

A linear transformation is a *mapping* (or a *function*) which *preserves the structure of a vector space*. It *respects linearity* (essentially, it takes “flat” objects to “flat” objects.)

Definition

Let V, W be vector spaces. A function $T : V \rightarrow W$ is said to be a *linear transformation* if

(i) $T(v + w) = T(v) + T(w), \quad \forall v, w \in V$

(ii) $T(cv) = cT(v) \quad \forall v \in V, c \in \mathbb{R}$

Coordinates with respect to a Basis

$$V \longleftrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$$

Definition

Suppose $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ is a basis for V and $x \in V$. The *coordinates of x relative to \mathcal{B}* (or the *\mathcal{B} -coordinates of x*) are the weights c_1, \dots, c_n such that

$$x = c_1 b_1 + \dots + c_n b_n.$$

The vector $(c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is denoted by $[x]_{\mathcal{B}}$, and is called the *coordinate vector of x relative to \mathcal{B}* or the *\mathcal{B} -coordinate vector of x* . The mapping

$$x \rightarrow [x]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

is called the coordinate mapping (determined by \mathcal{B}).

Theorem

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ be a basis for a vector space V . The coordinate mapping

$$x \rightarrow [x]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

is an invertible linear transformation from V to \mathbb{R}^n .

Any linear transformation can be completely determined by what it does to a fixed basis, in the sense that,

Proposition

If $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ is a basis for a vector space V , and if $S, T : V \rightarrow W$ are linear transformations, then $S = T$ iff

$$S(b_i) = T(b_i), \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$a_1 =$$

$$A e_1$$

Rough

$$T(e_1) = A e_1$$

$$\cancel{T(e_2) = A e_2}$$

$$I_n = [e_1 \quad \dots \quad e_n]$$

Proposition

Every linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a matrix transformation. In other words, there exists a unique $m \times n$ matrix A such that

$$T(x) = \boxed{Ax}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

A is called the standard matrix for the linear transformation T .

$$\underline{Ax}$$

$$A = [a_1 \quad \dots \quad a_n]$$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$= x_1 a_1 + x_2 a_2 + \dots + x_n a_n$$

Proof :

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) \\ &= x_1 \hat{i} + x_2 \hat{j} + x_3 \hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Define } A = [T(e_1) \quad T(e_2) \quad \dots \quad T(e_n)].$$

$$\text{Claim: } T(x) = Ax, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

$$\text{Let } \underline{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

$$\text{Since } x = x_1 e_1 + x_2 e_2 + \dots + x_n e_n$$

We apply T on both sides
to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} T(x) &= T(x_1 e_1 + \dots + x_n e_n) \\ &= x_1 T(e_1) + x_2 T(e_2) + \dots + x_n T(e_n) \\ &= Ax. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

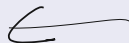
The Change-of-coordinate in \mathbb{R}^n

$$P_B \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} = P_B [x]_B.$$

Definition

Let $B = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be an ordered basis of \mathbb{R}^n . The matrix

$$P_B = [\mathbf{b}_1 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{b}_n]$$



formed using the basis vectors $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n$ as columns, is called the change-of-coordinates matrix from B to the standard basis in \mathbb{R}^n .

