

In our last lecture, we discussed about matrix representation of a linear transformation.

Let us see the following discussion.

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation.

Let $B = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ be an ordered basis of V and $B' = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m\}$ be an ordered basis for W .

Consider the $\{T\alpha_1, T\alpha_2, \dots, T\alpha_n\}$ n -vectors in W , then T can be uniquely determined by $T\alpha_j$, $j=1, 2, \dots, n$. As for $\alpha \in V$, $T\alpha = T(c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + \dots + c_n\alpha_n)$
 $= c_1T\alpha_1 + c_2T\alpha_2 + \dots + c_nT\alpha_n$

As $T\alpha_j$ is a vector in W and hence can be uniquely written as

$$T\alpha_j = \sum_{i=1}^m A_{ij} \beta_i, \quad A_{ij} \in F \text{ for } \forall j=1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$\text{and thus } [T\alpha_j]_{B'} = [A_{1j}, A_{2j}, \dots, A_{mj}]^T$$

Now for any $\alpha \in V$, $\exists c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in F$ s.t.

$$c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + \dots + c_n\alpha_n = \alpha$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned} T\alpha &= T(c_1\alpha_1 + c_2\alpha_2 + \dots + c_n\alpha_n) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n c_j T\alpha_j = \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \left(\sum_{i=1}^m A_{ij} \beta_i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m \left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} c_j \right) \beta_i \end{aligned}$$

$$[T\alpha]_{B'} = A [c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n]^T$$

Thus, as $[c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n]^T = [\alpha]_B$, we get

$$[T\alpha]_{B'} = A [\alpha]_B$$

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation with A as its matrix relative to an ordered basis pair \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{B}' respectively.

Let U be another linear transformation from V into W and B be the matrix of U , i.e. $[U]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}'} = B$.

Then we would like to see what will happen to the matrix of linear transformation $cT + U: V \rightarrow W$.

Note that, if A_j & B_j represents the j th columns of A & B respectively, then

$$\begin{aligned} cA_j + B_j &= c[T\alpha_j]_{\mathcal{B}'} + [U\alpha_j]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ &= [cT\alpha_j + U\alpha_j]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ &= [(cT + U)\alpha_j]_{\mathcal{B}'} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } [cT + U]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}'} = c[T]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}'} + [U]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}'}$$

Now we would like to see what happens to the matrix representations when we compose two linear transformations?

Let $T: V \rightarrow W$, $U: W \rightarrow Z$ be two linear transformations. Let \mathcal{B} , \mathcal{B}' , \mathcal{B}'' be the ordered bases of V , W and Z respectively. Let

$$\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\}$$

$$\mathcal{B}' = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m\}$$

$$\mathcal{B}'' = \{\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_p\}$$

be the corresponding bases

We claim that if $A = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}'}$, $B = [U]_{\mathcal{B}''}^{\mathcal{B}'}$ then $[UT]_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}''} = BA$

When $V=W=Z$, then

$$[UT]_{\mathcal{B}} = [U]_{\mathcal{B}}[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Note that $[I]_{\mathcal{B}} = I$ (identity transformation has matrix representation $n \times n$ I). Let

T be invertible linear transformation, then $\exists U: V \rightarrow V$ s.t.

$$UT = TU = I.$$

Now if \mathcal{B} is an ordered basis of V

$$\text{then } [UT]_{\mathcal{B}} = [I]_{\mathcal{B}} = I = [U]_{\mathcal{B}}[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

which implies

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1} = [U]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T^{-1}]_{\mathcal{B}}$$

Next, we would like to see the effect of change of basis on matrix representations.

Let $T: V \rightarrow V$ be a linear transformation and $\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n\} \in \mathcal{B}' = \{\alpha'_1, \alpha'_2, \dots, \alpha'_n\}$ are two ordered bases of V .

We denote $[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$ & $[T]_{\mathcal{B}'}$ as the matrices relative to ordered bases \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{B}' respectively.

Recall that, for any $\alpha \in V$

$$[\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}} = P[\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \quad (1)$$

defines the effect of change of basis on coordinate matrix of $\alpha \in V$.

Moreover we know

$$[T\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad (2)$$

Use α as $T\alpha$ in (1) to get

$$[T\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}} = P[T\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \quad (3)$$

On combining all these three equations, we get

$$\begin{aligned}[T]_{\mathcal{B}} &= [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ \Rightarrow P [T]_{\mathcal{B}} [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} &= [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ \Rightarrow P [T]_{\mathcal{B}} [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} &= [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ \Rightarrow \bar{P}^{-1} P [T]_{\mathcal{B}} [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} &= \bar{P}^{-1} [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P [\alpha]_{\mathcal{B}'} \\ \Rightarrow [T]_{\mathcal{B}'} &= \bar{P}^{-1} [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P.\end{aligned}$$

The above discussion in the light of the definition of similar matrices (A & B are called similar matrices if there exists an invertible matrix Q such that $A = Q^{-1} B Q$) implies that the change of basis produces similar matrix representations of linear transformations. Let us see the example as we did earlier also

$$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$T(x, y) = (x, 0)$, the matrix representation of T in the ordered basis $\{(1, 0), (0, 1)\}$ is $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Now take another ordered basis on \mathbb{R}^2 as $\mathcal{B} = \{(1, 1), (2, 1)\}$ then

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}'} = P^{-1} [T]_{\mathcal{B}} P$$

$$\text{where } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$