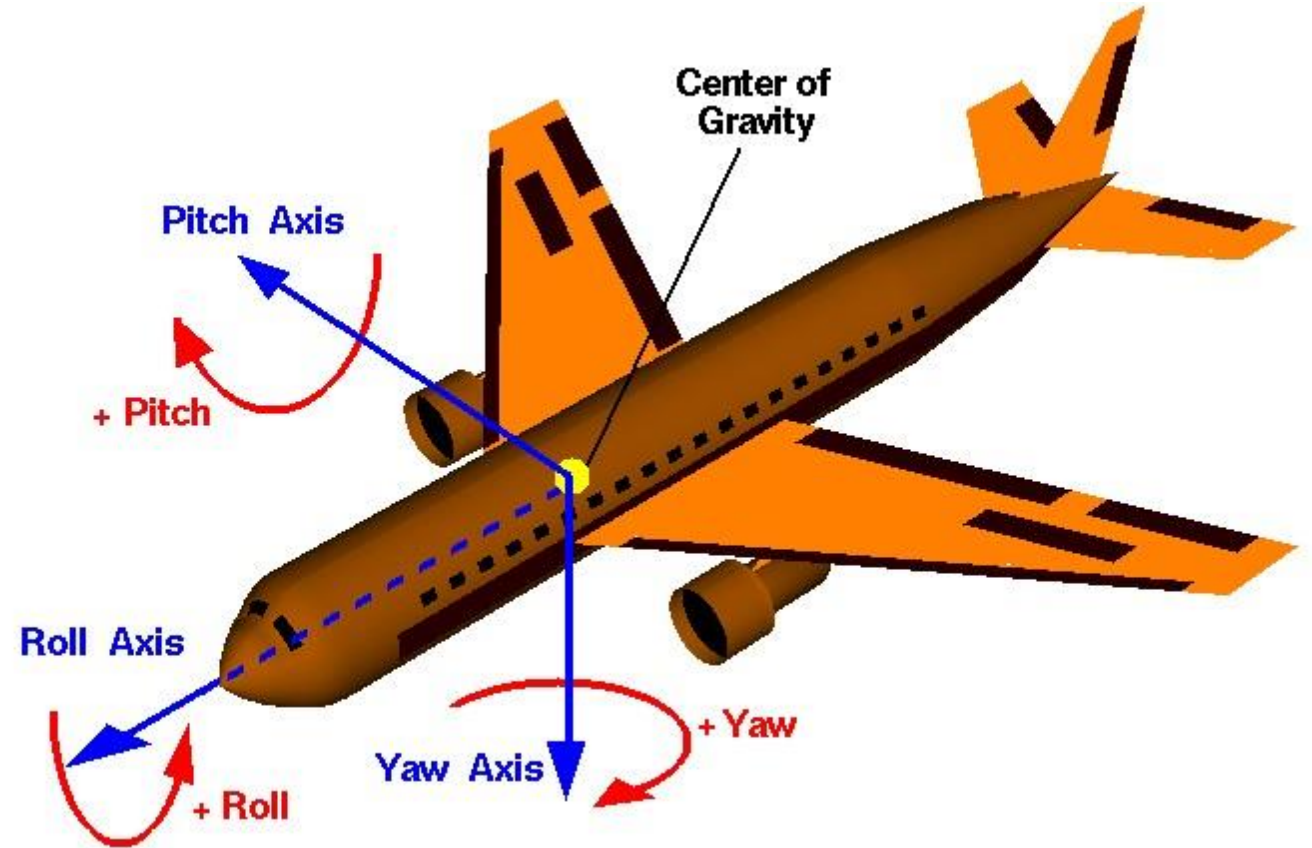
$$R_x(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Rotation Around the y-axis:

$$R_y(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \downarrow \sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Rotation Around the z-axis:

$$R_z(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



3D - Reflection

Reflection Across the xy-plane:

This flips the z-coordinates.

$$M_{xy} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Reflection of the point $(1, 2, 3)$ across the xy-plane gives $(1, 2, -3)$.

3D - Reflection

Reflection Across the yz -plane:

This flips the x -coordinates.

$$M_{yz} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Reflection of the point $(1, 2, 3)$ across the yz -plane gives $(-1, 2, 3)$.

3D - Reflection

Reflection Across the zx -plane:

This flips the y -coordinates.

$$M_{zx} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Reflection of the point $(1, 2, 3)$ across the zx -plane gives $(1, -2, 3)$.

3D - Scaling

Scaling Matrix:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} s_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s_z \end{pmatrix}$$

Applications



Applications



Applications