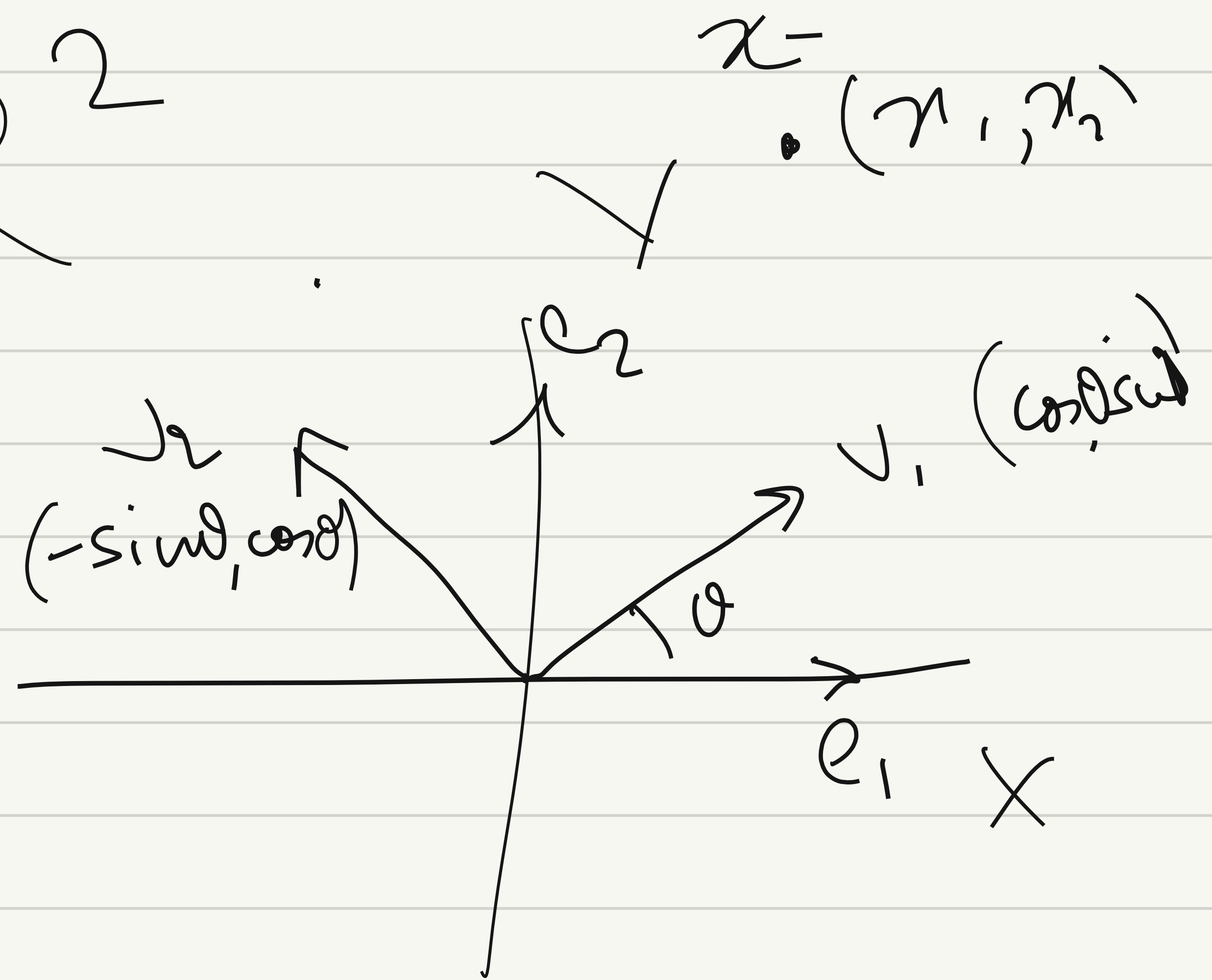
The change-of-coordinates matrix takes a coordinate vector with respect to the B basis and transforms it to standard coordinates. So if \mathbf{x} is a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , then

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}} = P_B \underline{[\mathbf{x}]_B}.$$

$$[\mathbf{x}]_B = (c_1, \dots, c_n)$$
$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{b}_n$$

Example:

\mathbb{R}^2



$$\beta = \{v_1, v_2\}.$$

$$x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

↑
standard coordinates.

$$[x]_{\beta} = ?$$

$\{e_1, e_2\}$
↑
standard coordinates

$$\rightarrow P_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} \text{rotation} \\ \text{by } \theta \end{matrix}$$

$$x = (x_1, x_2)$$

$$x = P_{\beta} [x]_{\beta}$$

$$\rightarrow [x]_{\beta} = P_{\beta}^{-1} x$$

$$P_{\beta}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

rotation by
 $-\theta$

$$[x]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (x_1 \cos \theta + x_2 \sin \theta, \\ -x_1 \sin \theta + x_2 \cos \theta)$$

$$T(x) = [x]_{\beta} \quad \begin{cases} x = P_{\beta}(x)_{\beta} \\ [x]_{\beta} = P_{\beta}^{-1} x \end{cases}$$

