

# Computer Graphics -Transformation

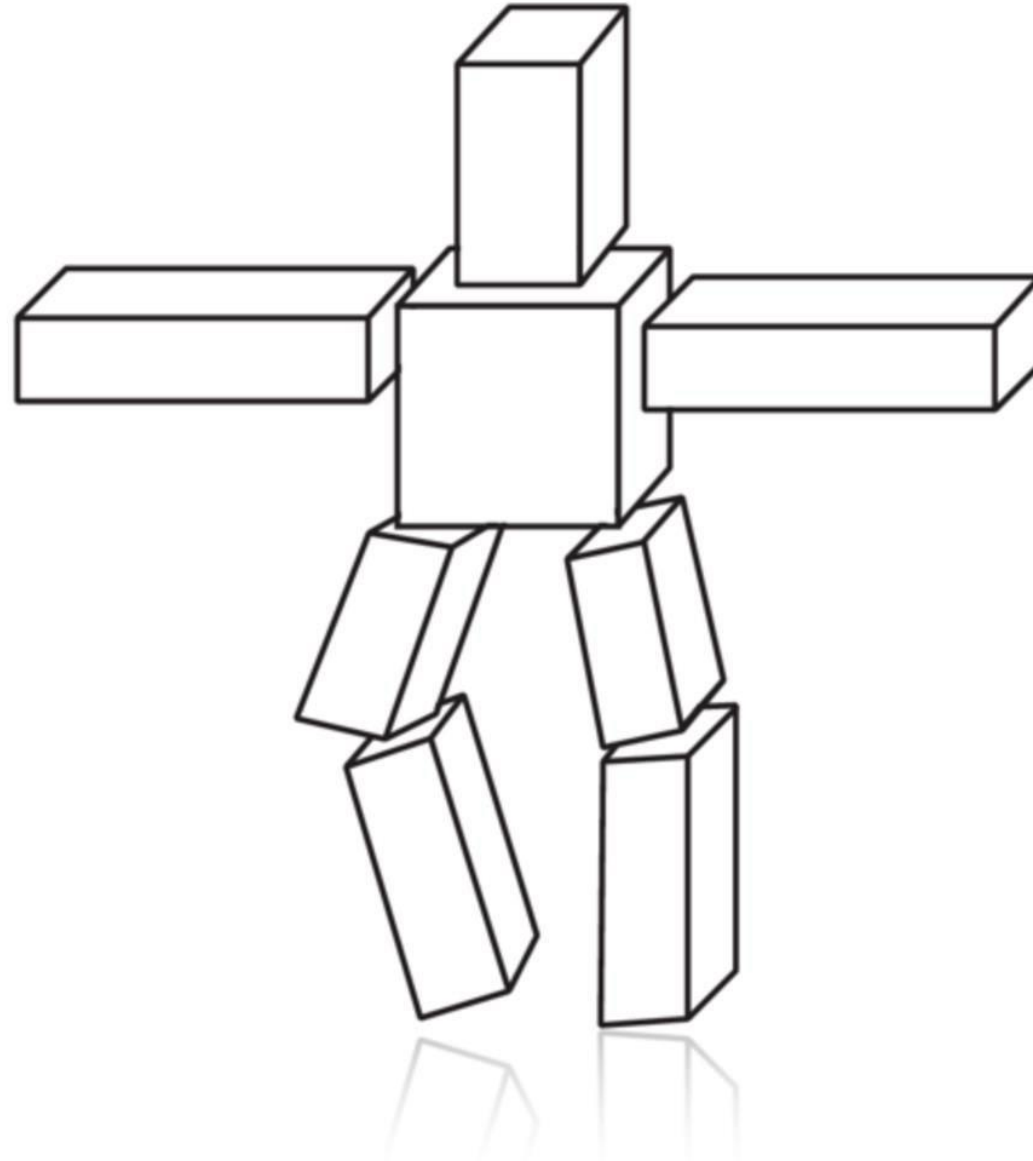
Junjie Cao @ DLUT

Spring 2018

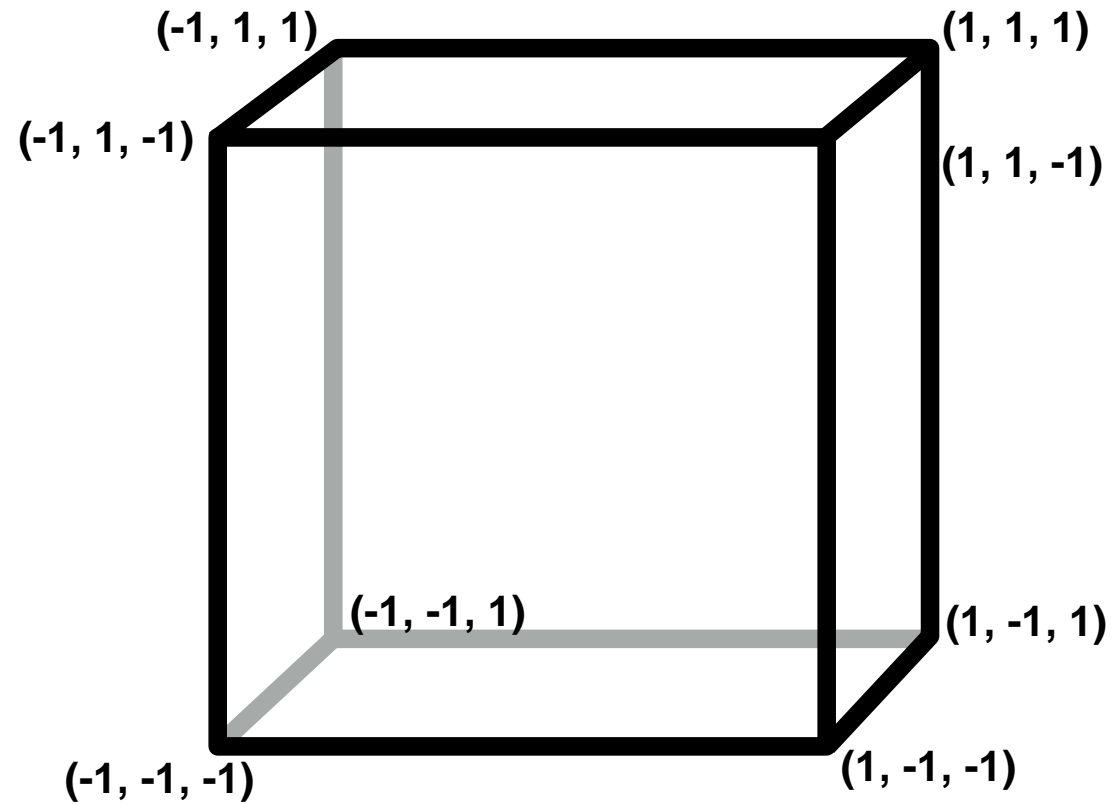
<http://jjcao.github.io/ComputerGraphics/>

Pleasure may come from illusion, but happiness can come only of reality.

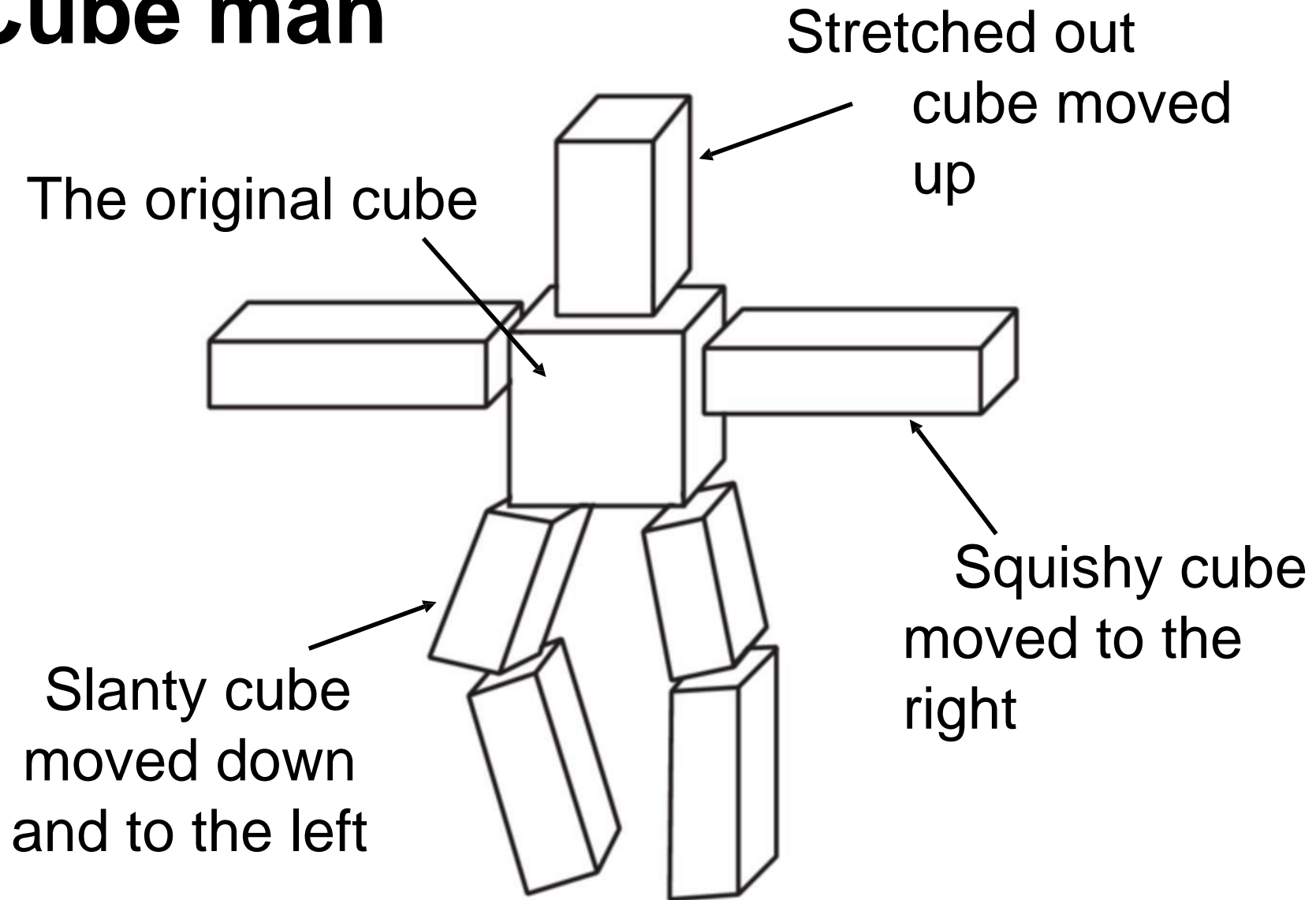
# What in the world is this?



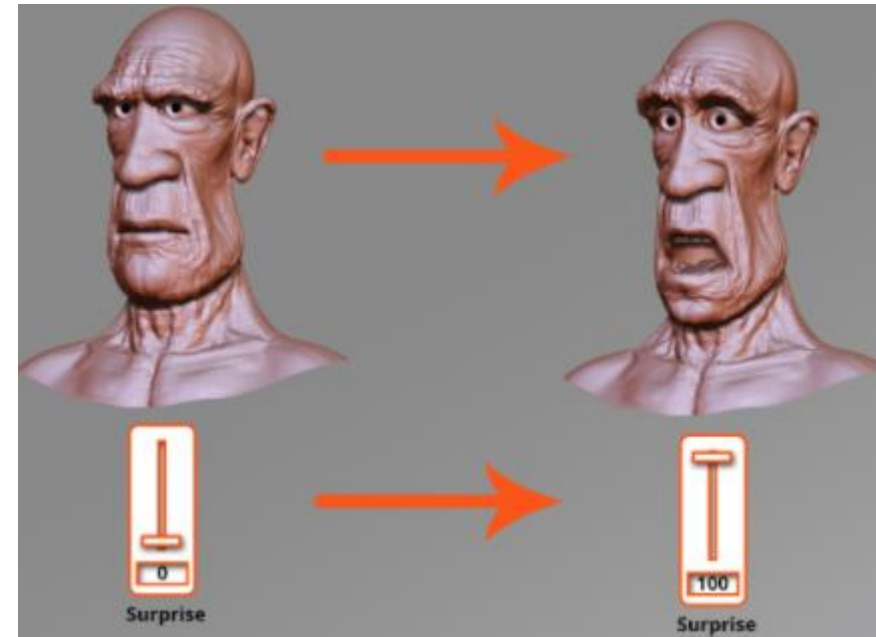
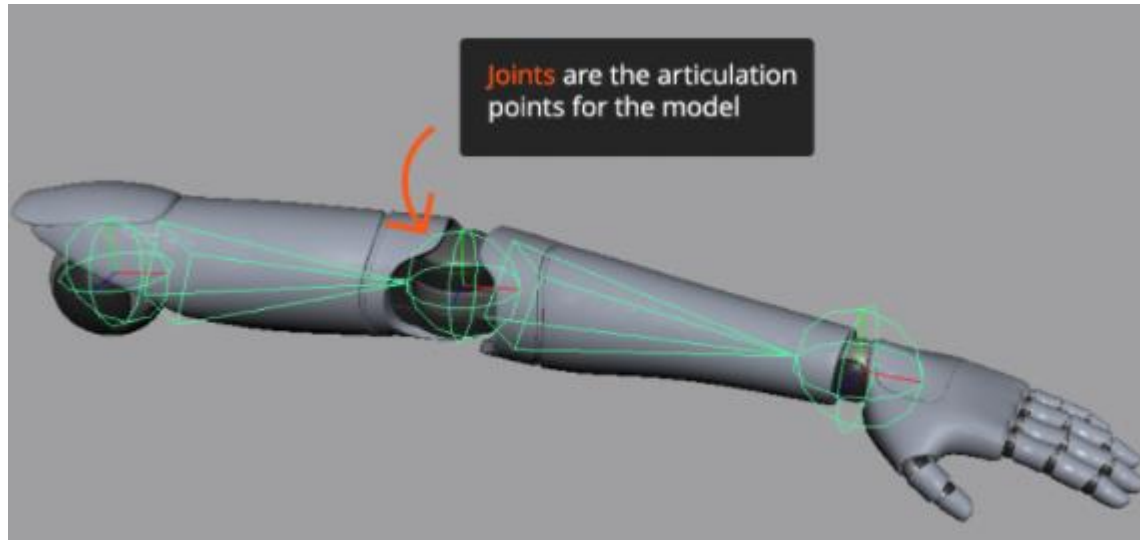
# Cube



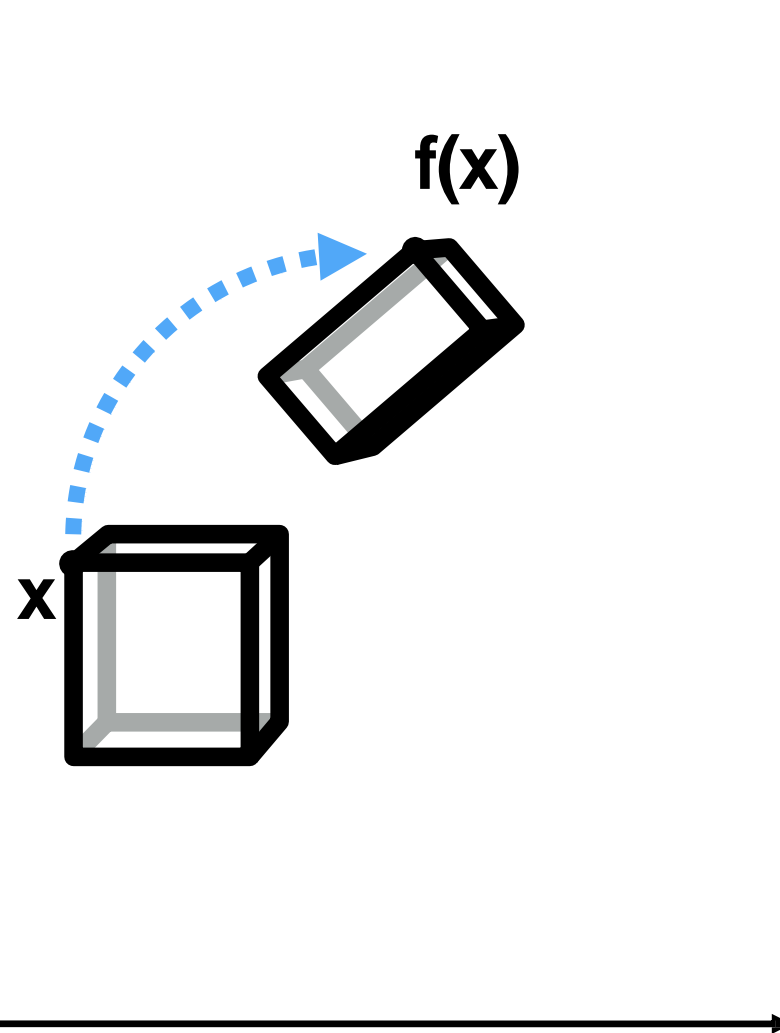
# Cube man



# Transformations in Rigging



# Basic idea: $f$ transforms $x$ to $f(x)$



**And what is our favorite type of transformation?**

# What can we do with linear transformations?

- What did *linear* mean?

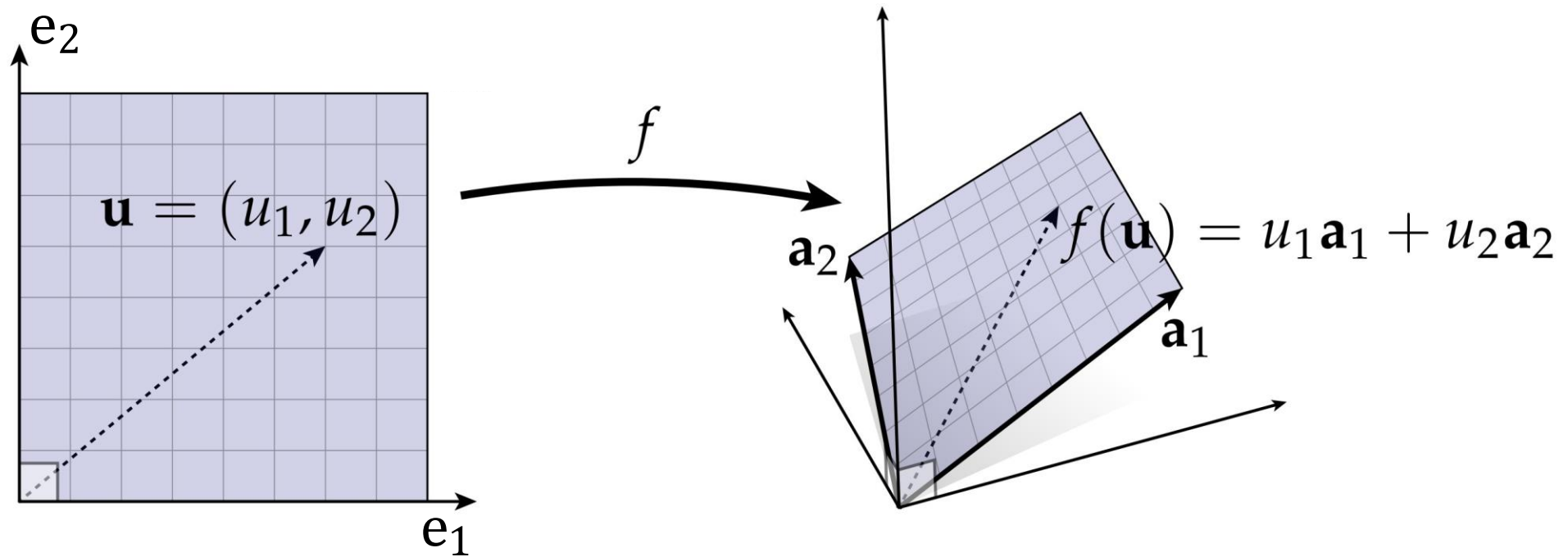
$$f(u + v) = f(u) + f(v)$$

$$f(au) = af(u)$$

- Cheap to compute
- Composition of linear transformations is linear
  - Leads to uniform representation of transformations
  - E.g., in graphics card (GPU) or graphics APIs

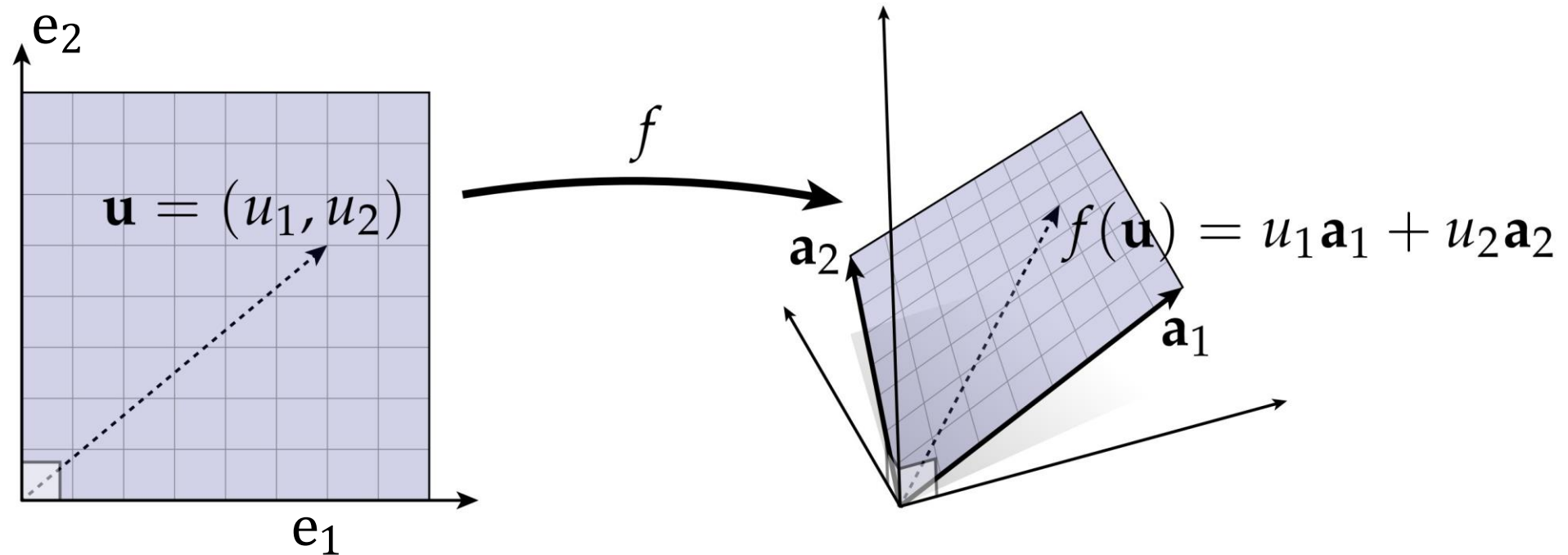


# Linear transforms



- Do you know...
  - what  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are?
  - what  $\mathbf{a}_1$  and  $\mathbf{a}_2$  are?

