

# 1 Linear Maps

## Note: Notational Shortcuts

- $\mathbf{F}$  denotes  $\mathbf{R}$  or  $\mathbf{C}$
- $\mathbf{V}$  and  $\mathbf{W}$  denote vector spaces over  $\mathbf{F}$

## 1.1 The Vector Space of Linear Maps

In algebra, a homomorphism is a structure-preserving map between two algebraic structures of the same type (such as two groups, two rings, or two vector spaces).

### Definition: Homomorphism

Let  $A, B$  be two sets equipped with the same structure such that if  $\cdot$  binary operation on  $A$  and  $B$ . A **homomorphic map**, or homomorphism, between  $A$  and  $B$  is a mapping that is compatible with the operation  $\cdot$ , that is

$$f(x \cdot y) = f(x) \cdot f(y)$$

Formally, a map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  preserves an operation  $\mu$  of arity  $k$ , defined both on  $A$  and  $B$  if

$$f(\mu_A(a_1, \dots, a_k)) = \mu_B(f(a_1), \dots, f(a_k))$$

for all elements  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in A$ .

### Definition: Linear Map

A **linear map** from  $V$  to  $W$  is a function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  with the following properties:

- **Additivity:**  $T(u + v) = Tu + Tv$  for all  $u, v \in V$ ;
- **Homogeneity:**  $T(\lambda v) = \lambda Tv$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $v \in V$ .

Some mathematicians use the term **linear transformation** or **vector space homomorphism**, which means the same thing as linear map.

### Definition: $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$

The set of all linear maps from  $\mathbf{V}$  to  $\mathbf{W}$  is denoted  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ .

It is easy to verify that each of the functions defined below is indeed a linear map.

### Example: Linear Maps

#### Zero

In addition to other uses, the symbol  $0$  can be used to denote the function that takes each element of the vector space to zero. To be specific,  $0 \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is defined by

$$0v = 0$$

#### Identity

The **identity map** denoted  $I$  can be used to denote the function that takes each element of the vector space to itself. To be specific,  $I \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$  is defined by

$$Iv = v$$

#### Differentiation

Let  $f, g \in \mathbf{R}^{\mathbf{R}}$  be once-differentiable functions in  $\mathbf{R}$ . Notice

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f + g)(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(f(x) + g(x)) = \frac{d}{dx}f(x) + \frac{d}{dx}g(x) = \left(\frac{d}{dx}f + \frac{d}{dx}g\right)(x).$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\lambda f)(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(\lambda f(x)) = \lambda \frac{d}{dx}f(x)$$

#### Integration

Let  $f, g \in \mathbf{R}^{\mathbf{R}}$  be once-integrable functions over  $(a, b) \subseteq \mathbf{R}$ . Notice

$$\int_a^b (f + g)(x)dx = \int_a^b (f(x) + g(x))dx = \int_a^b f(x)dx + \int_a^b g(x)dx$$

$$\int_a^b (\lambda f)(x)dx = \int_a^b (\lambda f(x))dx = \lambda \int_a^b f(x)dx$$

The previous two assertions, that differentiation and integration are linear, are other ways of stating the basic results about differentiation and integration: the derivative or integral of a sum is the sum of the derivatives or integrals; the derivative or integral of a constant times a function is the constant multiple of the derivative or integral of the function.

### Example: Linear Maps

#### Multiplication by $x^2$

Define  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F}), \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{F}))$  by,

$$(Tp)(x) = x^2 p(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbf{F}.$$

#### Backward shift

Recall that  $\mathbf{F}^\infty$  denotes the vector space of all sequences of elements in  $\mathbf{F}$ . Define  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{F}^\infty, \mathbf{F}^\infty)$  by

$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots) = (x_2, x_3, \dots)$$

#### From $\mathbf{R}^3$ to $\mathbf{R}^2$

Define  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{R}^3, \mathbf{R}^2)$  by

$$T(x, y, z) = (2x - y + 3z, 7x + 5y - 6z)$$

The uniqueness part of the next result means that a linear map is completely determined by its values on a basis.

