EECS 16A Spring 2023 — Designing Information Devices and Systems I — Discussion 2B

1. Span Basics

(a) What is $\text{span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix}1\\2\\0\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}2\\1\\0\end{bmatrix}\right\}$?

(b) Is $\begin{bmatrix}5\\5\\0\end{bmatrix}$ in $\text{span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix}1\\2\\0\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}2\\1\\0\end{bmatrix}\right\}$?

(c) What is a possible choice for $\vec{v}$ that would make $\text{span}\left\{\begin{bmatrix}1\\2\\0\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}2\\1\\0\end{bmatrix},\vec{v}\right\} = \mathbb{R}^3$?

(d) For what values of b_1, b_2, b_3 is the following system of linear equations consistent? *Note: "Consistent" means there is at least one solution.*

$$\begin{bmatrix}1 & 2\\2 & 1\\0 & 0\end{bmatrix}\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix}b_1\\b_2\\b_3\end{bmatrix}$$

2. Visualizing Matrices as Operations

This problem is going to help you visualize matrices as operations. For example, when we multiply a vector by a "rotation matrix," we will see it "rotate" in the true sense here. Similarly, when we multiply a vector by a "reflection matrix," we will see it be "reflected." The way we will see this is by applying the operation to all the vertices of a polygon and seeing how the polygon changes.

Your TA will now show you how a unit square can be rotated, scaled, or reflected using matrices! Note that in this exercise we are applying a matrix transformation on each of the vertices of the unit square separately.

(a) First, we will look at reflections. The transformation matrix that reflects a vector about the y-axis is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

since any vector of the form $\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$ is transformed to $\begin{bmatrix} -x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$.
What are the matrices that reflect a vector about the (i) x-axis and (ii) line $x = y$?

(b) We are given matrices $\mathbf{T}_1$ and $\mathbf{T}_2$, and we are told that they will rotate the unit square by 15° and 30° respectively. Suggest some methods to rotate the unit square by 45° using only $\mathbf{T}_1$ and $\mathbf{T}_2$. How would you rotate the square by 60°? Your TA will show you the result in the iPython notebook.

(c) Find a single matrix $\mathbf{T}_3$ to rotate the unit square by 60°. Your TA will show you the result in the iPython notebook.

(d) $\mathbf{T}_1$, $\mathbf{T}_2$, and the matrix you used in part (b) are called "rotation matrices." They rotate any vector by an angle θ. Show that a rotation matrix has the following form:

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

where θ is the angle of rotation. To do this, consider rotating the unit vector $\begin{bmatrix} \cos\alpha \\ \sin\alpha \end{bmatrix}$ by θ degrees using the matrix $\mathbf{R}$.

(**Definition:** A vector, $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$, is a unit vector if $\sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \ldots} = 1$.)

(*Hint: Use your trigonometric identities:* $\cos(a)\cos(b) - \sin(a)\sin(b) = \cos(a+b)$, $\cos(a)\sin(b) + \sin(a)\cos(b) = \sin(a+b)$.)

(e) Now, we want to get back the original unit square from the rotated square in part (c). What matrix should we use to do this? (**Note:** Don't use inverses! Answer this question using your intuition; we will visit inverses very soon in lecture!)

(f) Use part (e) to obtain the rotation matrix that reverses the operation of a matrix that rotates a vector by θ. Multiply the reverse rotation matrix with the rotation matrix and vice-versa. What do you get?

(g) A natural question to ask is the following: does the *order* in which you apply transformations matter? Let's see what happens to a vector when we rotate it by 60° and then reflect it along the y-axis (matrix given in part (a)). Next, let's see what happens when we first reflect the vector along the y-axis and then rotate it by 60°. You will need to multiply the corresponding rotation and reflection matrices in the correct order. Are the results the same?

(h) Now, let's perform the operations in part (g) on the unit square in our iPython notebook. Are the results the same?