# Linear transforms



- $\mathbf{u}$  is a linear combination of  $e_1$  and  $e_2$
- $f(\mathbf{u})$  is that same linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1$  and  $\mathbf{a}_2$
- $\mathbf{a}_1$  and  $\mathbf{a}_2$  are  $f(e_1)$  and  $f(e_2)$
- by knowing what  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  map to, you know how to map the entire space!

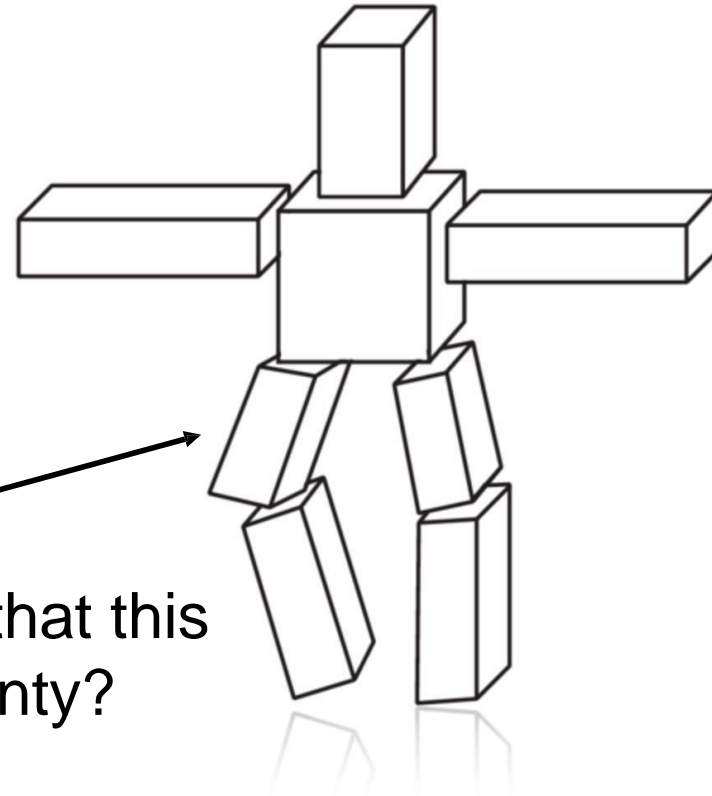
# Linear transforms

If a map can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^m u_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

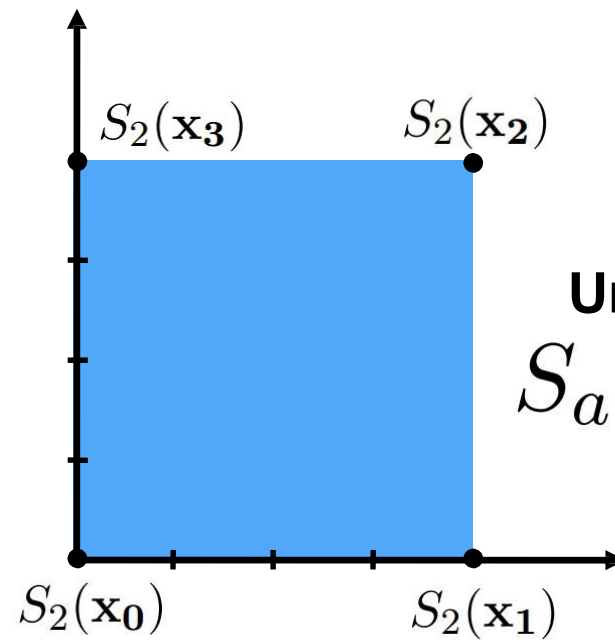
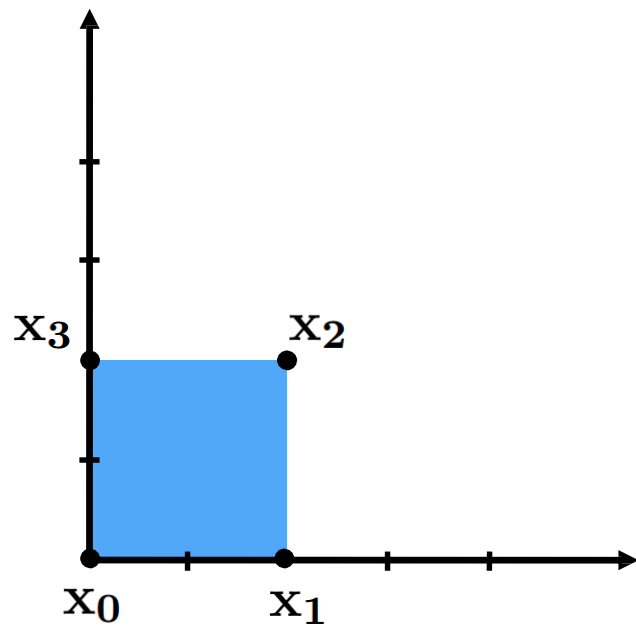
with fixed vectors  $\mathbf{a}_i$ , then it is linear

# Let's look at some transforms that are important in graphics...

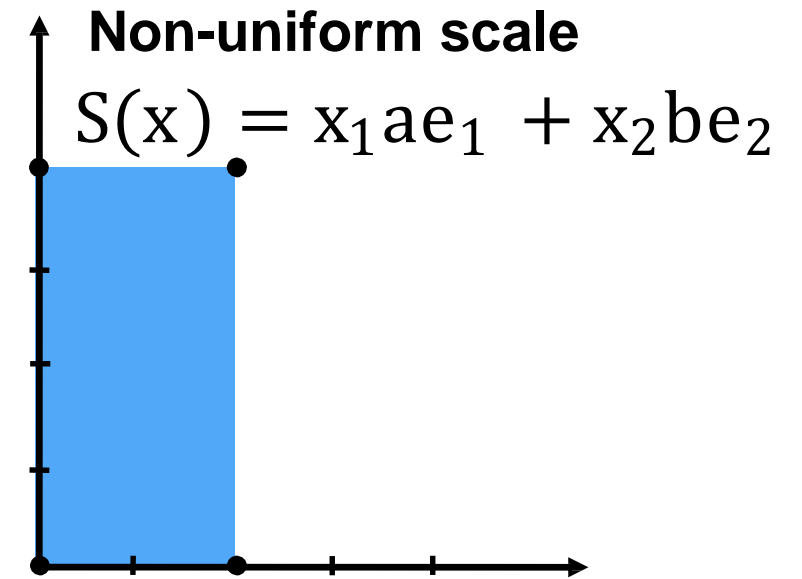


How do you formally tell a computer that this  
cube should be squished and slanty?

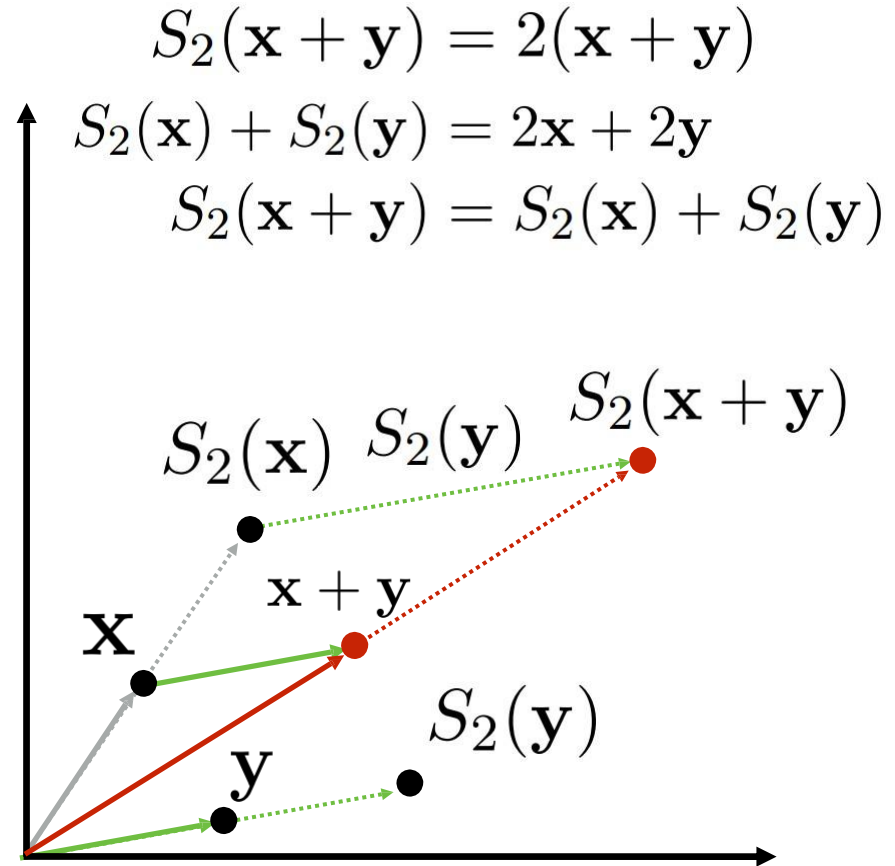
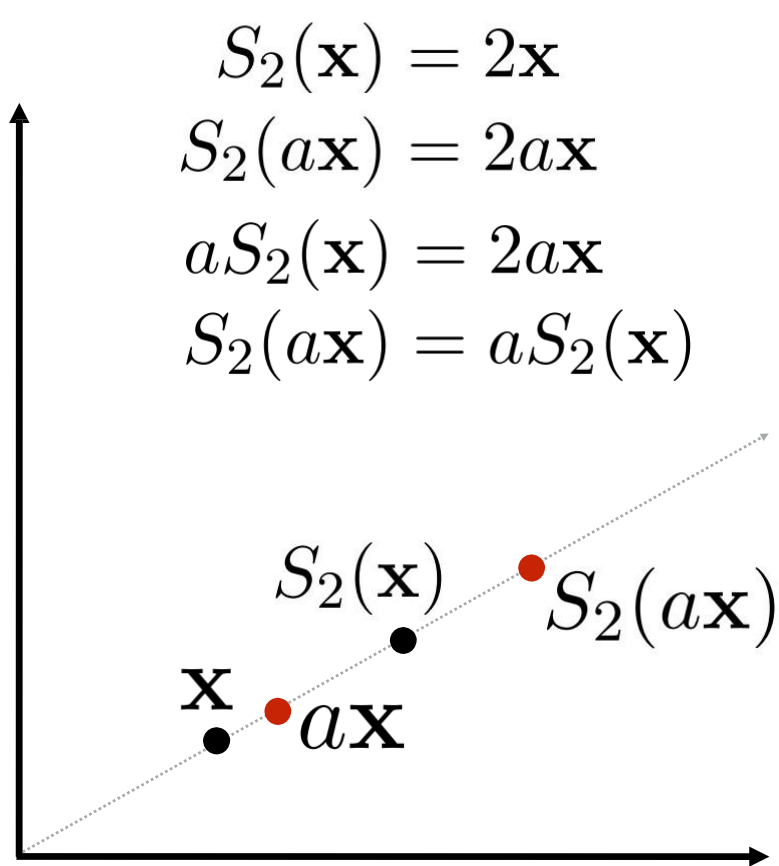
# Scale



Uniform scale:  
 $S_a(\mathbf{x}) = a\mathbf{x}$

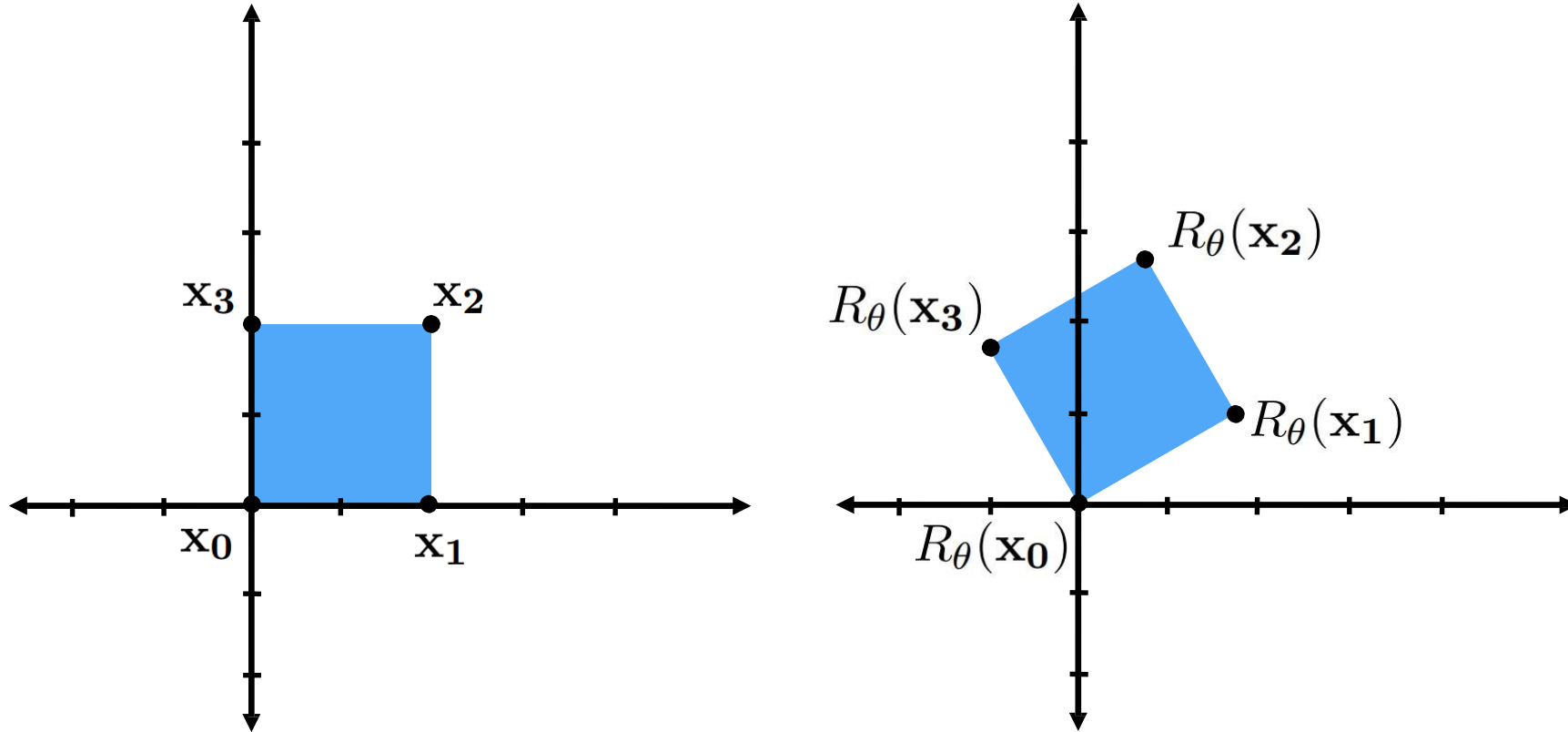


# Is uniform scale a linear transform?



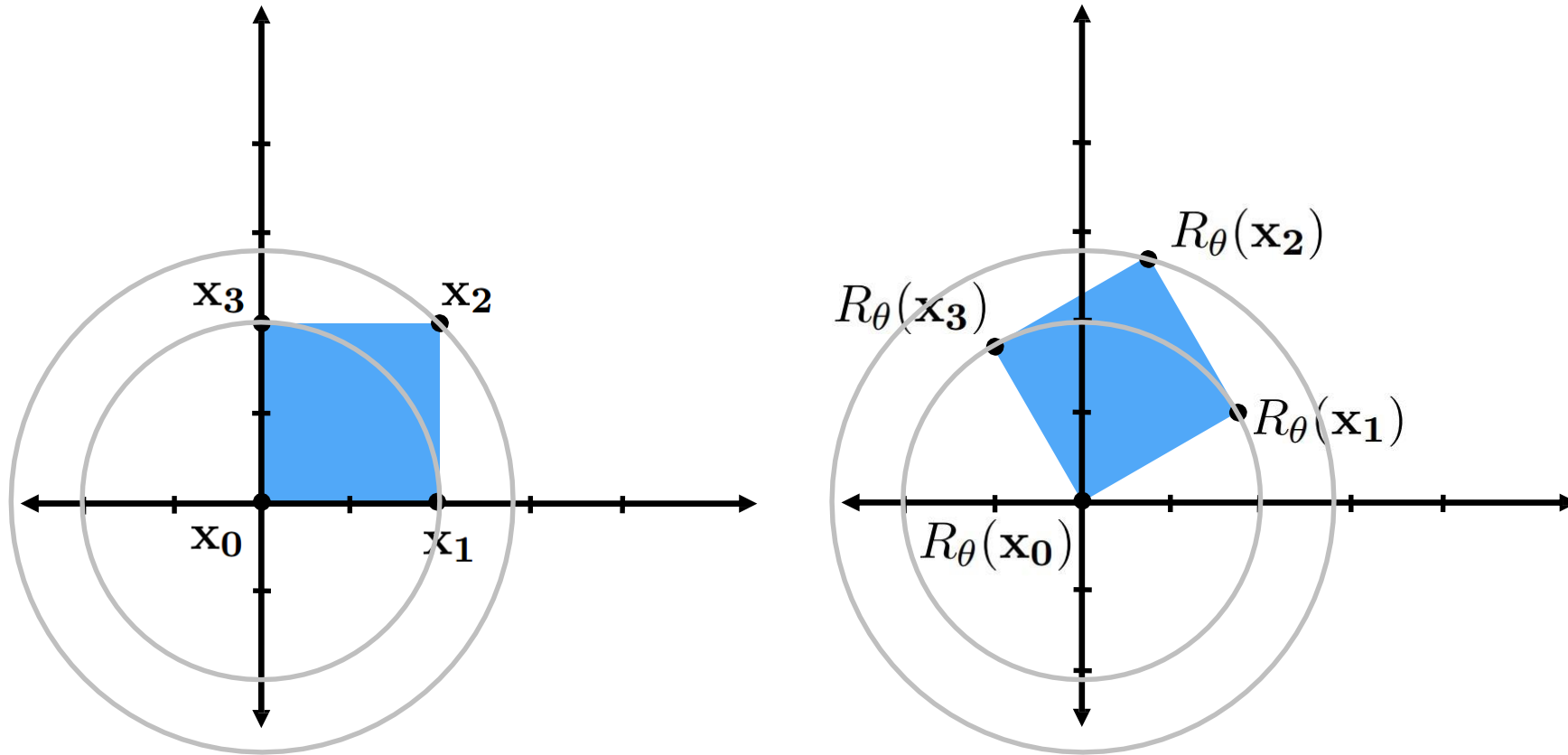
**Yes!**

# Rotation



$R_\theta$  = rotate counter-clockwise by  $\theta$

# Rotation



$R_\theta = \text{rotate counter-clockwise by } \theta$

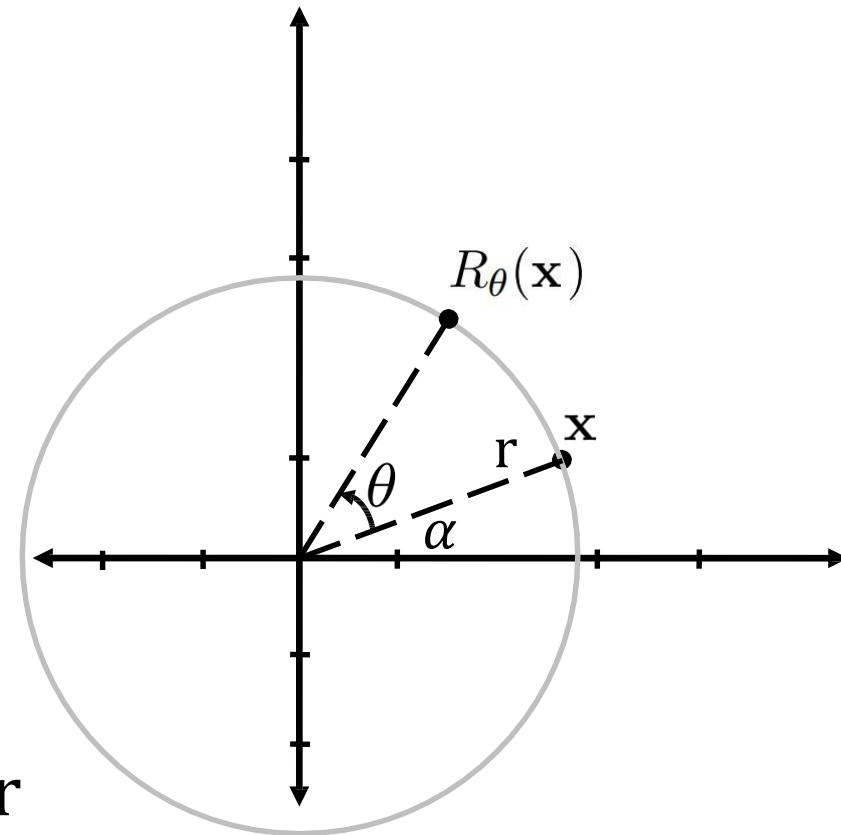
As angle changes, points move along *circular* trajectories.