**Theorem: Linear maps and basis of domain**

Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_n \in W$ . Then there exists a unique linear map  $T : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$  such that

$$Tv_j = w_j$$

for each  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

Proof:

First we show existence, then uniqueness. Define  $T : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$  by

$$T(c_1v_1 + \dots + c_nv_n) = c_1w_1 + \dots + c_nw_n$$

where  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are arbitrary elements of  $\mathbf{F}$ . Since  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis,  $T$  is well-defined and is therefore a function from  $V$  to  $W$ . For each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , taking  $c_j = 1$  and the other  $c$ 's equal to 0 in the equation shows  $Tv_j = w_j$ . The map can be easily verified to be a vector space homomorphism. Thus, the desired map exists.

To prove uniqueness, suppose  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and that  $\forall j \in \{1, \dots, n\}, Sv_j = Tv_j = w_j$ . Then  $\forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{F}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S(a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) &= a_1Sv_1 + \dots + a_nSv_n \\ &= a_1w_1 + \dots + a_nw_n \\ &= a_1Tv_1 + \dots + a_nTv_n \\ &= T(a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n) \\ &\implies S = T \text{ for all elements in } \mathbf{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n). \end{aligned}$$

But  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{span}(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , which implies  $S = T \forall v \in \mathbf{V} \implies S = T \implies T$  is unique.  $\square$

## Algebraic Operations on $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$

### Definition: Addition and Scalar Multiplication on $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$

Suppose  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}$ . The **sum**  $S + T$  and the **product**  $\lambda T$  are the maps from  $\mathbf{V}$  to  $\mathbf{W}$  defined by:

$$(S + T)(v) = Sv + Tv \quad \text{and} \quad (\lambda T)(v) = \lambda(Tv)$$

for all  $v \in \mathbf{V}$ .

### Theorem: $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ is a vector space

With the operations of addition and scalar multiplication as defined above,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  is a vector space.

Proof:

□

### Definition: Product of Linear Maps

If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V})$  and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ , then the **product**  $ST : \mathbf{U} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$  is defined by

$$(ST)(u) = S(Tu)$$

for  $u \in \mathbf{U}$ .

### Theorem: The product of linear maps is a linear map

If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V})$  and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ , then  $ST \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{W})$ .

Proof:

Suppose  $u, v \in \mathbf{U}$ ,  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V})$ , and  $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$

$$\begin{aligned} ST(u + v) &= S(Tu + Tv) & ST(\lambda u) &= S(\lambda Tu) \\ &= S(Tu) + S(Tv) & &= \lambda S(Tu) \\ &= ST(u) + ST(v) & &= \lambda ST(u) \end{aligned}$$

□

### Property: Algebraic properties of products of linear maps

- **Associativity:**

$$(T_1 T_2) T_3 = T_1 (T_2 T_3)$$

whenever  $T_1, T_2$ , and  $T_3$  are linear maps such that products make sense.

- **Identity:**

$$TI = IT = T$$

whenever  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and the left  $I$  is the identity map on  $V$  and the right  $I$  is the identity map on  $W$ .

- **Distributivity:**

$$(S_1 + S_2)T = S_1T + S_2T \quad \text{and} \quad S(T_1 + T_2) = ST_1 + ST_2$$

whenever  $S, S_1, S_2 \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $T, T_1, T_2 \in \mathcal{L}(U, V)$ .

**Theorem: Linear maps take 0 to 0**

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $T(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ .

Proof:

Let  $v \in \mathbf{V}$ . Then

$$T(\mathbf{0}) = T(0v) = 0T(v) = \mathbf{0}$$

as desired □

## 1.2 Null Spaces and Ranges

### Null Spaces and Injectivity

In this section, we will learn about two subspaces intimately connected with each linear map. The first subspace exists in the domain; the second exists in the codomain.

**Definition: Null Space**

For  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ , the **null space** of  $T$ , denoted  $\text{null } T$ , is the subset of  $\mathbf{V}$  consisting of all the vectors  $v \in \mathbf{V}$  that  $T$  maps to  $0 \in \mathbf{W}$ :

$$\text{null } T = \{v \in \mathbf{V} : Tv = 0 \in \mathbf{W}\}$$

Some mathematicians use the term **kernel** instead of null space.

**Theorem: The null space is a subspace**

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $\text{null } T$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

Proof:

Suppose  $u, v \in \text{null } T$ .