Proposition

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be an ordered basis of \mathbb{R}^n . Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be the coordinate transformation which sends

$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto [\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}.$$

The change-of-coordinates matrix $P_{\mathcal{B}}$ is the standard matrix of the inverse T^{-1} of the coordinate transformation.

The standard matrix of the coordinate transformation T is $P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}$.

$$T(x) = P_{\beta}^{-1} x$$

$$T^{-1}([x]_{\beta}) = x$$

Proof : Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

We know that

$$x = P_{\beta} [x]_{\beta}.$$

$$\therefore [x]_{\beta} = P_{\beta}^{-1} x.$$

$\Rightarrow P_{\beta}^{-1}$ is the standard matrix of T .

$$T(x) = \boxed{P_{\beta}^{-1}} x$$

Let $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, where

$y = [x]_{\beta}$, i.e. $y = T(x)$
for some $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

$$\Rightarrow T^{-1} y = x. \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Since $y = [\hat{x}]_{\beta}$,

$$\textcircled{1} \& \textcircled{2} \Rightarrow T^{-1} y = P_{\beta} [x]_{\beta} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

P_{β} is the standard matrix of T^{-1}

Matrix of a Linear Transformation

$$T: V \rightarrow V.$$

$\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$

Proposition (M)

Let V, W be vector spaces. Let $\mathcal{B} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ be an ordered basis for V and $\mathcal{C} = \{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$ be an ordered basis for W . Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. There exists a unique $m \times n$ matrix A such that

$$[T(v)]_{\mathcal{C}} = A[v]_{\mathcal{B}}, \quad \text{for every } v \in V.$$

Further, we have

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} [T(v_1)]_{\mathcal{C}} & \dots & [T(v_n)]_{\mathcal{C}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Particular Case: The \mathcal{B} -matrix

Definition

Let $T : V \rightarrow V$ be a linear transformation from a vector space to itself. Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\underline{v_1, \dots, v_n}\}$ be an ordered basis for V . There is a unique matrix $\underline{[T]_{\mathcal{B}}}$, which we call the \mathcal{B} -matrix of T such that

$$\underline{[T(v)]_{\mathcal{B}}} = \underline{[T]_{\mathcal{B}}[v]_{\mathcal{B}}}, \quad \forall v \in V.$$