Hence, rotations preserve length of vectors:  $|R_\theta(x)| = |x|$



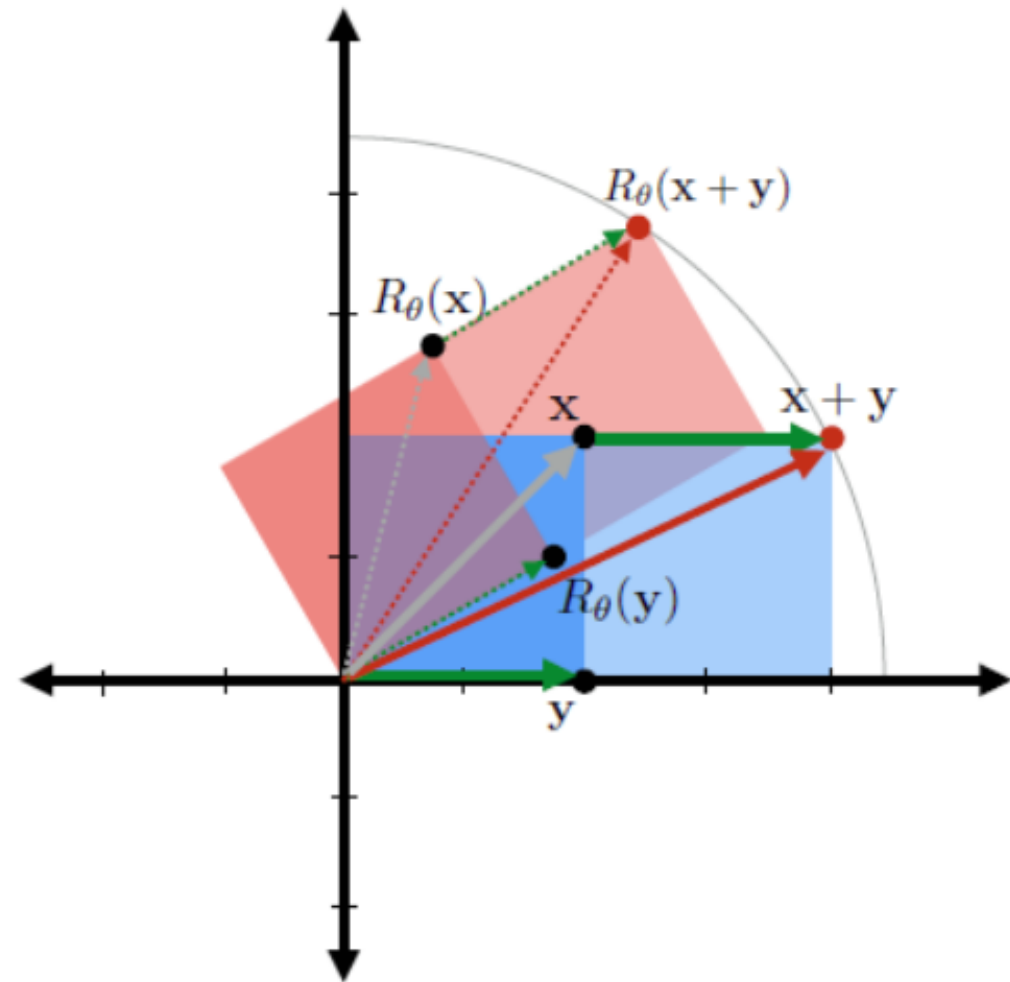
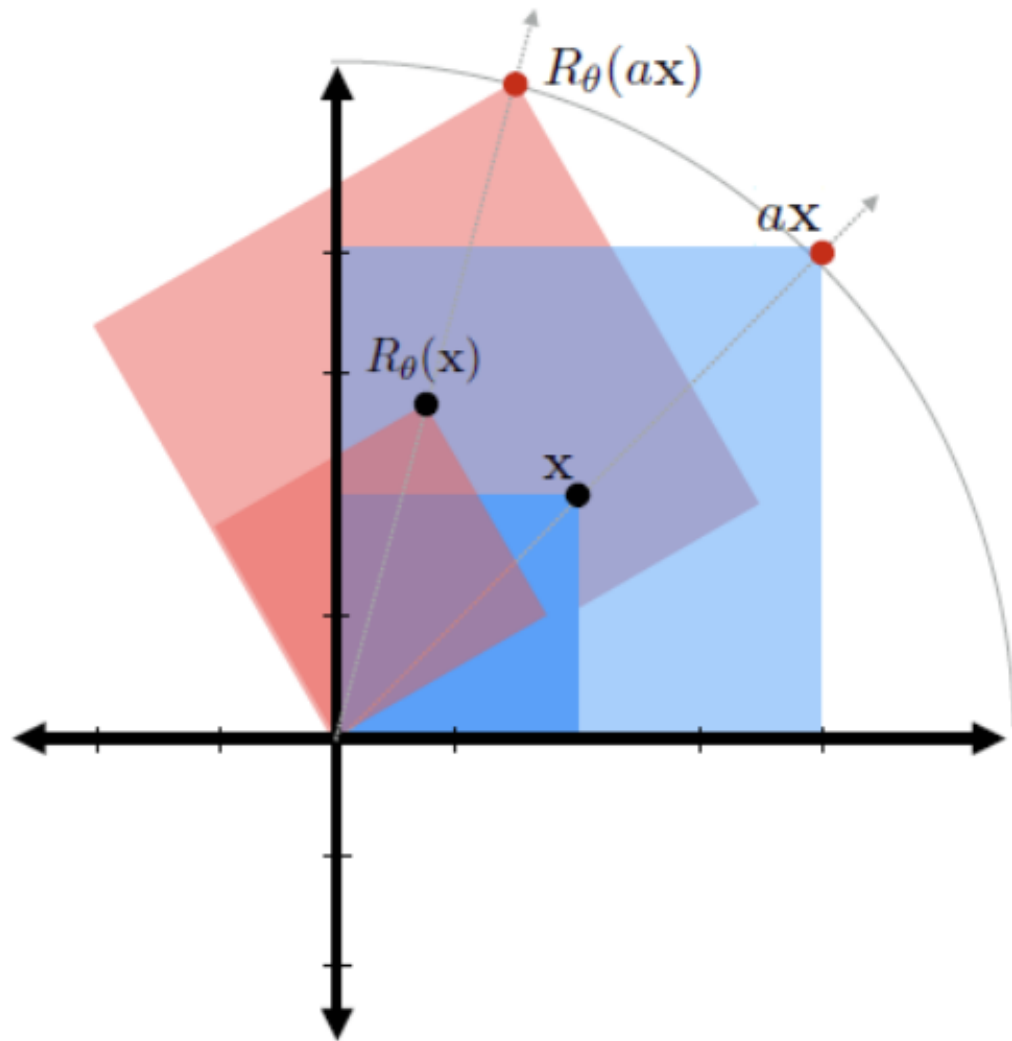
# Rotation

What does  $R_\theta$  look like?



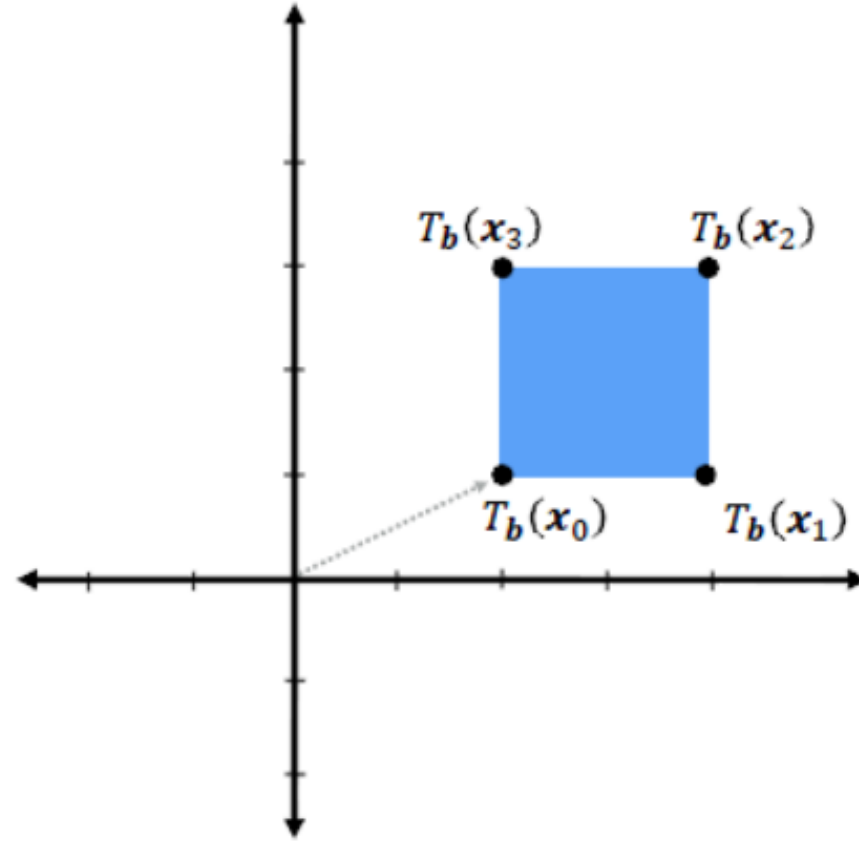
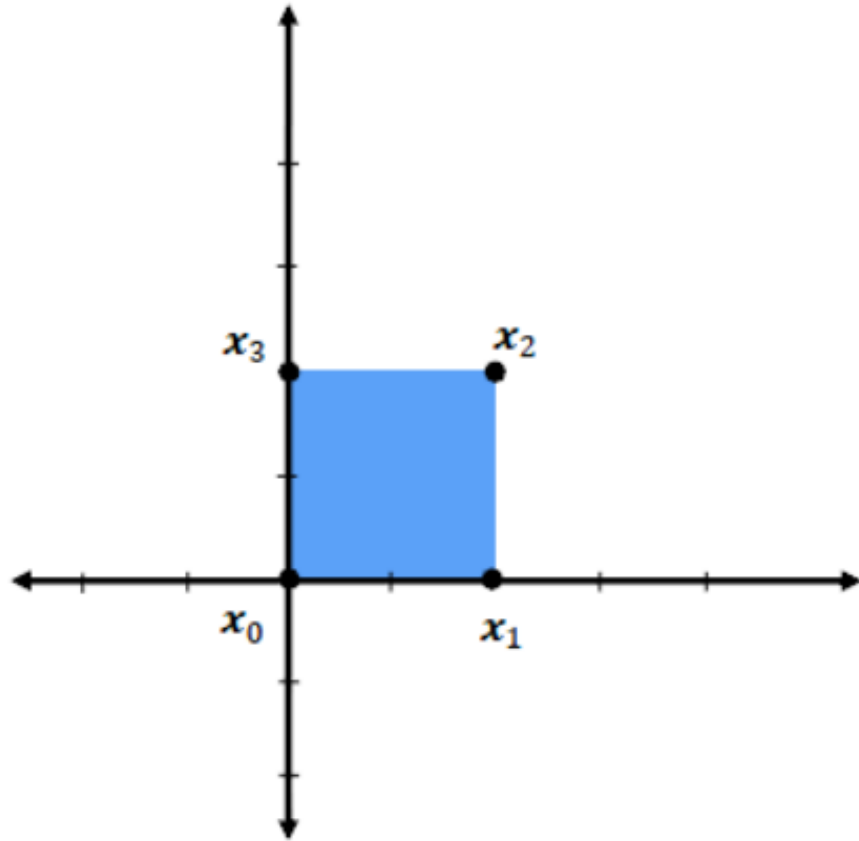
- **From  $x$ , compute  $\alpha$  and  $r$**
- **Write down  $R_\theta(x)$  as a function of  $\alpha, \theta$  and  $r$**   
(i.e. vector  $(r, 0)$  rotated by  $\alpha + \theta$ )
- **Apply sum of angle formulae...**
- **Fine, but remember, we only need to know how  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are transformed!**

# Is rotation linear?



- Yes

# Translation

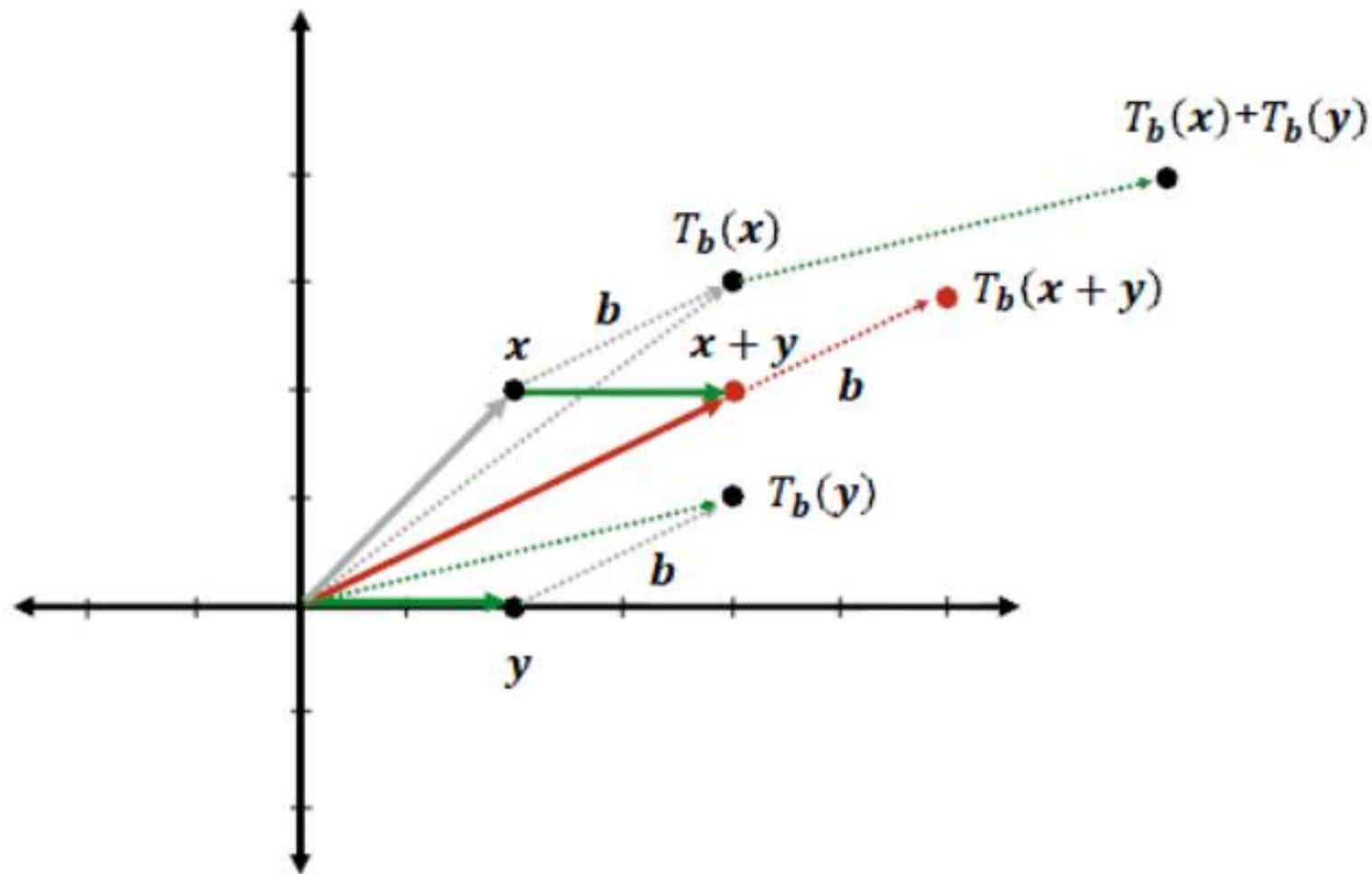


Let's write  $T_b(x)$  in the form

$$T_b(x) = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix}$$

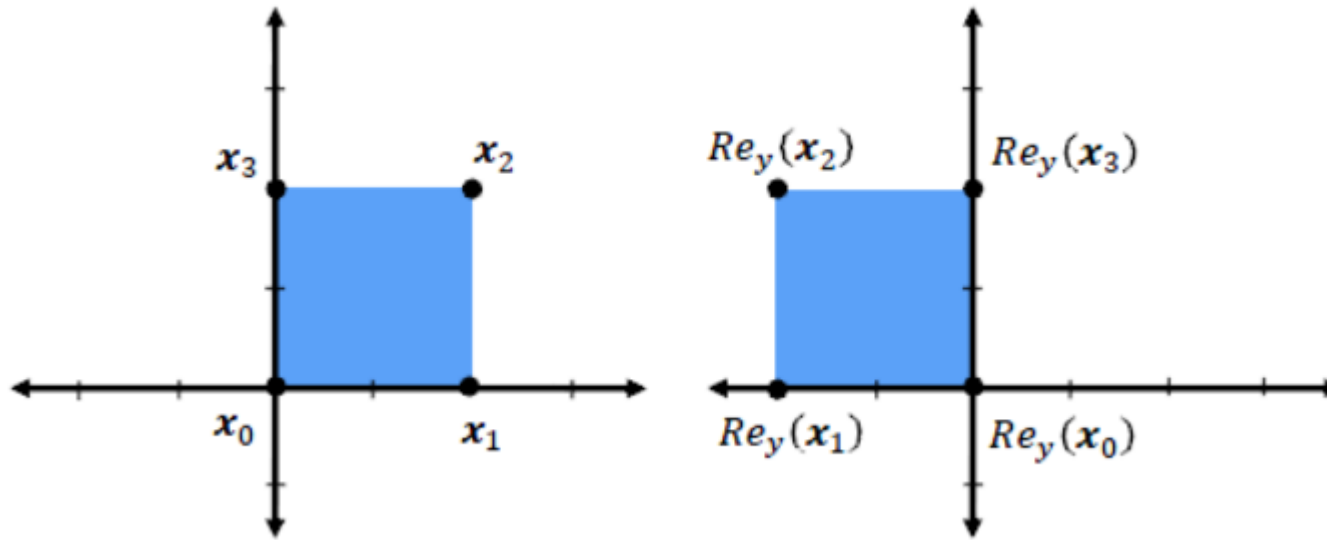
such that  $T_b(x) = x + b$

# Is translation linear?



**No. Translation is affine.**

# Reflection



$Re_y(x)$  : reflection about y-axis

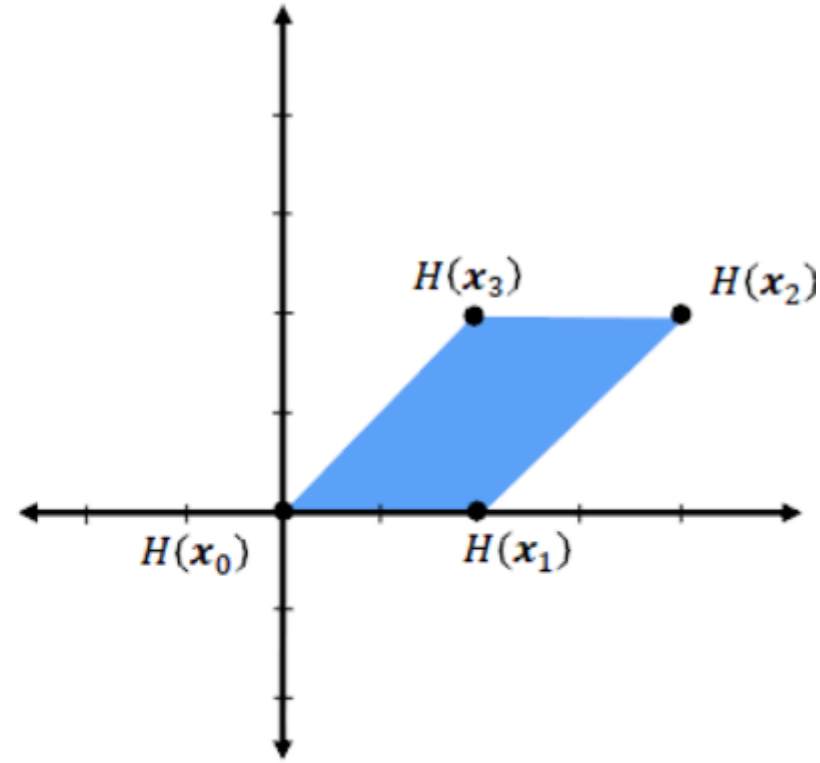
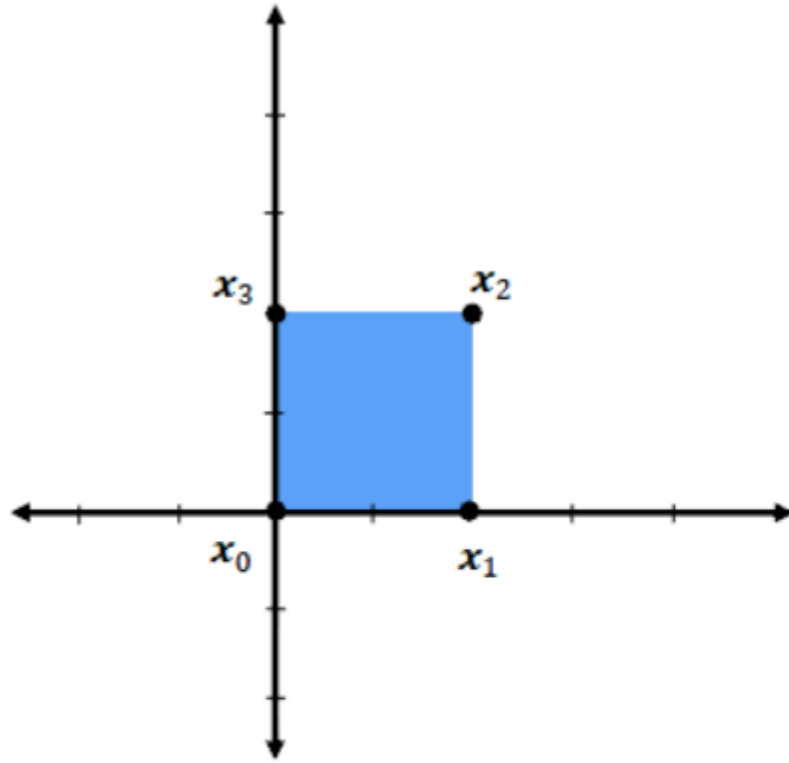
Reflections change “handedness”...

Do you know what  $Re_y(x)$  looks like?

Is reflection a linear transform?

Do you know how to reflect about an arbitrary axis?

# Shear (in x direction)

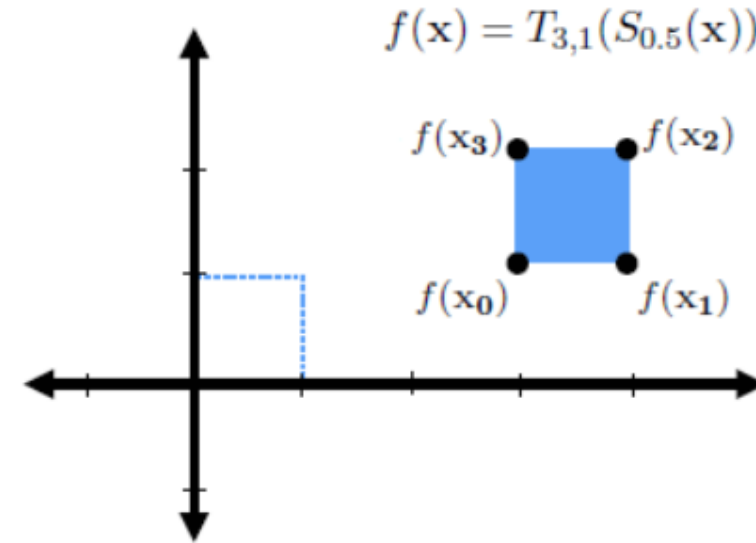
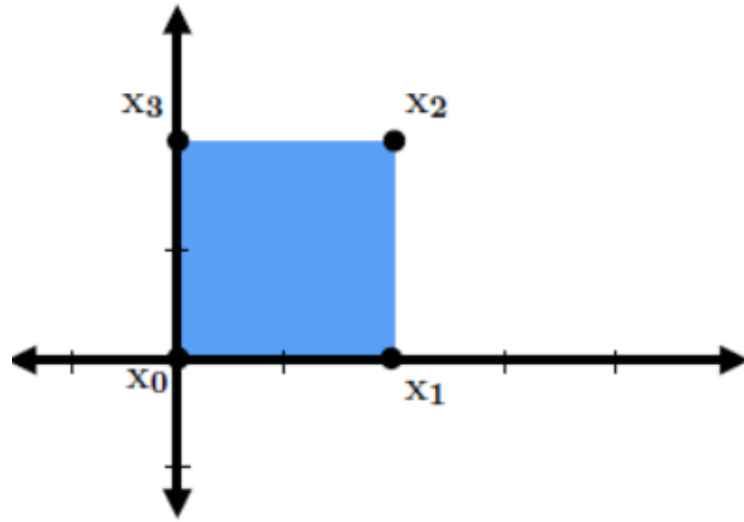


What does  $H(x)$  look like?

$$H_a(x) = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Is shearing a linear transformation?