1. The additive identity  $\mathbf{0} \in \text{null } T$  because  $T(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ .
2.  $T(u + v) = Tu + Tv = \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} \implies u + v \in \text{null } T$
3.  $T(\lambda v) = \lambda Tv = \lambda \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} \implies \lambda v \in \text{null } T$

Hence,  $\text{null } T$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ . □

**Definition: Injective, one-to-one**

A function  $T : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$  is called injective if  $Tu = Tv$  implies  $u = v$ .

**Theorem: Injectivity is equivalent to null space equals  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$** 

Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $T$  is injective if and only if  $\text{null } T = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

Proof:

$T$  is injective  $\implies$  only one vector in  $\mathbf{V}$  is sent to  $\mathbf{0}$  in  $\mathbf{W} \implies \text{null } T = \{\mathbf{0}\}$ .

$\text{null } T = \{\mathbf{0}\}$  and  $Tv = Tu \implies \mathbf{0} = Tv - Tu = T(v - u) \implies v - u \in \text{null } T \implies v = u$ . □

### Range and Surjectivity

**Definition: Range**

For a function  $T : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}$ , the range of  $T$  is the subset of  $\mathbf{W}$  consisting of those vectors that are of the form  $Tv$  for some  $v \in \mathbf{V}$ :

$$\text{range } T = \{Tv : v \in \mathbf{V}\}$$

**Theorem: The range is a subspace**

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $\text{range } T$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{W}$ .

Proof:

Suppose  $u, w \in \text{range } T$  and  $T(v_1) = u$  and  $T(v_2) = w$ .

1. The additive identity  $\mathbf{0} \in \text{range } T$  because  $T(\mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ .
2.  $u + w = Tv_1 + Tv_2 = T(v_1 + v_2) \implies u + w \in \text{range } T$
3.  $\lambda u = \lambda Tv_1 = T(\lambda v_1) \implies \lambda u \in \text{range } T$

□

**Definition: Surjective, onto**

A function  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is called **surjective** or **onto** if its range is equal to  $W$ .

**Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps**

The next result is so important that it gets a dramatic name.

**Theorem: Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps**

Suppose  $\mathbf{V}$  is finite-dimensional and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $\text{range } T$  is finite-dimensional and

$$\dim \mathbf{V} = \dim \text{null } T + \dim \text{range } T$$

Proof:

Because  $\text{null } T$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{V}$ ,  $\text{null } T$  has a basis  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ . Because  $v_1, \dots, v_m$  is linearly independent in  $\mathbf{V}$ , the list can be extended to a basis of  $v_1, \dots, v_m, w_1, \dots, w_n$  of  $\mathbf{V}$ . Therefore  $\dim V = m + n = \dim \text{null } T + n$ , and the above proposition holds if it can be demonstrated that  $\dim \text{range } T = n$ .

Notice that when  $T$  acts on any  $v \in \mathbf{V}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} Tv &= T(c_1v_1 + \dots + c_mv_m + d_1w_1 + \dots + d_nw_n) \\ &= c_1Tv_1 + \dots + c_mTv_m + d_1Tw_1 + \dots + d_nTw_n \\ &= \mathbf{0} + \dots + \mathbf{0} + d_1Tw_1 + \dots + d_nTw_n \\ &= d_1Tw_1 + \dots + d_nTw_n \\ &\implies Tw_1, \dots, Tw_n \text{ spans range } T \end{aligned}$$

If we select a  $v \in \mathbf{V}$  such that  $Tv = \mathbf{0}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} Tv = d_1Tw_1 + \dots + d_nTw_n = \mathbf{0} &\implies v \in \text{null } T \\ &\implies v = c_1v_1 + \dots + c_mv_m \\ &\implies d_1 = \dots = d_n = 0 \\ &\implies Tw_1, \dots, Tw_n \text{ is linearly independent} \\ &\implies Tw_1, \dots, Tw_n \text{ is a basis for range } T \end{aligned}$$

Because  $Tw_1, \dots, Tw_n$  is a basis, it follows that  $\dim \text{range } T = n$ , as desired. By this logic, we conclude that if  $\mathbf{V}$  is finite-dimensional and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  then,

$$\dim \mathbf{V} = \dim \text{null } T + \dim \text{range } T$$

□

Now we can show that no injective linear map exists from a finite-dimensional vector space to a “smaller” (is measured in dimension).

