

Linear algebra, Exercise 1

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Exercise. ^a Let $\beta = ((1, 0), (0, 1))$ be the standard ordered basis for \mathbf{R}^2 . Let $T : \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2$ be a linear transformation such that

$$T(1, 2) = (3, 2), T(1, 1) = (1, 1).$$

Compute $[T]_{\beta}^{\beta}$.

^aThis exercise is from <http://www.math.ucla.edu/~tao/resource/general/115a.3.02f/practice.pdf>

Solve. Let $\mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 0), \mathbf{v}_2 = (0, 1)$. Then

$$T(\mathbf{v}_1 + 2\mathbf{v}_2) = 3\mathbf{v}_1 + 2\mathbf{v}_2,$$

$$T(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) = \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2.$$

So

$$\begin{cases} T(\mathbf{v}_1) + 2T(\mathbf{v}_2) = 3\mathbf{v}_1 + 2\mathbf{v}_2, \\ T(\mathbf{v}_1) + T(\mathbf{v}_2) = \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2. \end{cases}$$

So

$$T(\mathbf{v}_1) = -\mathbf{v}_1, T(\mathbf{v}_2) = 2\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2.$$

So

$$[T]_{\beta}^{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

□

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