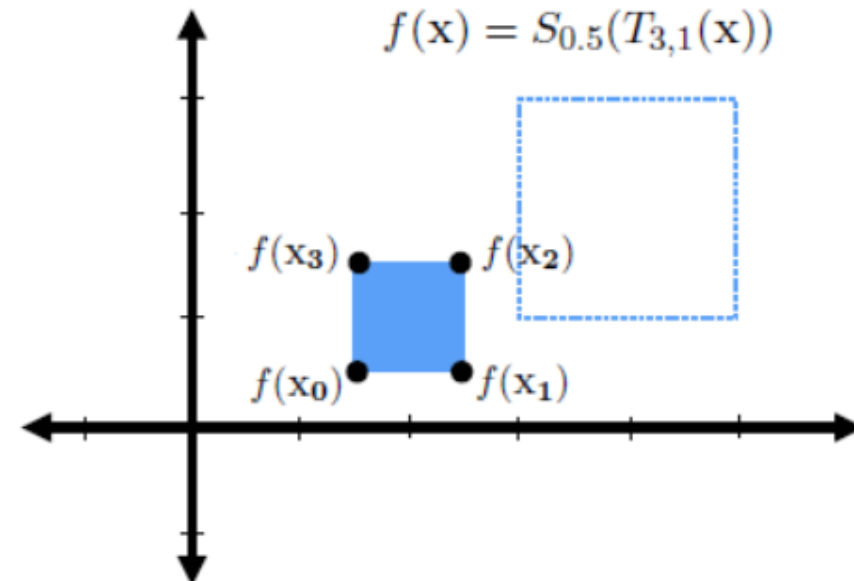
# Compose basic transformations to construct more complicated ones



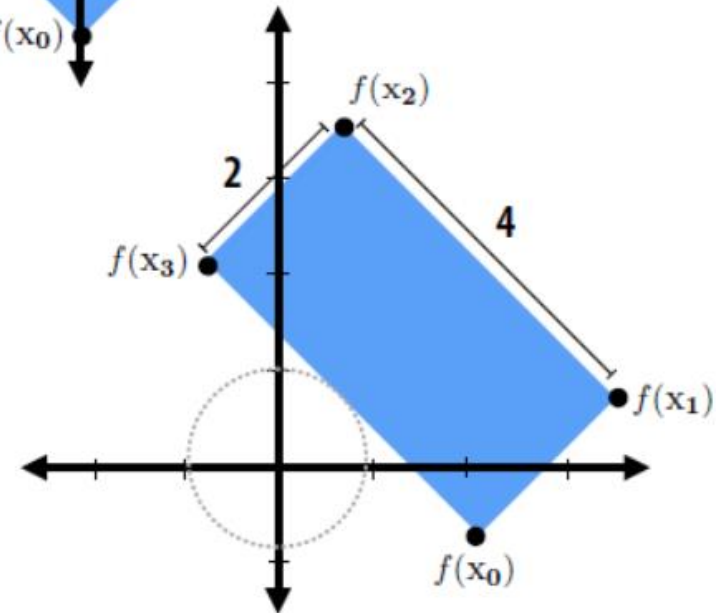
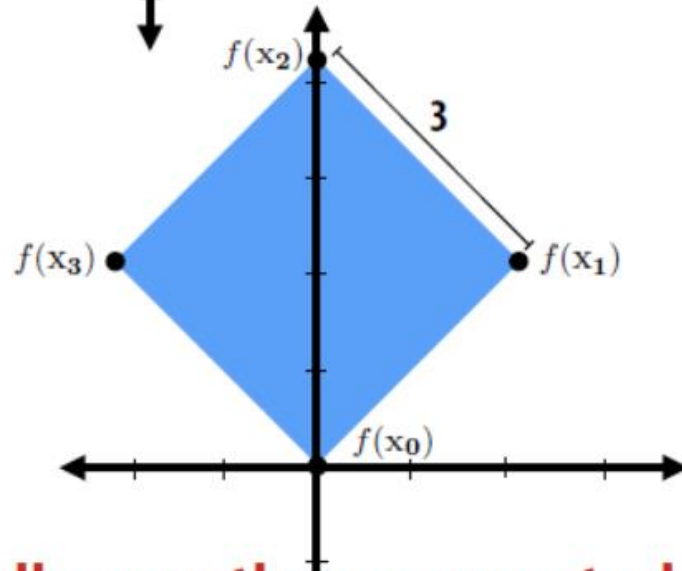
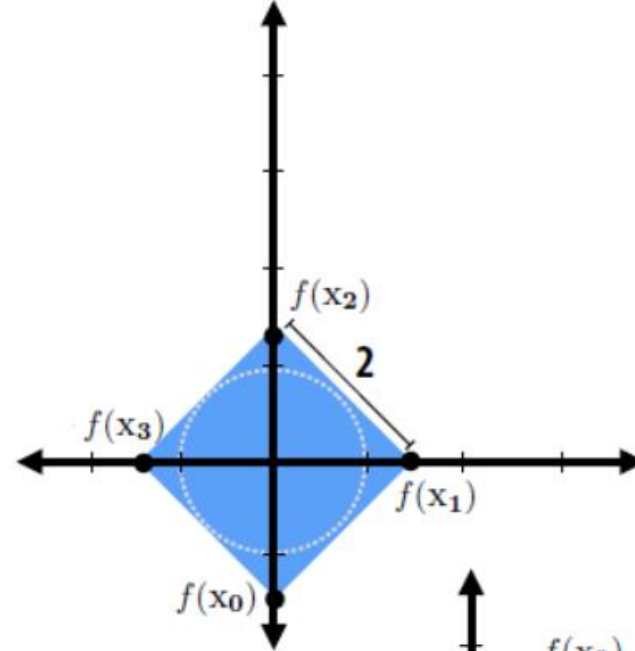
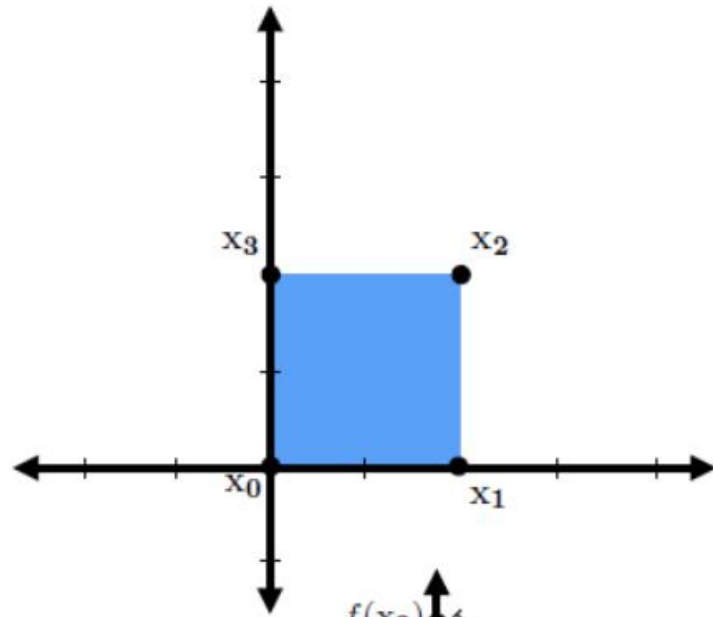
**Note: order of composition matters**

**Top-right: scale, then translate**

**Bottom-right: translate, then scale**



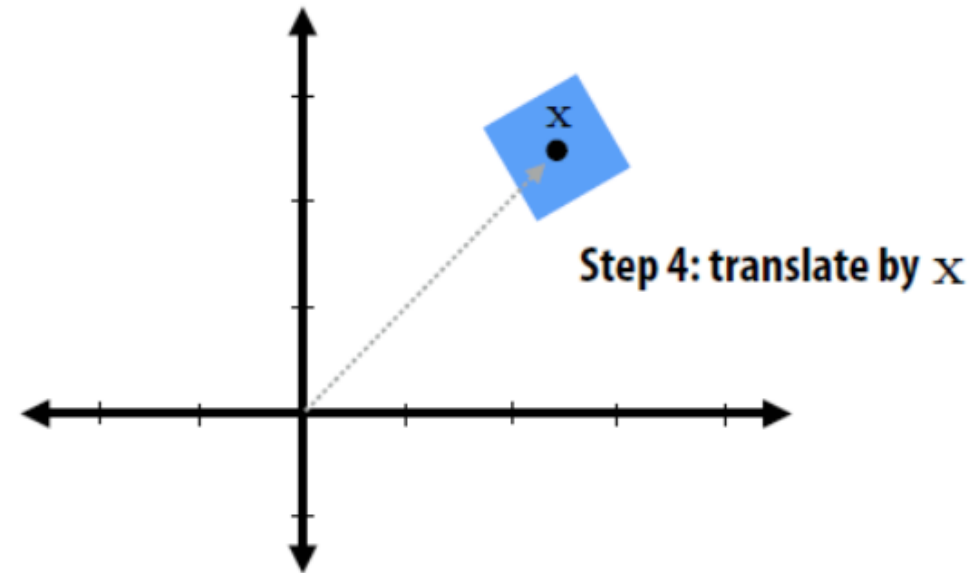
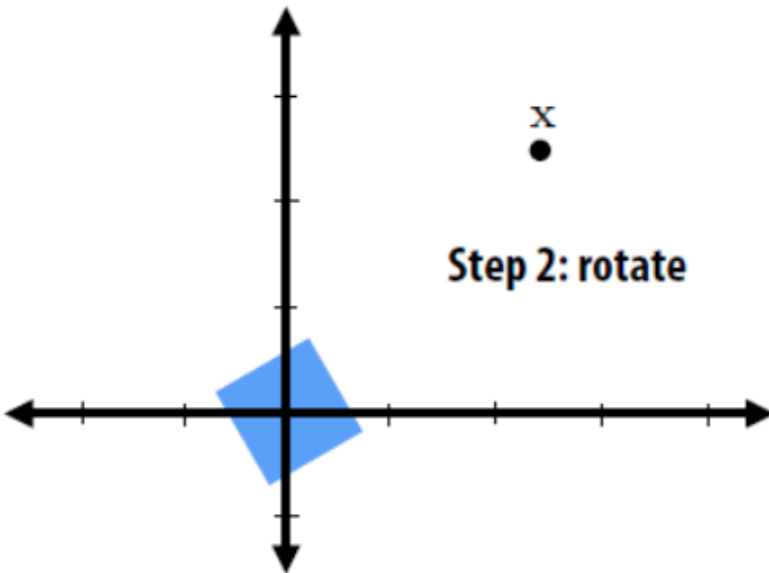
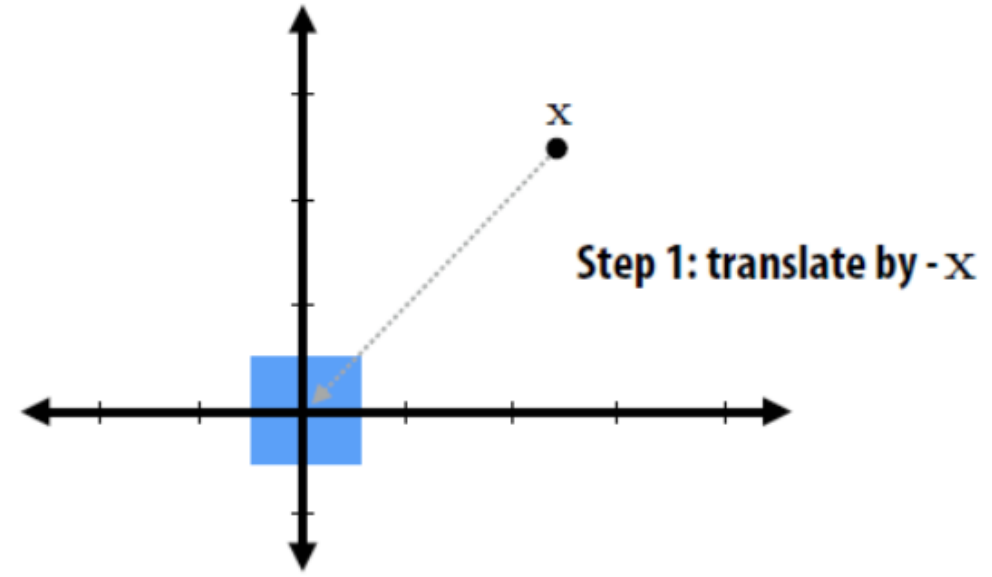
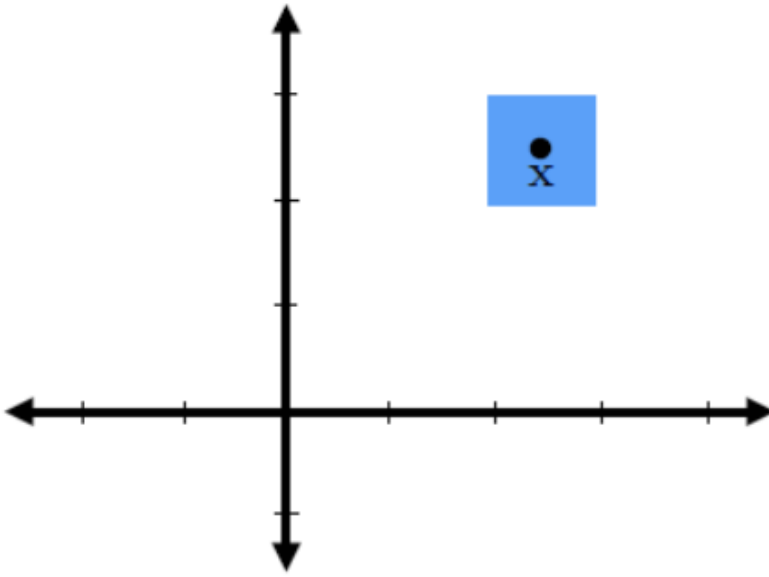
# How would you perform these transformations?



Usually more than one way to do it!



# Common task: rotate about a point $x$



# Summary of basic transforms

## Linear:

$$f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$$

$$f(ax) = af(x)$$

Scale

Rotation

Reflection

Shear

## Not linear:

Translation

## Affine:

Composition of linear transform + translation

(all examples on previous two slides)

$$f(x) = g(x) + b$$

Not affine: perspective projection (will discuss later)

## Euclidean: (Isometries)

Preserve distance between points (preserves length)

$$|f(x) - f(y)| = |x - y|$$

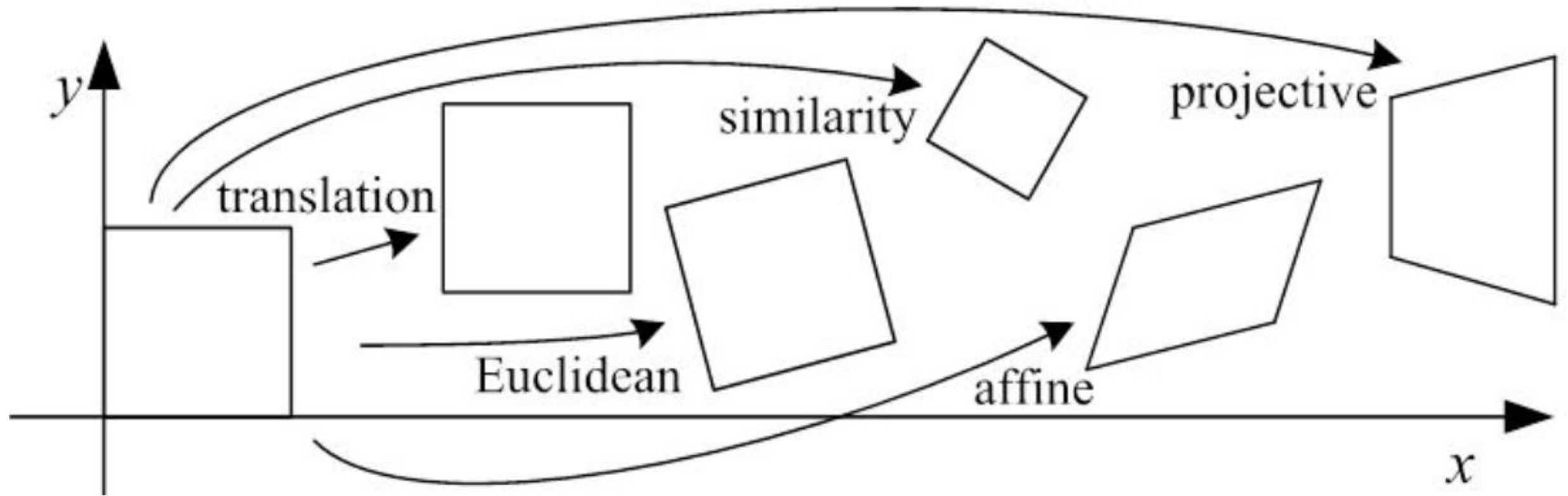
Translation

Rotation

Reflection

“Rigid body” transforms are Euclidean transforms that also preserve “winding” (does not include reflection)

# 2D Geometric Transformations



# **Representing Transformations in Coordinates**

# Review: representing points in a coordinate space

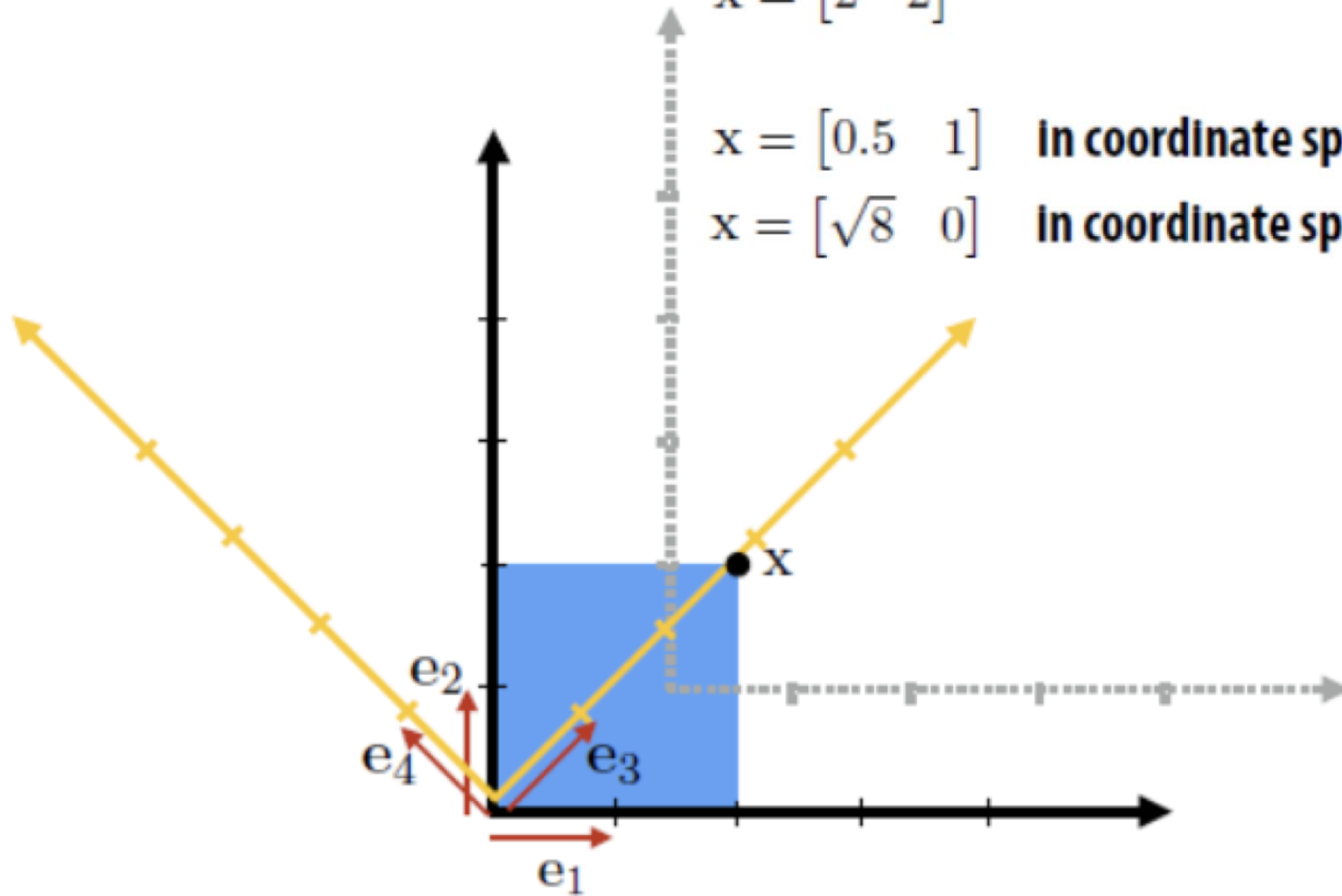
Consider coordinate space defined by orthogonal vectors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$

$$x = 2e_1 + 2e_2$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{In coordinate space defined by } e_1 \text{ and } e_2, \text{ with origin at } (1.5, 1)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{8} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{In coordinate space defined by } e_3 \text{ and } e_4, \text{ with origin at } (0, 0)$$



# Review: matrix multiplication

$$\begin{array}{c} \overbrace{\mathbf{A} \quad *} \quad \overbrace{\mathbf{x}} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{cc} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 \end{array} \right] \\ = x_1 \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \end{array} \right] + x_2 \left[ \begin{array}{c} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \end{array} \right] = \underbrace{x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2} \end{array}$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \mathbf{a}_i = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$$

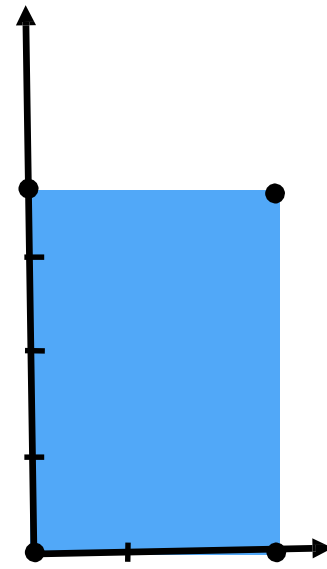
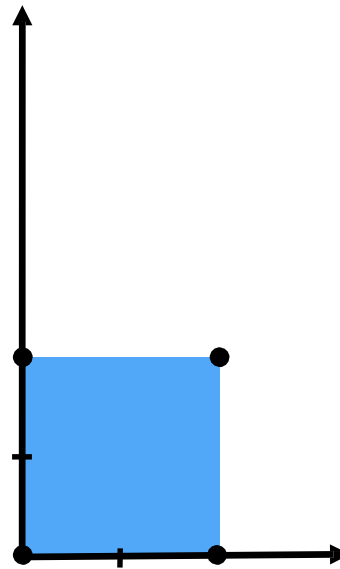
- Matrix multiplication is **linear combination of columns**
- Encodes a linear map!

# Linear transforms in 2D is 2\*2 matrices

Non-uniform scale

$$S(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 a \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 b \mathbf{e}_2$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$



# Rotation

So, what happens to vectors  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$  after rotation by  $\theta$ ?