**Theorem: A map to a smaller dimensional subspace is not injective**

Suppose  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $\mathbf{W}$  are finite-dimensional vector spaces such that  $\dim \mathbf{V} > \dim \mathbf{W}$ . Then no linear map from  $\mathbf{V}$  to  $\mathbf{W}$  is injective.

Proof:

Take any  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and suppose  $\dim \mathbf{V} > \dim \mathbf{W}$ . By the Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps,

$$\begin{aligned}\dim \text{null } T &= \dim \mathbf{V} - \dim \text{range } T \\ \dim \text{null } T &\geq \dim \mathbf{V} - \dim \mathbf{W} \\ \dim \text{null } T &> 0\end{aligned}$$

This means  $\text{null } T$  contains vectors other than  $\mathbf{0}$ . Therefore,  $T$  is not injective.  $\square$

**Theorem: A map to a larger dimensional subspace is not surjective**

Suppose  $V$  and  $W$  are finite-dimensional vector spaces such that  $\dim V < \dim W$ . Then no linear map from  $V$  to  $W$  is surjective.

Proof:

Take any  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and suppose  $\dim \mathbf{V} < \dim \mathbf{W}$ . By the Fundamental Theorem of Linear Maps,

$$\begin{aligned}\dim \text{range } T &= \dim \mathbf{V} - \dim \text{null } T \\ &\leq \dim \mathbf{V} \\ &< \dim \mathbf{W}\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\dim \text{range } T < \dim \mathbf{W}$ ,  $\text{range } T$  does not span  $\mathbf{W}$ . Therefore,  $T$  is not surjective.  $\square$

**Theorem: Homogenous system of linear equations**

A homogenous system of linear equations with more variables than equations has non-zero solutions.

Proof:

$\square$

**Theorem: Inhomogeneous system of linear equations**

An inhomogeneous system of linear equations with more equations than variables has no solution for some choice of the constant terms.

Proof:

$\square$

### 1.3 Matrices

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{V}$ , then the values of  $Tv_1, \dots, Tv_n$  determine the action of  $T$  on any arbitrary vectors in  $V$ . Matrices became popular for recording the values of the  $Tv_j$ 's in terms of a basis of  $W$ .

#### Definition: Coefficient Vectors

If  $\mathcal{B} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  is an ordered basis for  $\mathbf{V}$ , then for any  $u \in \mathbf{V}$ , where

$$u = a_1v_1 + \dots + a_nv_n$$

the **coefficient vector** of  $u \in V$  is defined to be the element of  $\mathbf{F}^n$ ,

$$[u]_{\mathcal{B}} := (a_1n_1 + \dots + a_nv_n)$$

where the entries of  $[u]_{\mathcal{B}}$  correspond to the coefficients in the unique linear combination of  $\mathcal{B}$  equal to  $u$ .

#### Definition: Matrix, $A_{j,k}$

Let  $m$  and  $n$  denote positive integers. An  $m$ -by- $n$  **matrix**  $A$  is a rectangular array of elements of  $\mathbf{F}$  with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{1,1} & \dots & A_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{m,1} & \dots & A_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

The notation  $A_{j,k}$  denotes the entry in row  $j$ , column  $k$  of  $A$ . In other words, the first index refers to the row number and the second index refers to the column number.

Now we come to the key definition in this section.

#### Definition: Matrix of a Linear Map, $\mathcal{M}(T)$

Suppose  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{W}$ . The **matrix of**  $T$  with respect to these bases is the  $m$ -by- $n$  matrix  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  whose entries  $A_{j,k}$  are defined by,

$$Tv_k = A_{1,k}w_1 + \dots + A_{m,k}w_m \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, n.$$

If the bases are not clear from the context, then the notation  $\mathcal{M}(T, (v_1, \dots, v_n), (w_1, \dots, w_m))$  is used.

To remember how  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  is constructed from  $T$ , you might write across the top of the matrix the basis vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  for the domain and along the left the basis vectors  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  for the vector space into which  $T$  maps as follows:



**Example: Matrix encoding**  $(v_1, \dots, v_n) \mapsto (w_1, \dots, w_m)$ 

Only the  $k^{\text{th}}$  column is shown. Thus the second index of each displayed entry of the matrix is  $k$ .

$$\mathcal{M}(T) = \begin{matrix} & v_1 & \cdots & v_k & \cdots & v_n \\ \begin{matrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{matrix} & \left( \begin{matrix} & & & A_{1,k} & & \\ & & & \vdots & & \\ & & & A_{m,k} & & \end{matrix} \right) \end{matrix}$$

The above picture should remind you that  $Tv_k$  can be computed from  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  by multiplying each entry in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  column by the corresponding  $w_j$  then adding up the resulting vectors.