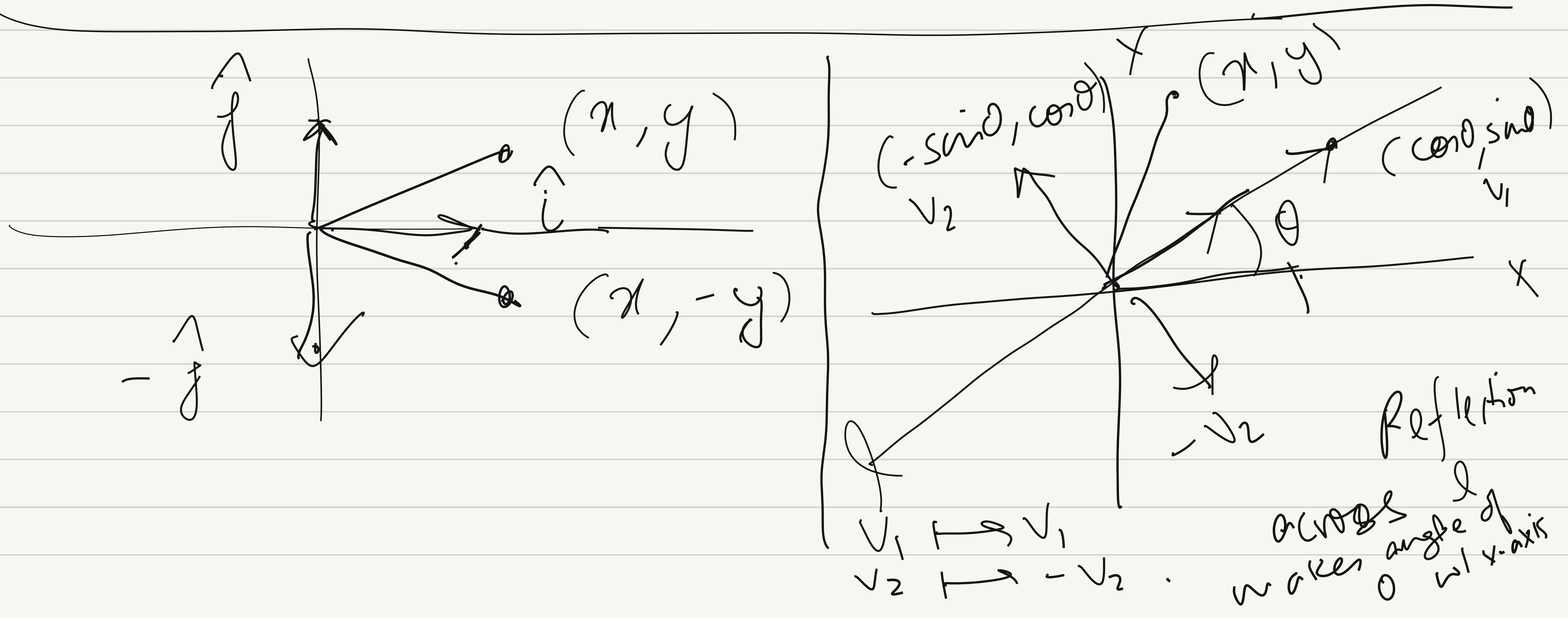
Further, $\underline{[T]_{\mathcal{B}}}$ is obtained using the formula

$$\underline{[T]_{\mathcal{B}}} = \underline{[[T(v_1)]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad \dots \quad [T(v_n)]_{\mathcal{B}}]}$$

Before we prove this proposition, let us see a few applications.

Reflection in \mathbb{R}^2 : $\beta = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$

$$[T]_{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} [T(v_1)]_{\beta} & \dots & [T(v_n)]_{\beta} \end{bmatrix}.$$



$$\beta = \{v_1, v_2\}$$

$$i_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 & v_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[T]_\beta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T(v_1) = v_1$$

$$= 1 \cdot v_1 + 0 \cdot v_2$$

$$[T(v_1)]_\beta = [v_1]_\beta = (1, 0)$$

$$T(v_2) = -v_2 = 0 \cdot v_1 + (-1) \cdot v_2$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} (T(v_2))_\beta \\ \text{"} \\ [-v_2]_\beta \\ \text{"} \\ (0, -1) \end{array} \right]$$

$$A = P_{\beta} [T]_{\beta} P_{\beta}^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

∴

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta & 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta & \sin^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

=

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos 2\theta & \sin 2\theta \\ \sin 2\theta & -\cos 2\theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Proposition

Let $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear transformation. Let A be the standard matrix of T . Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$ be any ordered basis of \mathbb{R}^n . Let

$$P_{\mathcal{B}} = [\mathbf{b}_1 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{b}_n]$$

be the change-of-coordinates matrix from \mathcal{B} to the standard basis in \mathbb{R}^n . Then the \mathcal{B} -matrix of T is $P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}AP_{\mathcal{B}}$.

Proof:

For every $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\begin{aligned}[T(\mathbf{x})]_{\mathcal{B}} &= [A\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} \\ &= P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}A\mathbf{x} \\ &= P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}AP_{\mathcal{B}}[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}[T]_{\mathcal{B}} &= P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}AP_{\mathcal{B}} \\ A &= P_{\mathcal{B}}[T]_{\mathcal{B}}P_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$