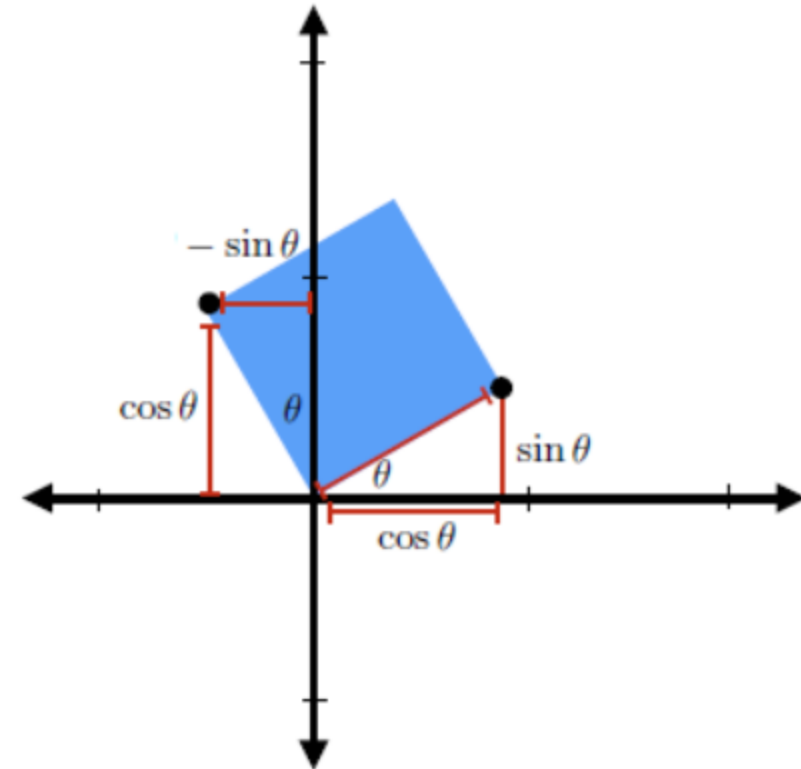
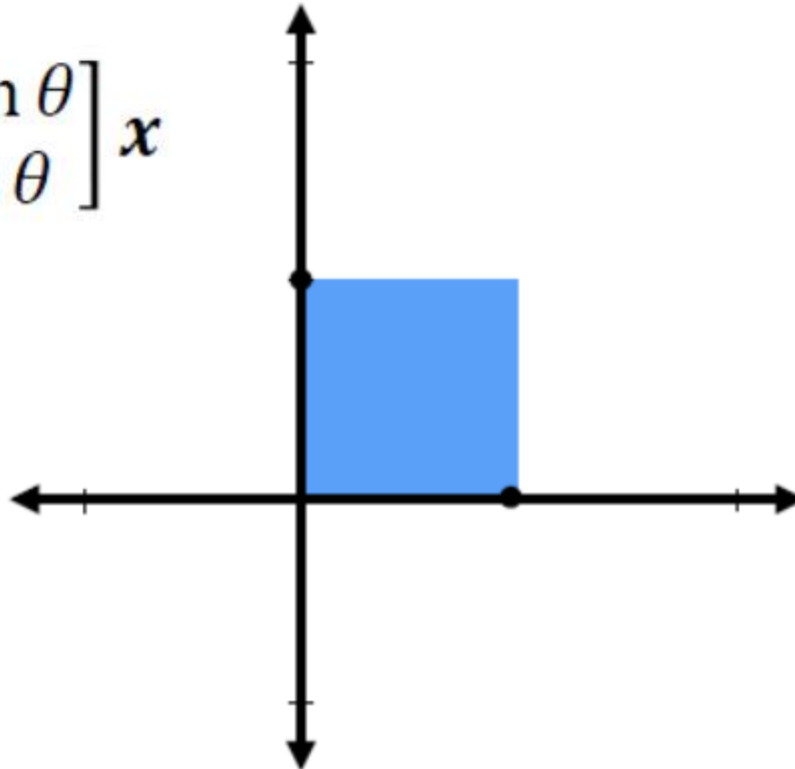
## Rotation

$$R_{\theta}(\mathbf{e}_1) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = \mathbf{a}_1$$

$$R_{\theta}(\mathbf{e}_2) = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta) = \mathbf{a}_2$$

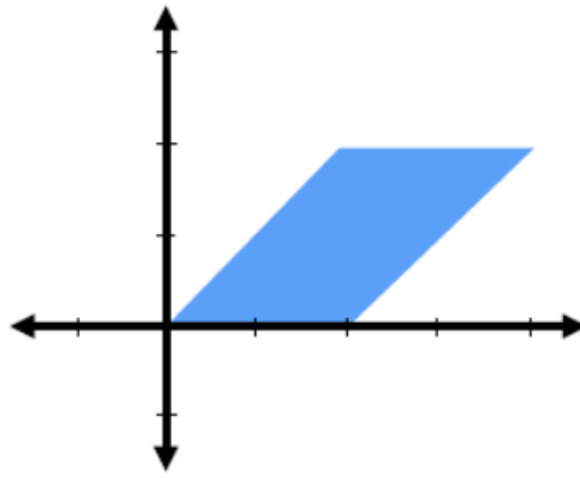
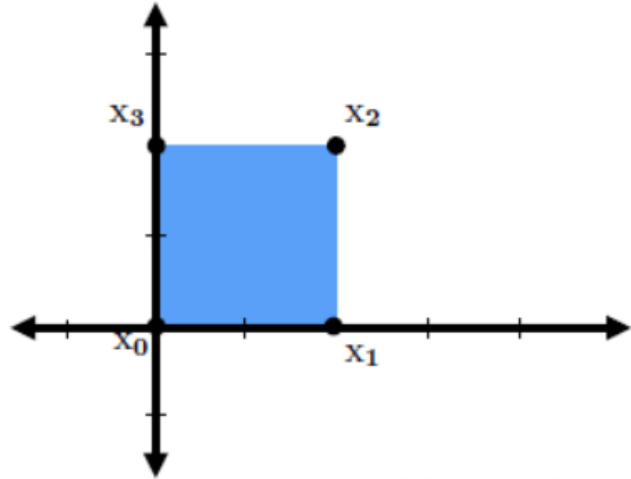
$$R_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2$$

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





# Shear

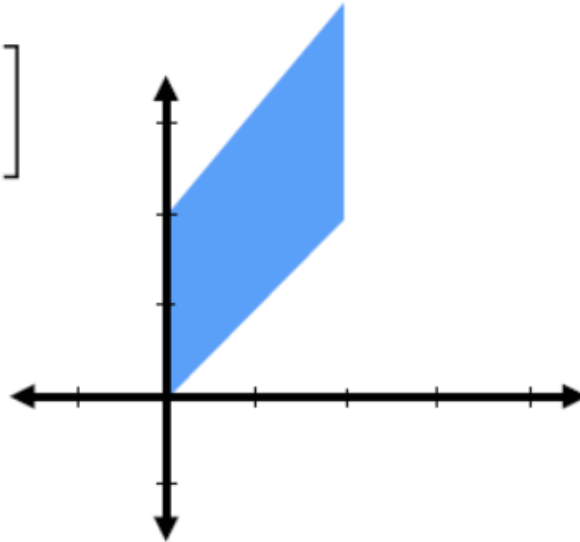
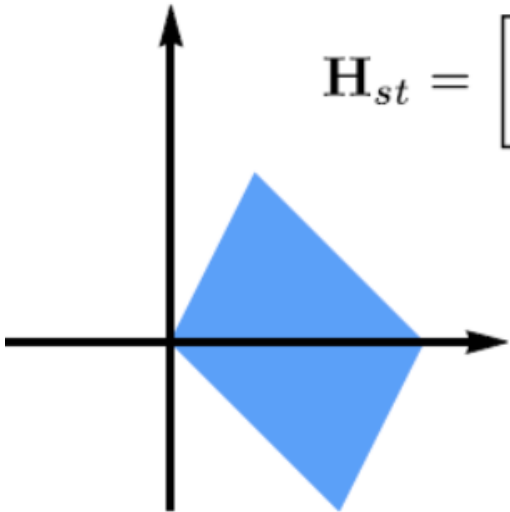


Shear in x:

$$H_{xs} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & s \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Arbitrary shear:

$$H_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & s \\ t & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Shear in y:

$$H_{ys} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ s & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## General shear mappings

if  $V$  is the [direct sum](#) of  $W$  and  $W'$ , and we write vectors as:  $v = w + w'$

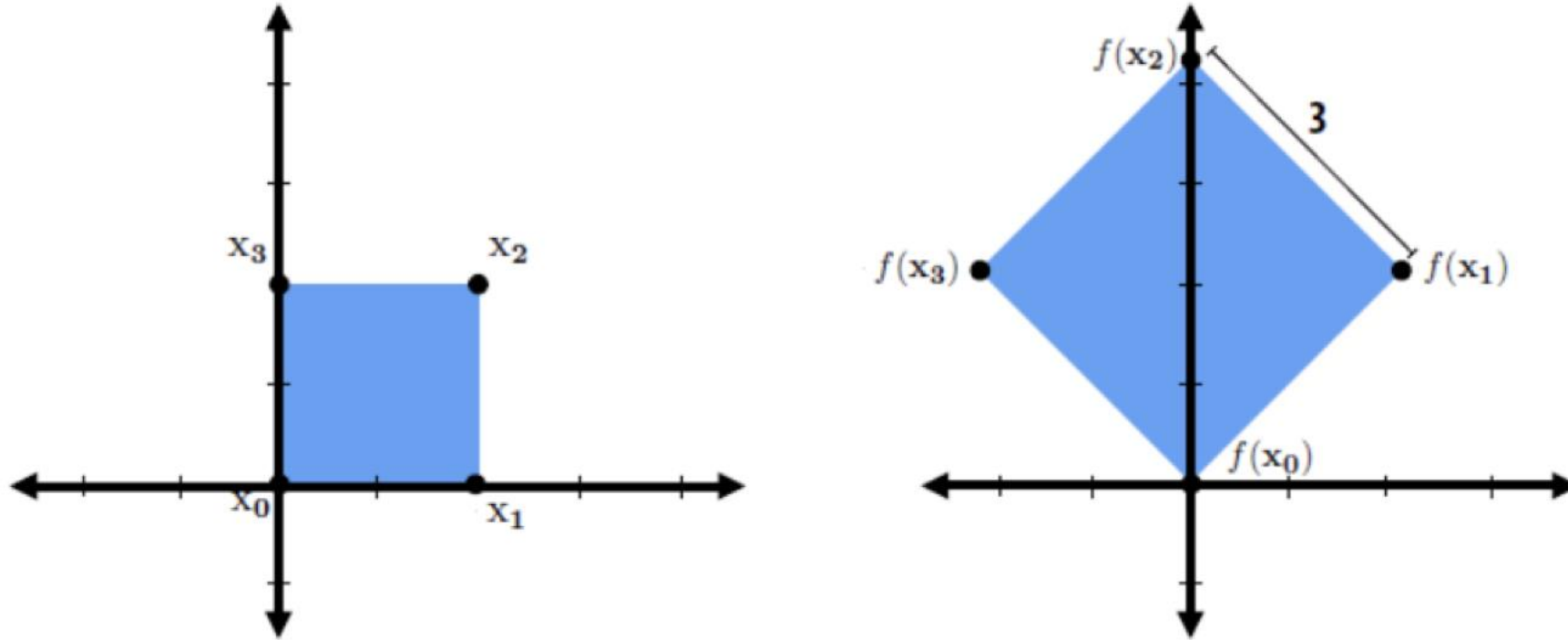
$$L(v) = (w + Mw') + w'$$

where  $M$  is a linear mapping from  $W'$  into  $W$ .

In [block matrix](#) terms  $L$  can be represented as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} I & M \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$$

# How do we compose linear transformations?



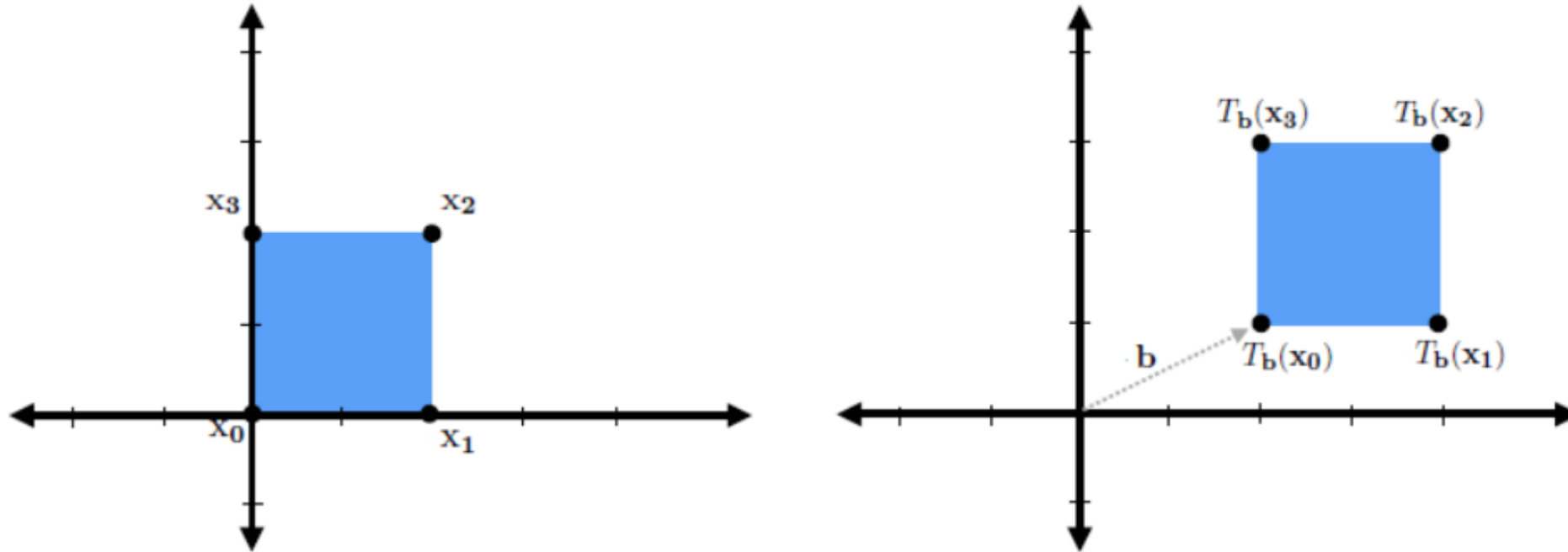
Compose linear transformations via matrix multiplication.  
This example: uniform scale, followed by rotation

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = R_{\pi/4} S_{[1.5, 1.5]} \mathbf{x}$$

Enables simple, efficient implementation: **reduce complex chain of transformations to a single matrix multiplication**

# How do we deal with translation? (Not linear)

$$T_b(x) = x + b$$



**Recall: translation is not a linear transform**

- **Output coefficients are not a linear combination of input coefficients**
- **Translation operation cannot be represented by a 2x2 matrix**

$$x_{out\,x} = x_x + b_x$$

$$x_{out\,y} = x_y + b_y$$

Translation math

# 2D homogeneous coordinates (2D-H)

Key idea: lift 2D points to a 3D space

So the point  $(x_1, x_2)$  is represented as the 3-vector:  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

And 2D transforms are represented by 3x3 matrices

For example: 2D rotation in homogeneous coordinates:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Q: how do the transforms we've seen so far affect the last coordinate?

# Translation in 2D-H coords

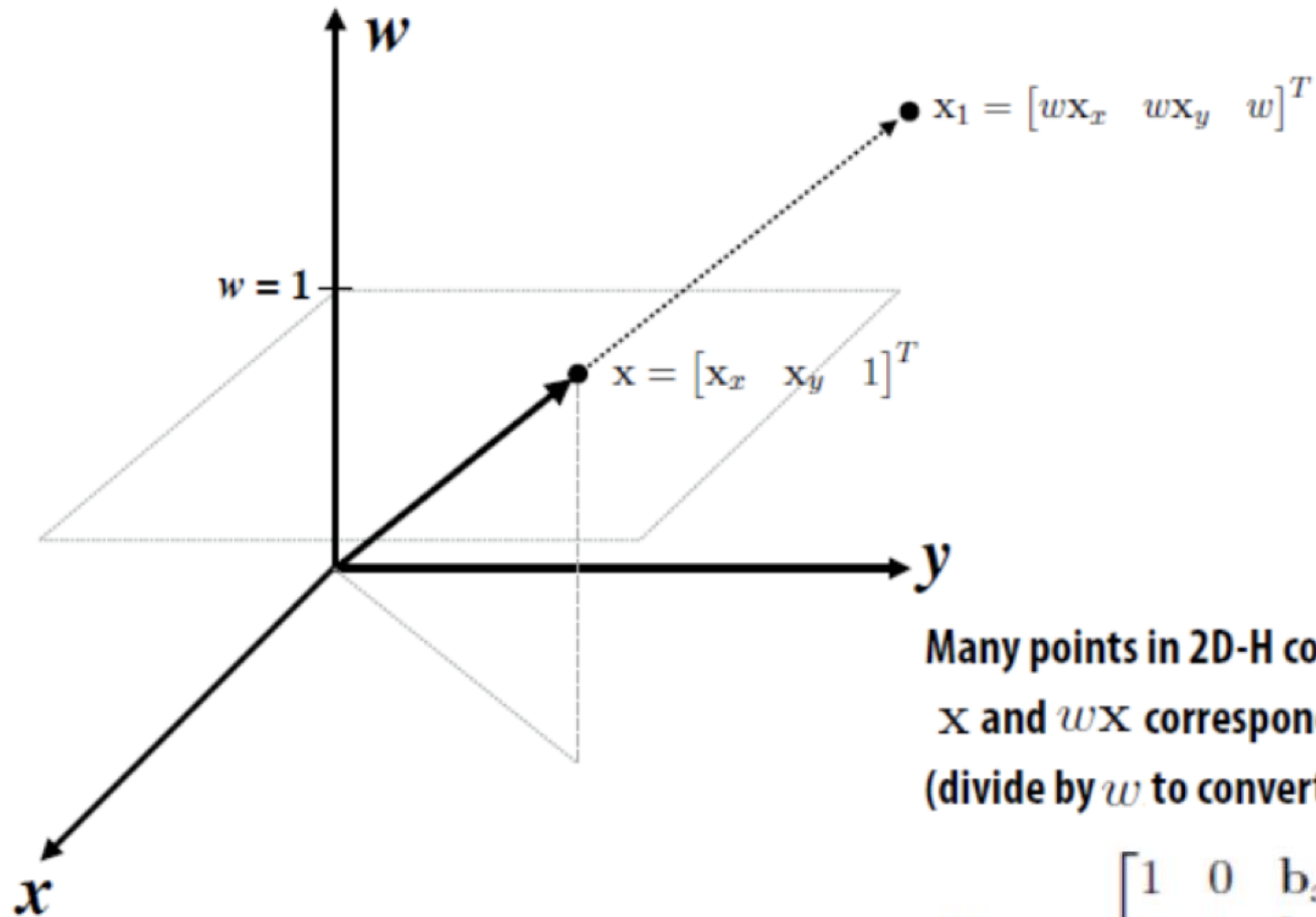
Translation expressed as 3x3 matrix multiplication:

$$T(x) = x + b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + b_1 \\ x_2 + b_2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(remember: linear combination of columns!)

**Cool: In homogeneous coordinates, translation is a linear transformation!**

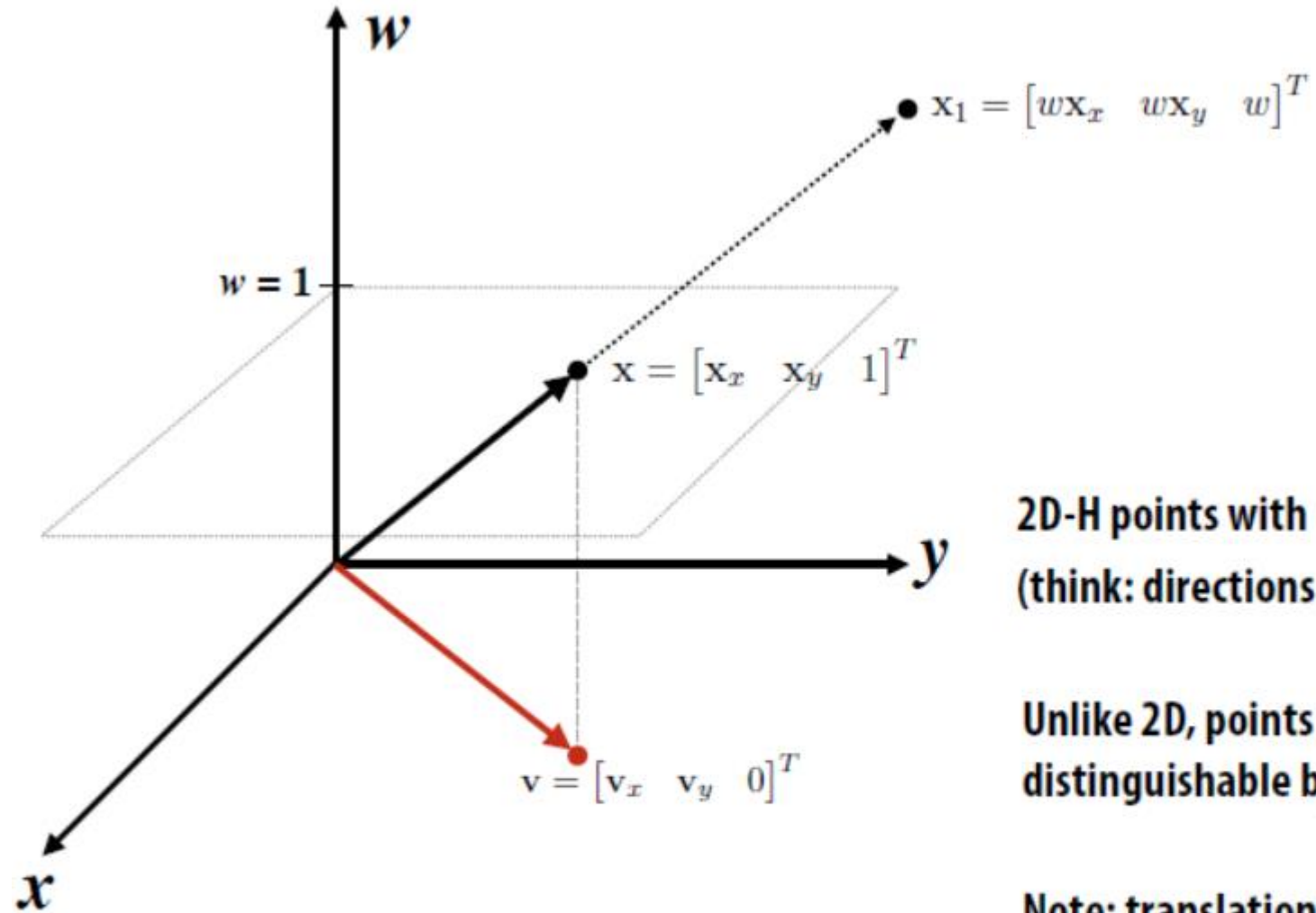
# Homogeneous coordinates: some intuition



Many points in 2D-H correspond to same point in 2D  
 $\mathbf{x}$  and  $w\mathbf{x}$  correspond to the same 2D point  
(divide by  $w$  to convert 2D-H back to 2D)

$$\mathbf{T}_b \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & b_x \\ 0 & 1 & b_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} wX_x \\ wX_y \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} wX_x + wb_x \\ wX_y + wb_y \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