If  $T$  is a linear map from  $\mathbf{F}^n$  to  $\mathbf{F}^m$ , then unless stated otherwise, assume the bases in question are the standard ones (where the  $k^{\text{th}}$  basis vector is 1 in the  $k^{\text{th}}$  slot and 0 in all the other slots).

**Example: Matrix of  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{F}^n, \mathbf{F}^m)$** 

If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{F}^n, \mathbf{F}^m)$  and you think of elements of  $\mathbf{F}^m$  as columns of numbers, then you can think of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  column of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  as  $T$  applied to the  $k^{\text{th}}$  standard basis vector of  $\mathbf{F}^n$ .

**Addition and Scalar Multiplication of Matrices**

Suppose  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . For the rest of the section, assume  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $\mathbf{W}$  are finite-dimensional and have a basis chosen for them.

We are interested in whether  $\mathcal{M}(S + T) = \mathcal{M}(S) + \mathcal{M}(T)$  and whether  $\mathcal{M}(\lambda T) = \lambda \mathcal{M}(T)$ ?

**Definition: Matrix Addition**

The sum of two matrices of the same size is the matrix obtained by the corresponding entries of two matrices.

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{1,1} & \cdots & A_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{m,1} & \cdots & A_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B_{1,1} & \cdots & B_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ B_{m,1} & \cdots & B_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{1,1} + B_{1,1} & \cdots & A_{1,n} + B_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{m,1} + B_{m,1} & \cdots & A_{m,n} + B_{m,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

In the following result, the assumption is that the same bases are used for  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ ,  $\mathcal{M}(T)$ , and  $\mathcal{M}(S + T)$ .

**Theorem: The Matrix of the Sum of Linear Maps**

Suppose  $S, T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{W})$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}(S + T) = \mathcal{M}(S) + \mathcal{M}(T)$ .

Proof:

□

Still assuming that the same bases are used, is the matrix of a scalar times a linear map the same as the scalar times the matrix of the linear map? Again we must provide a definition for scalar multiplication.

## 1.4 Isomorphisms

Taking coefficient vectors as a map.

### Definition: Coefficient vectors as a map

Let  $\mathbf{V}$  be a finite-dimensional vector space with  $\dim \mathbf{V} = n$ . Sending an element of  $\mathbf{V}$  to its coefficient vector gives a map

$$C_{\mathcal{B}} : \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}^n$$

### Property: Properties of the coefficient map

- Coefficient vectors are unique; that is

$$[u_1]_{\mathcal{B}} = [u_2]_{\mathcal{B}} \implies u_1 = u_2$$

- Every vector in  $\mathbf{F}^n$  is a coefficient vector, that is

$$\forall w \in \mathbf{F}^n, \exists u \in \mathbf{V} \text{ with } [u]_{\mathcal{B}} = w$$

### Definition: The inverse to $C_{\mathcal{B}}$

Let  $C_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1} : \mathbf{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{V}$  be the linear map defined by

$$C_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1} : (c_1, \dots, c_n) \mapsto c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n$$

This definition can be generalized as follows

### Definition: Inverse map

The **inverse** to a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is a linear map

$$T^{-1} : W \rightarrow V$$

such that  $TT^{-1} = Id_W$  and  $T^{-1}T = Id_V$ .

The next definition captures the idea of two vector spaces that are essentially the same, except for the names for the elements of the vector space.

### Definition: Isomorphism

A linear map with an inverse is called an **isomorphism**, or equivalently an **invertible** linear map.

The point of isomorphism is that they allow us to translate problems from one vector space to another.

### Theorem: Dimension shows whether vector spaces are isomorphic

Two finite-dimensional vector spaces over  $\mathbf{F}$  are isomorphic if and only if they have the same dimension

Proof:

□

**Theorem:**  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $\mathbf{F}^{m,n}$  are isomorphic

Suppose  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{V}$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_m$  is a basis of  $\mathbf{W}$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}()$  is an isomorphism between  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  and  $\mathbf{F}^{m,n}$ .

Proof:

□