# Homogeneous coordinates: points vs. vectors



2D-H points with  $w=0$  represent 2D vectors  
(think: directions are points at infinity)

Unlike 2D, points and directions are  
distinguishable by their representation in 2D-H

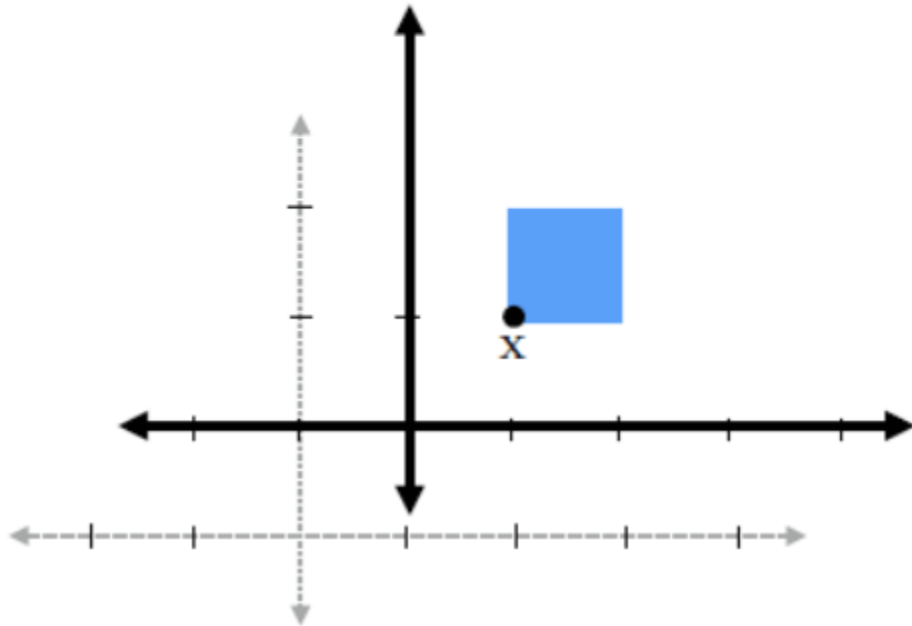
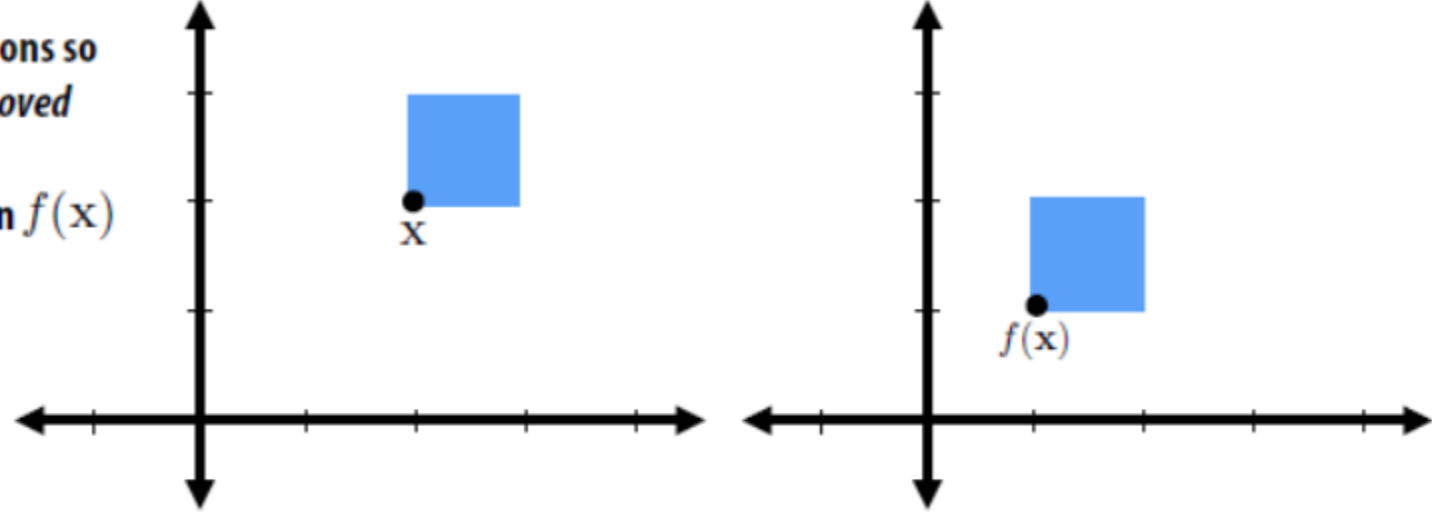
Note: translation does not modify directions:

$$\mathbf{T}_b \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & b_x \\ 0 & 1 & b_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Another way to think about transformations: change of coordinates

Interpretation of transformations so far in this lecture: *points get moved*

Point  $x$  moved to new position  $f(x)$



Alternative interpretation:

Transformations induce a change of coordinates:  
Representation of  $x$  changes since point is now expressed in new coordinates



# Moving to 3D (and 3D-H)

Represent 3D transforms as 3x3 matrices and 3D-H transforms as 4x4 matrices

Scale:

$$\begin{array}{cc} \text{3D} & \text{3D-H} \\ S_s = \begin{bmatrix} S_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & S_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & S_z \end{bmatrix} & S_s = \begin{bmatrix} S_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & S_y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & S_z & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

Shear (in x, based on y,z position):

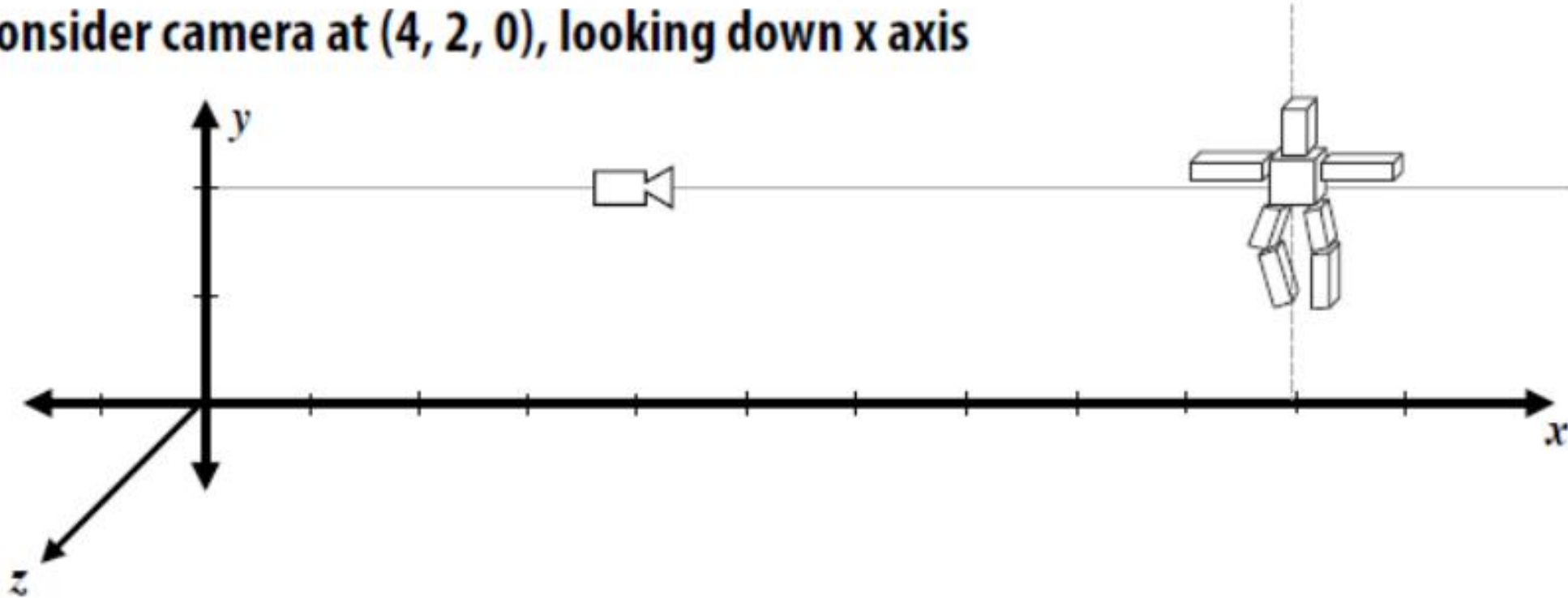
$$H_{x,d} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d_y & d_z \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad H_{x,d} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d_y & d_z & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Translate:

$$T_b = \begin{array}{cc} & \text{3D-H} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & b_x \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & b_y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & b_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

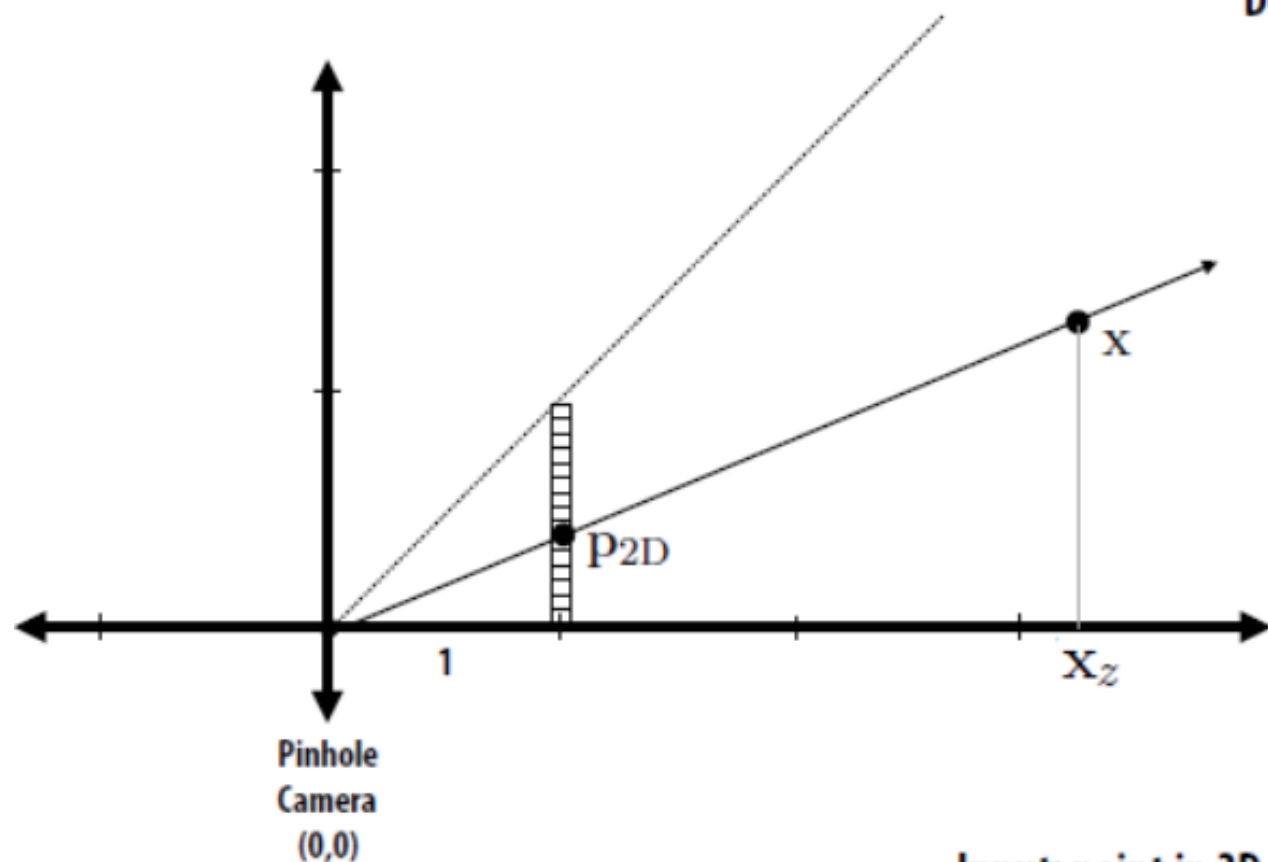
# Example: simple camera transform

- Consider object in world at  $(10, 2, 0)$
- Consider camera at  $(4, 2, 0)$ , looking down  $x$  axis



- Translating object vertex positions by  $(-4, -2, 0)$  yields position relative to camera.
- Rotation about  $y$  by  $-\pi/2$  gives position of object in coordinate system where camera's view direction is aligned with the  $z$  axis \*

# Basic perspective projection



Desired perspective projected result (2D point):

$$P_{2D} = \begin{bmatrix} x_x/x_z & x_y/x_z \end{bmatrix}^T$$

---

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Input: point in 3D-H

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_x & x_y & x_z & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

After applying  $P$ : point in 3D-H

$$Px = \begin{bmatrix} x_x & x_y & x_z & x_z \end{bmatrix}^T$$

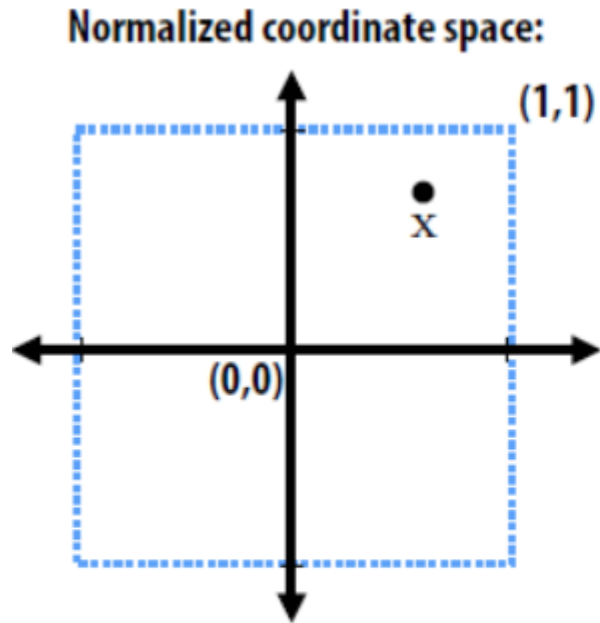
After homogeneous divide:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_x/x_z & x_y/x_z & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

(throw out third component)

# Screen transformation

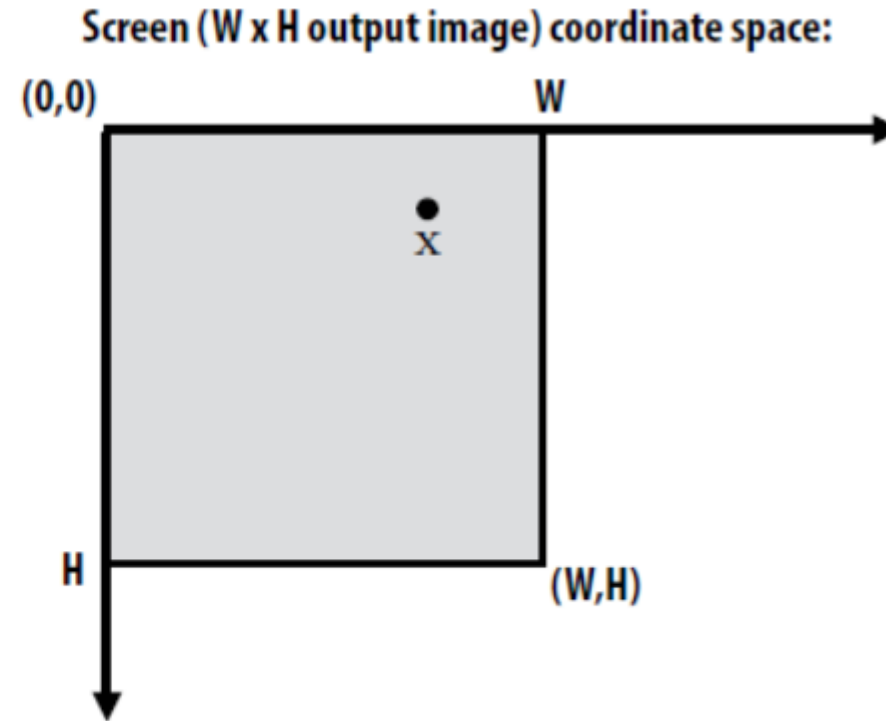
- Convert points in normalized coordinate space to screen pixel coordinates
- Example:
  - All points within  $(-1,1)$  to  $(1,1)$  region are on screen
  - $(1,1)$  in normalized space maps to  $(W,0)$  in screen



Step 1: reflect about x

Step 2: translate by  $(1,1)$

Step 3: scale by  $(W/2, H/2)$



$$f_1(f_2(f_3(x))) = M_1 M_2 M_3 x$$

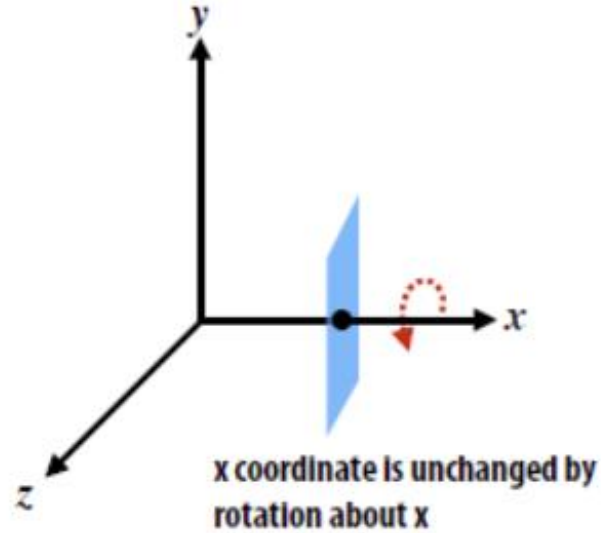
# Summary so far...

- **Transformations can be interpreted as operations that move points in space**
  - e.g., for modeling, animation
- **Or as a change of coordinate system**
  - e.g., screen and view transforms
- **Construct complex transformations as compositions of basic transforms**
- **Homogeneous coordinate representation allows for expression of non-linear transforms (e.g., affine, perspective projection) as matrix operations (linear transforms) in higher-dimensional space**
  - **Matrix representation affords simple implementation & efficient composition**

# Representing Rotations in 3D: Euler Angles

**Rotation about x axis:**

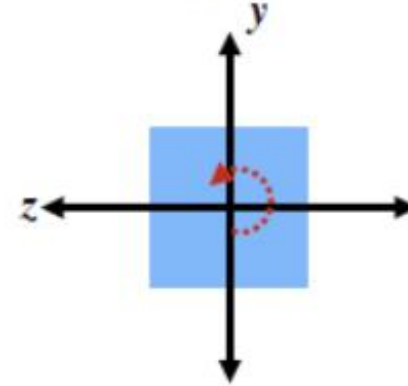
$$R_{x,\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$



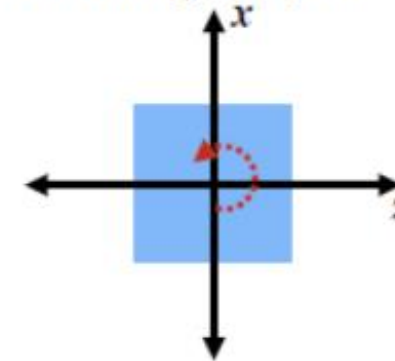
**Rotation about y axis:**

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

View looking down -x axis:

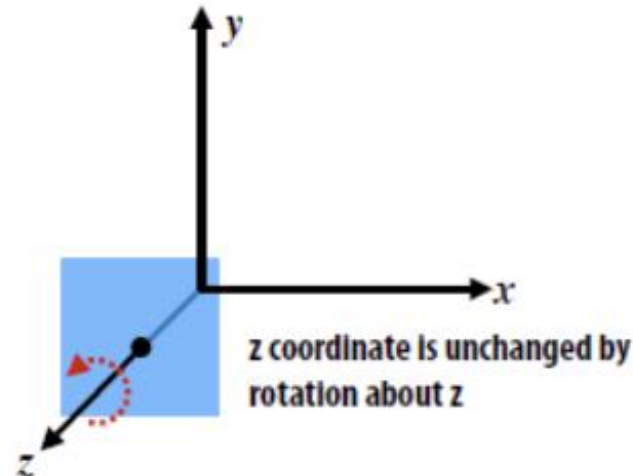


View looking down -y axis:



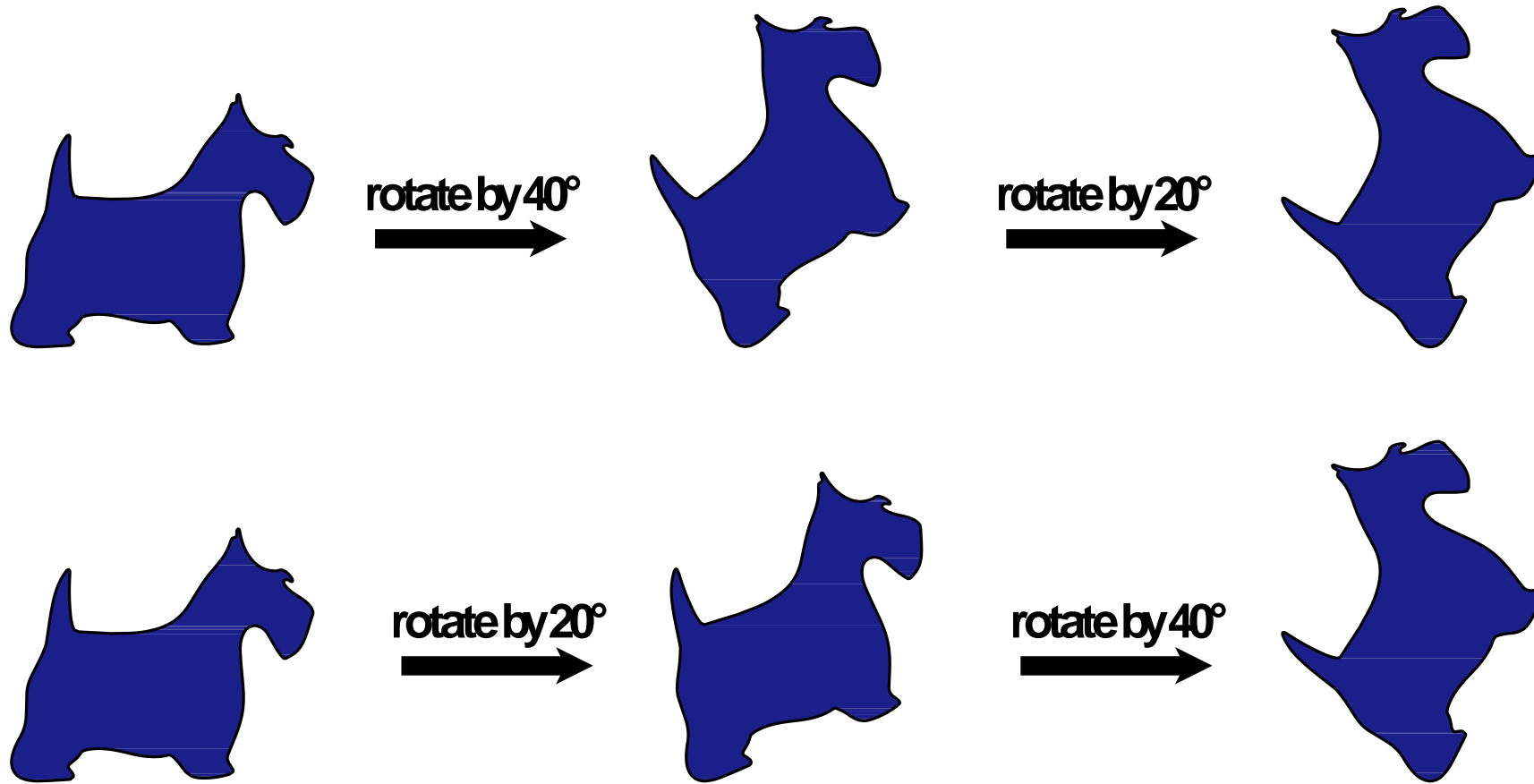
**Rotation about z axis:**

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



# Commutativity of Rotations—2D

- In 2D, order of rotations doesn't matter:



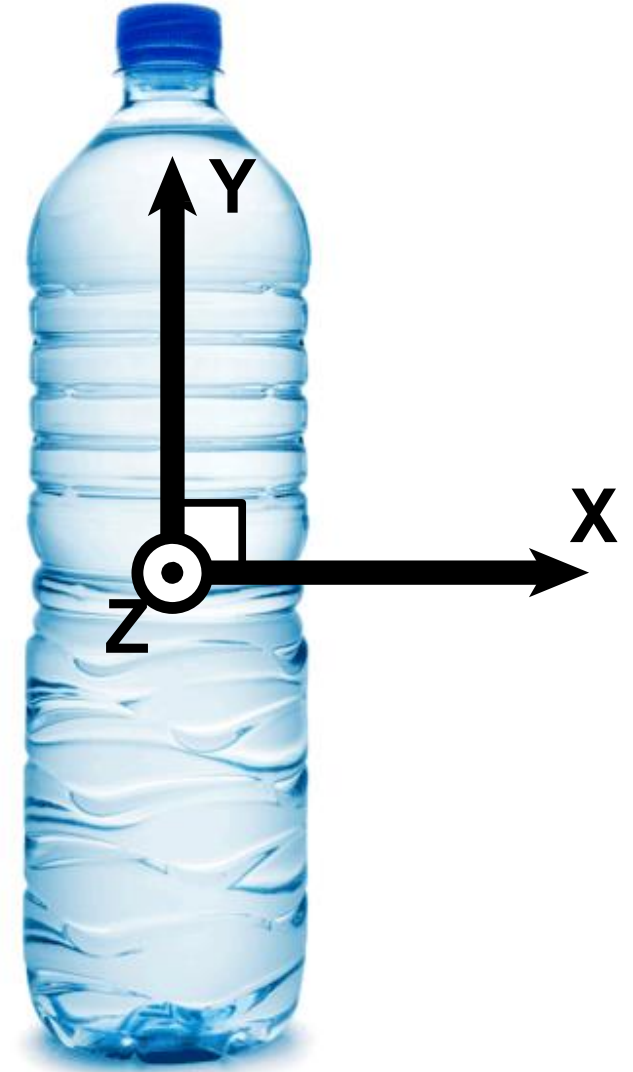
Same result! 2D rotations commute

# Commutativity of Rotations—3D

- What about in 3D?
- **IN-CLASS ACTIVITY:**
  - Rotate  $90^\circ$  around Y, then  $90^\circ$  around Z, then  $90^\circ$  around X
  - Rotate  $90^\circ$  around Z, then  $90^\circ$  around Y, then  $90^\circ$  around X
  - (Was there any difference?)



CONCLUSION: bad things can happen if we're not careful about the order in which we apply rotations!





# Recall: Rotation

So, what happens to vectors  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$  after rotation by  $\theta$ ?

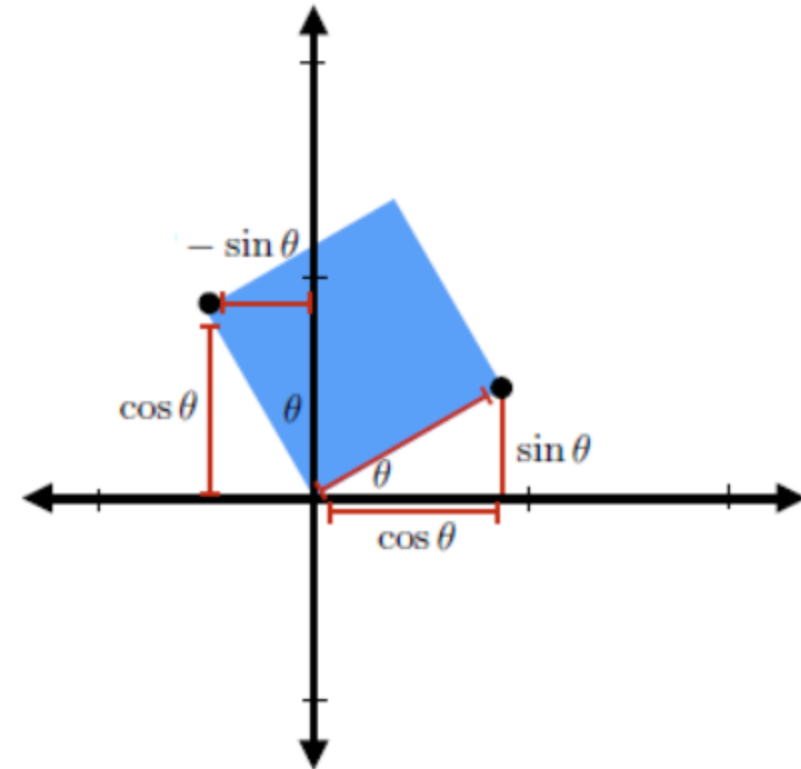
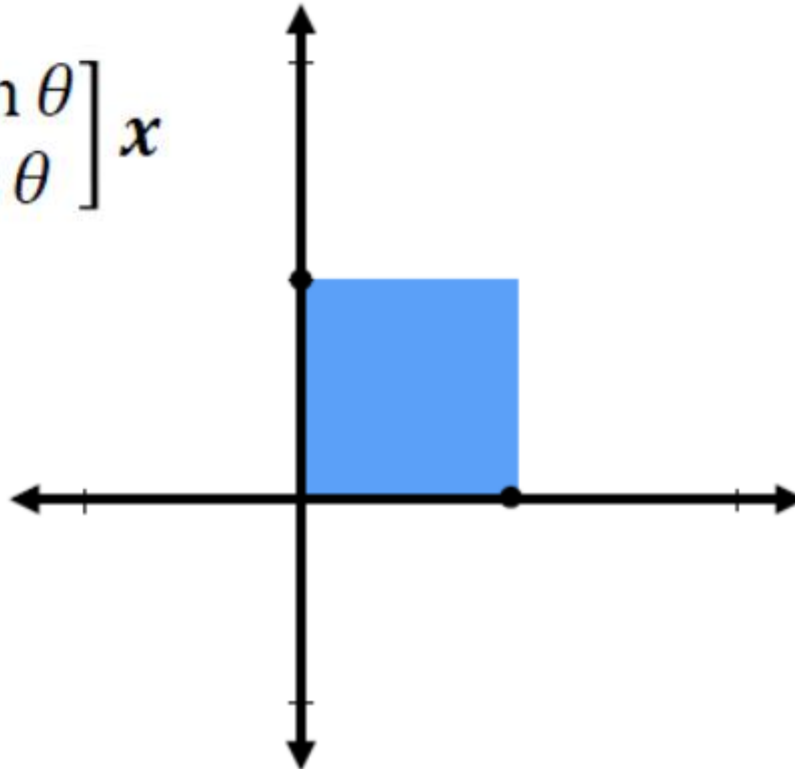
## Rotation

$$R_\theta(\mathbf{e}_1) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta) = \mathbf{a}_1$$

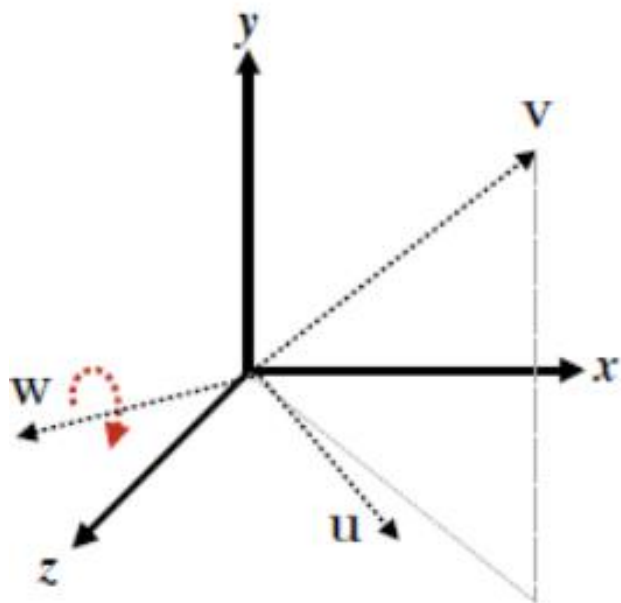
$$R_\theta(\mathbf{e}_2) = (-\sin \theta, \cos \theta) = \mathbf{a}_2$$

$$R_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{a}_2$$

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



# Rotation about an arbitrary axis



To rotate by  $\theta$  about  $w$ :

1. Form orthonormal basis around  $w$  (see  $u$  and  $v$  in figure)
2. Rotate to map  $w$  to  $[0\ 0\ 1]$  (change in coordinate space)

$$R_{uvw} = \begin{bmatrix} u_x & u_y & u_z \\ v_x & v_y & v_z \\ w_x & w_y & w_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{uvw} u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{uvw} v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_{uvw} w = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Perform rotation about  $z$ :  $R_{z,\theta}$

4. Rotate back to original coordinate space:  $R_{uvw}^T$

$$R_{uvw}^{-1} = R_{uvw}^T = \begin{bmatrix} u_x & v_x & w_x \\ u_y & v_y & w_y \\ u_z & v_z & w_z \end{bmatrix}$$

---

$$R_{w,\theta} = R_{uvw}^T R_{z,\theta} R_{uvw}$$

# Rotation from Axis/Angle

- **Alternatively, there is a general expression for a matrix that performs a rotation around a given axis  $u$  by a given angle  $\theta$ :**

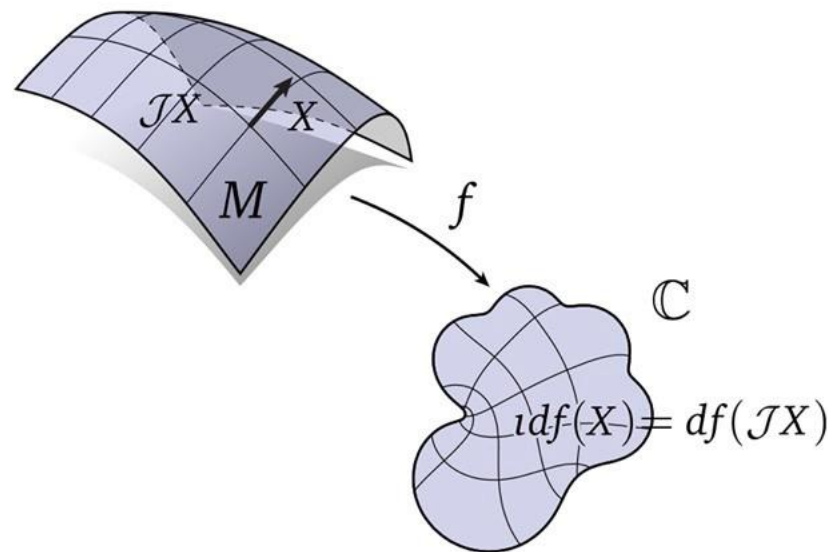
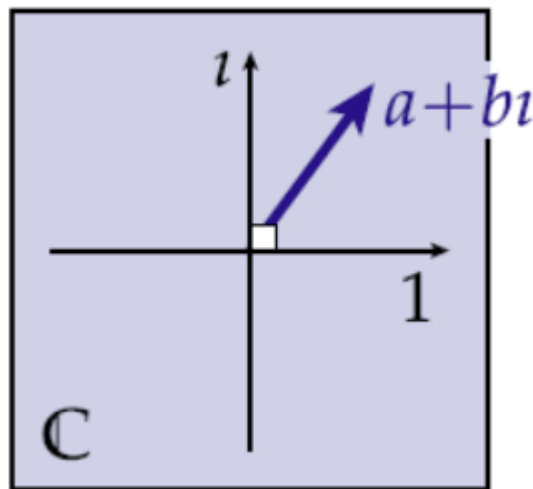
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta + u_x^2 (1 - \cos \theta) & u_x u_y (1 - \cos \theta) - u_z \sin \theta & u_x u_z (1 - \cos \theta) + u_y \sin \theta \\ u_y u_x (1 - \cos \theta) + u_z \sin \theta & \cos \theta + u_y^2 (1 - \cos \theta) & u_y u_z (1 - \cos \theta) - u_x \sin \theta \\ u_z u_x (1 - \cos \theta) - u_y \sin \theta & u_z u_y (1 - \cos \theta) + u_x \sin \theta & \cos \theta + u_z^2 (1 - \cos \theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

Just memorize this matrix! :-)

...we'll see a different way, later on.

# Complex Analysis—Motivation

- **Natural** way to encode geometric transformations in 2D, 3D
- **Simplifies** notation / thinking / debugging
- *Moderate* **reduction** in computational cost/bandwidth/storage
- Fluency with complex analysis can lead into **deeper/novel solutions** to problems...



**DON'T:** Think of these numbers as  
“complex.”

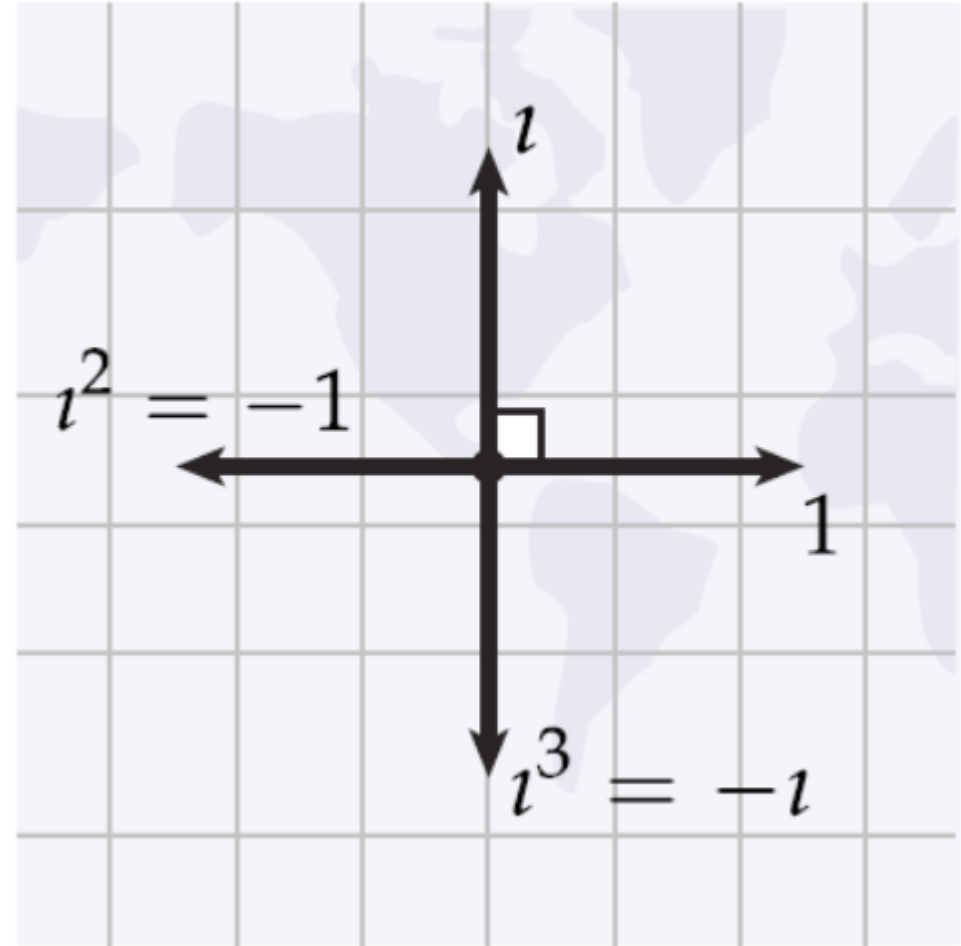
**DO:** Imagine we're simply defining  
additional operations (like dot and cross).

\*A bit of an oversimplification, but go with it for now!

# Imaginary Unit—Geometric Description

$$\cancel{i := \sqrt{-1}}$$

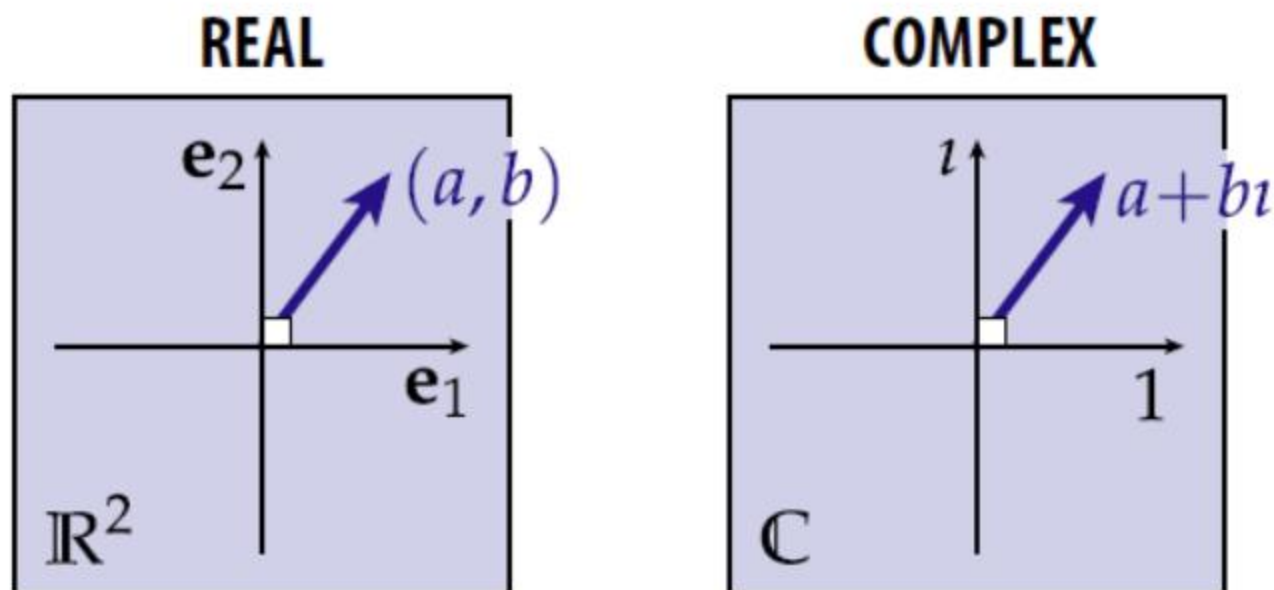
*nonsense!*



Symbol  $i$  denotes quarter-turn in the counter-clockwise direction.

# Complex Numbers

- Complex numbers are then just 2-vectors
- Instead of  $e_1, e_2$ , use "1" and "i" to denote the two bases
- Otherwise, behaves exactly like a real 2-dimensional space

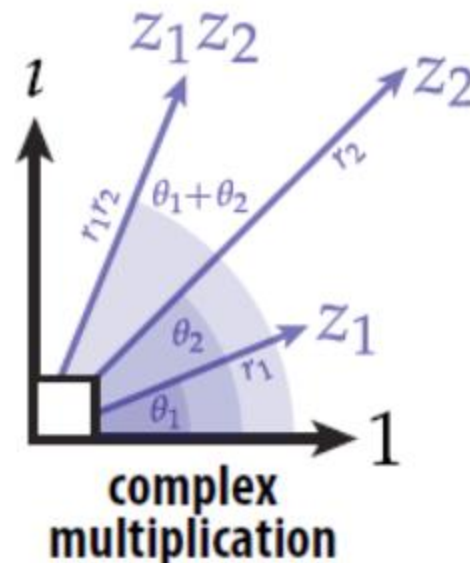
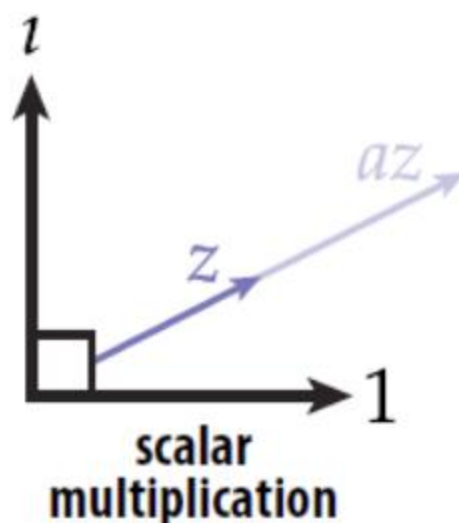
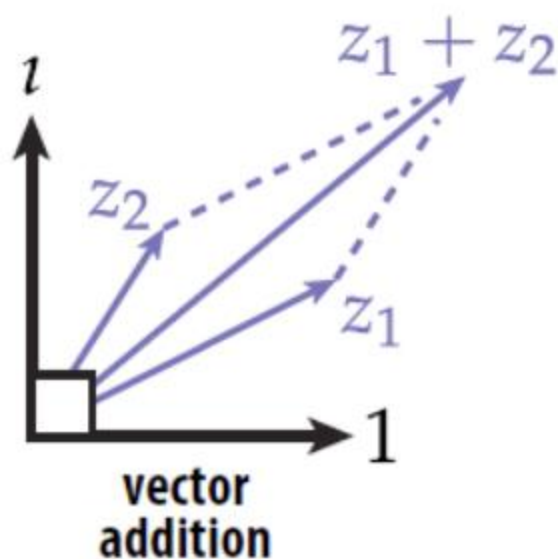


- ...except that we're going to define a useful new notion of the product between two vectors.



# Complex Arithmetic

- Same operations as before, plus one more:



- Complex multiplication:

- angles *add*
- magnitudes *multiply*

"POLAR FORM"\*:

$$z_1 := (r_1, \theta_1)$$

$$z_2 := (r_2, \theta_2)$$

$$z_1 z_2 = (r_1 r_2, \theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

have to be more careful here!



\*Not really now it works, but useful geometric intuition.



# Complex Product—Polar Form

- Perhaps most beautiful identity in math:

$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

- Specialization of *Euler's formula*:

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos(\theta) + i \sin(\theta)$$

- Can use to “implement” complex product:

$$z_1 = ae^{i\theta}, \quad z_2 = be^{i\phi}$$

$$z_1 z_2 = abe^{i(\theta + \phi)}$$

(as with real exponentiation, exponents *add*)



**Leonhard Euler**  
(1707–1783)

- Most prolific mathematician of all time
- Opera Omnia—1 vol./yr. starting 1911
- Still going! Now ~75 vols., 25k pages
- 228 papers posthumously
- Many later works while blind
- (Work was also *good*...)

[source: William Dunham]

**Q: How does this operation differ from our earlier, “fake” polar multiplication?**

# 2D Rotations: Matrices vs. Complex

- Suppose we want to rotate a vector  $u$  by an angle  $\theta$ , then by an angle  $\phi$ .

REAL / RECTANGULAR	COMPLEX / POLAR
$u = (x, y)$ $A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$ $B = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$	$u = re^{i\alpha}$ $a = e^{i\theta}$ $b = e^{i\phi}$
$Au = \begin{bmatrix} x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \\ x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$	$abu = re^{i(\alpha + \theta + \phi)}.$
$BAu = \begin{bmatrix} (x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta) \cos \phi - (x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta) \sin \phi \\ (x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta) \sin \phi + (x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta) \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}$	<p>Or if we want rectangular coords:</p>
$= \dots \text{some trigonometry} \dots =$	
$BAu = \begin{bmatrix} x \cos(\theta + \phi) - y \sin(\theta + \phi) \\ x \sin(\theta + \phi) + y \cos(\theta + \phi) \end{bmatrix}.$	$= r \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\alpha + \theta + \phi) \\ \sin(\alpha + \theta + \phi) \end{bmatrix}$
<p>(...and simplification is not always this obvious.)</p>	

## **Pervasive theme in graphics:**

**Sure, there are often many  
“equivalent” representations.**

**...But why not choose the one  
that makes life easiest\*?**

**\*Or most efficient, or most accurate...**

# Quaternions

- TLDR: Kind of like complex numbers but for 3D rotations
- Weird situation: can't do 3D rotations w/ only 3 components!



William Rowan Hamilton  
(1805-1865)




(Not Hamilton)

Here as he walked by  
on the 16th of October 1843  
Sir William Rowan Hamilton  
in a flash of genius discovered  
the fundamental formula for  
quaternion multiplication  
 $i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$   
& cut it on a stone of this bridge



# Quaternions in Coordinates

- Hamilton's insight: in order to do 3D rotations in a way that mimics complex numbers for 2D, actually need **FOUR** coords.
- One real, *three* imaginary:

  $\mathbb{H} := \text{span}(\{1, i, j, k\})$   
"H" is for *Hamilton*!  
 $q = a + bi + cj + dk \in \mathbb{H}$

- Quaternion product determined by

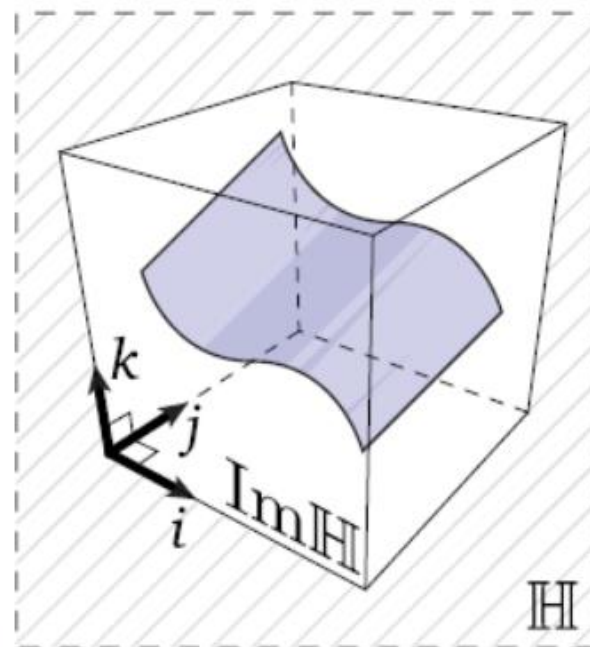
$$i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$$

together w/ "natural" rules (distributivity, associativity, etc.)

- **WARNING:** product no longer commutes!

$$\text{For } q, p \in \mathbb{H}, \quad qp \neq pq$$

(Will understand this *a lot* better when we study transformations.)



Noncommutativity  
of quaternion  
multiplication

$\times$	1	$i$	$j$	$k$
1	1	$i$	$j$	$k$
$i$	$i$	-1	$k$	$-j$
$j$	$j$	$-k$	-1	$i$
$k$	$k$	$j$	$-i$	-1

# Quaternion Product / Hamilton product

- Given two quaternions

$$q = a_1 + b_1i + c_1j + d_1k$$

$$p = a_2 + b_2i + c_2j + d_2k$$

- Can express their product as

$$\begin{aligned} qp = & a_1a_2 - b_1b_2 - c_1c_2 - d_1d_2 \\ & + (a_1b_2 + b_1a_2 + c_1d_2 - d_1c_2)i \\ & + (a_1c_2 - b_1d_2 + c_1a_2 + d_1b_2)j \\ & + (a_1d_2 + b_1c_2 - c_1b_2 + d_1a_2)k \end{aligned}$$

...fortunately there is a (much) nicer expression.

# Quaternions—Scalar + Vector Form

- If we have *four* components, how do we talk about pts in 3D?
- Natural idea: we have three imaginary parts—why not use these to encode 3D vectors?

$$(x, y, z) \mapsto 0 + xi + yj + zk$$

- Alternatively, can think of a quaternion as a pair

$$\left( \underbrace{\text{scalar}}_{\mathbb{R}}, \underbrace{\text{vector}}_{\mathbb{R}^3} \right) \in \mathbb{H}$$

- Quaternion product then has simple(r) form:

$$(a, \mathbf{u})(b, \mathbf{v}) = (ab - \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}, a\mathbf{v} + b\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v})$$

- For vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , gets even simpler:

$$\mathbf{u}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

# Conjugation & Norm

To define it, let  $q = a + bi + cj + dk$  be a quaternion. The **conjugate** of  $q$  is the quaternion  $q^* = a - bi - cj - dk$ . It is denoted by  $q^*$ ,  $\overline{q}$ ,<sup>[6]</sup>  $q^t$ , or  $\tilde{q}$ .

Conjugation is an [involution](#), meaning **that it is its own inverse**, so conjugating an element twice returns the original element.

$$\|q\| = \sqrt{qq^*} = \sqrt{q^*q} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2}$$

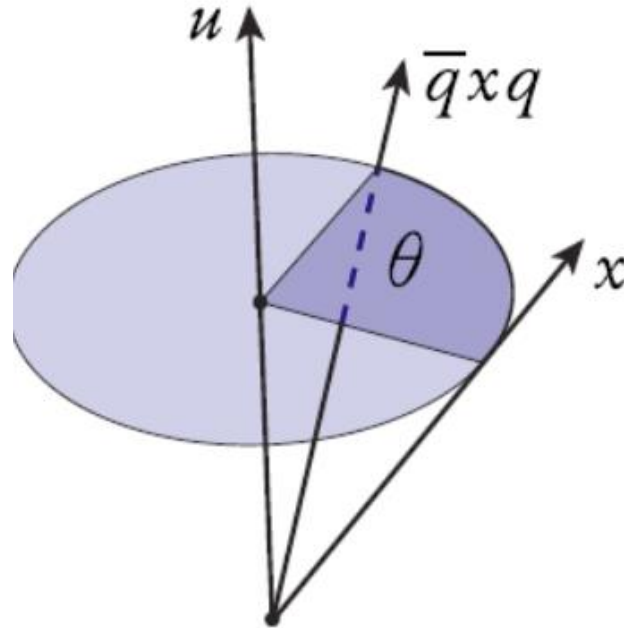


# 3D Transformations via Quaternions

- Main use for quaternions in graphics? *Rotations*.
- Consider vector  $x$  (“pure imaginary”) and *unit* quaternion  $q$ :

$$x \in \text{Im}(\mathbb{H})$$

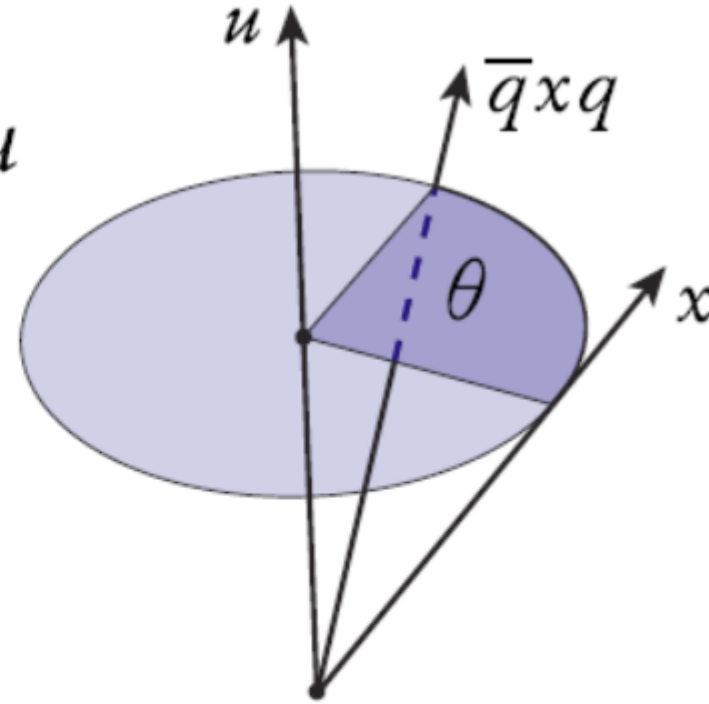
$$q \in \mathbb{H}, \quad |q|^2 = 1$$



# Rotation from Axis/Angle, Revisited

- Given axis  $u$ , angle  $\theta$ , quaternion  $q$  representing rotation is

$$q = \cos(\theta/2) + \sin(\theta/2)u$$

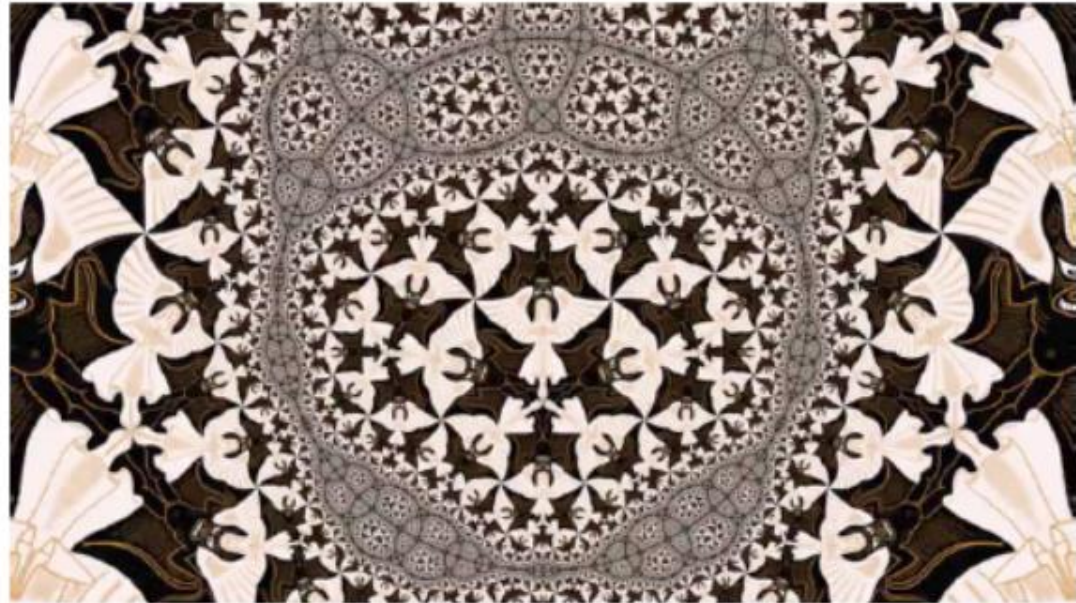
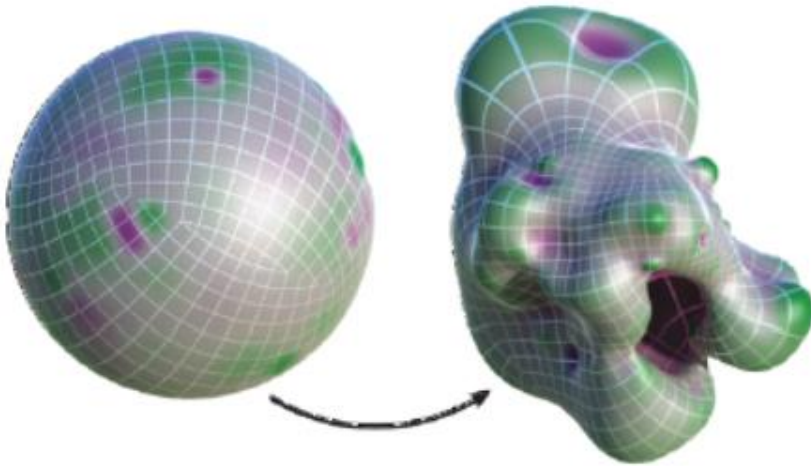
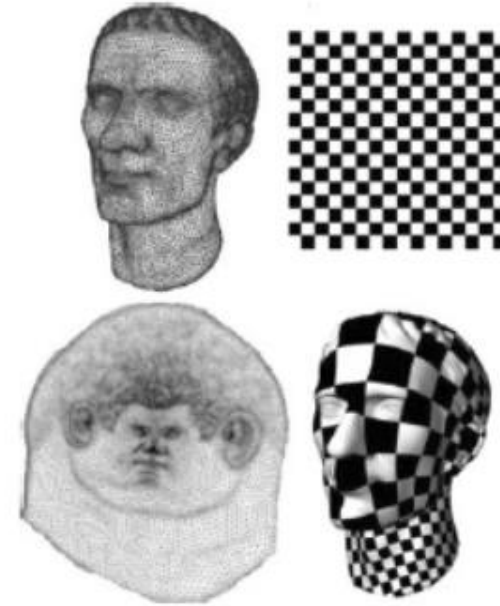
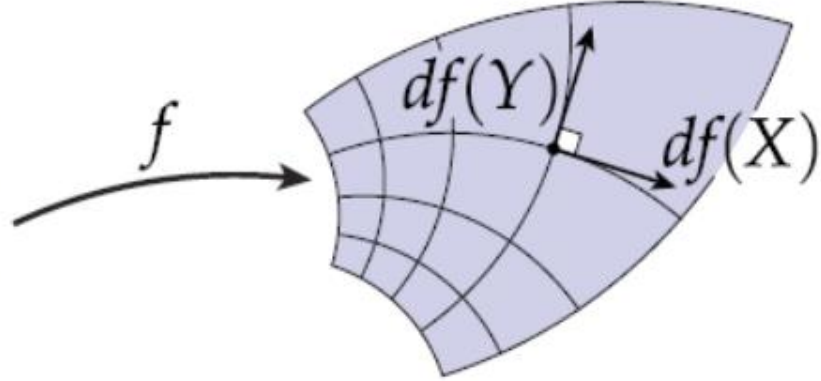
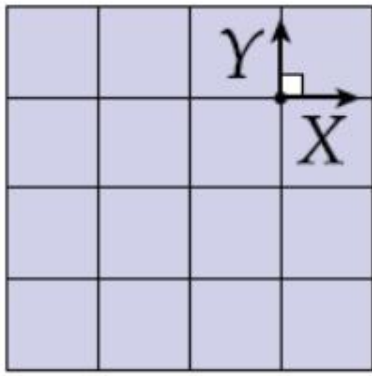


■ **Slightly easier to remember (and manipulate) than matrix:**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta + u_x^2 (1 - \cos \theta) & u_x u_y (1 - \cos \theta) - u_z \sin \theta & u_x u_z (1 - \cos \theta) + u_y \sin \theta \\ u_y u_x (1 - \cos \theta) + u_z \sin \theta & \cos \theta + u_y^2 (1 - \cos \theta) & u_y u_z (1 - \cos \theta) - u_x \sin \theta \\ u_z u_x (1 - \cos \theta) - u_y \sin \theta & u_z u_y (1 - \cos \theta) + u_x \sin \theta & \cos \theta + u_z^2 (1 - \cos \theta) \end{bmatrix}$$

**Where else are (hyper-)complex numbers  
useful in computer graphics?**

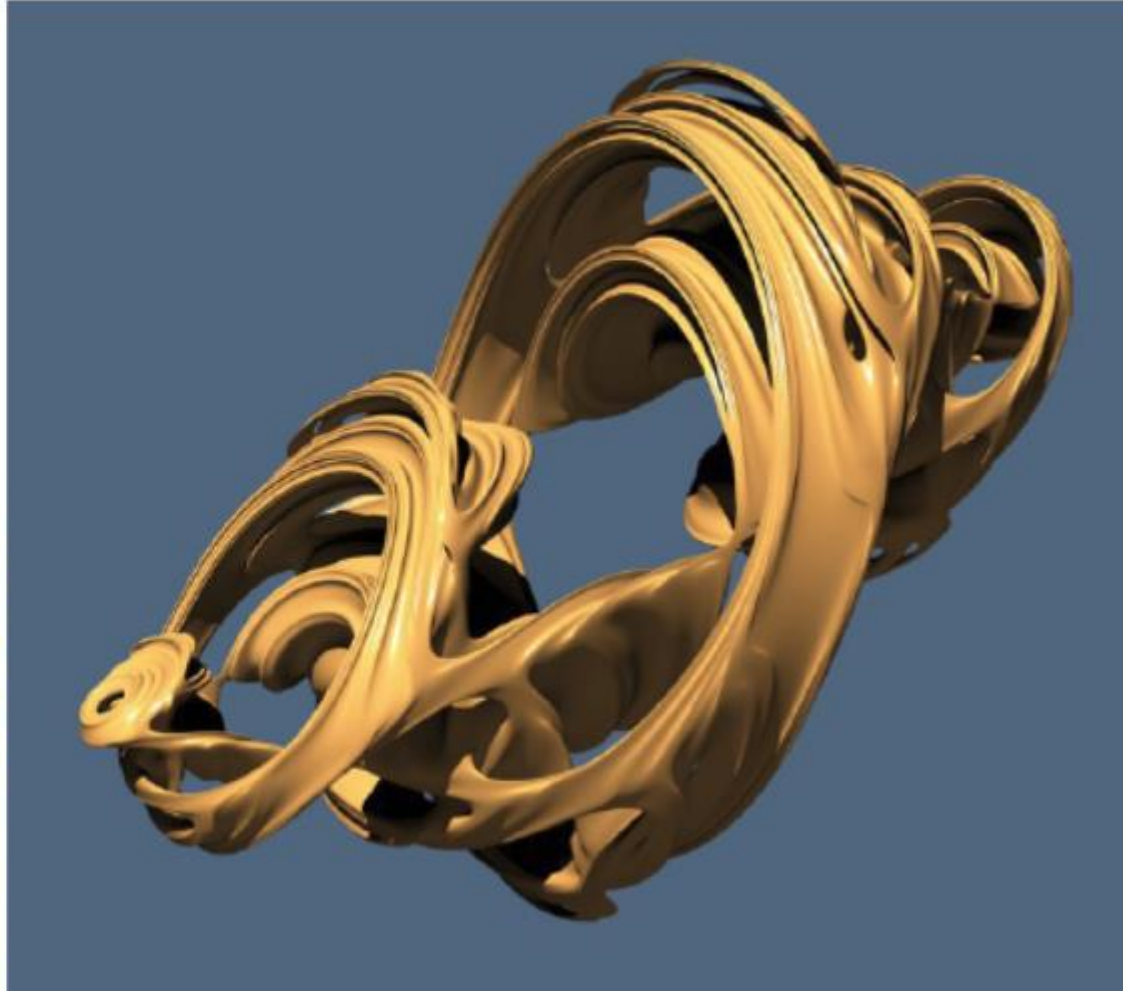
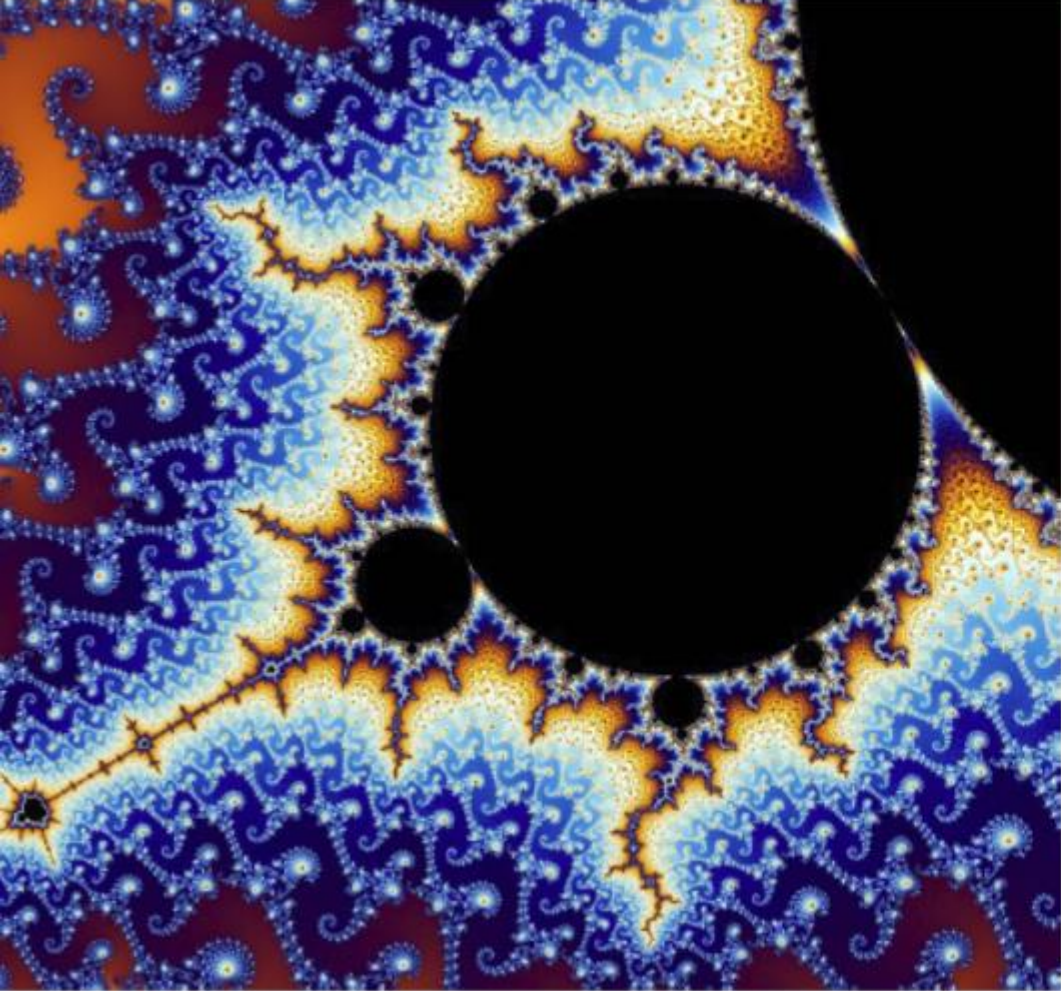
# Complex #s: Language of *Conformal Maps*





# Useless-But-Beautiful Example: Fractals

- Defined in terms of iteration on (hyper)complex numbers:



**Thanks**