

6.1 Linear Transformation and matrices

Definition:

Let V and W be two vector spaces. There is a function

$L: V \rightarrow W$ is called a linear transformation if

a. $L(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = L(\vec{u}) + L(\vec{v})$ For every \vec{u} and $\vec{v} \in V$

b. $L(c \cdot \vec{u}) = c \cdot L(\vec{u})$ For every $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\vec{u} \in V$

$V=W \rightarrow L$ is a linear operator.

Examples

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and $W = \mathbb{R}^2$

Define $L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_3 \\ x_2 - x_3 \end{bmatrix}$

is L a linear transformation.

$$L\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L\left(\begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 9 \\ 25 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 41 \\ -16 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad L(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = L\left(\begin{bmatrix} u_1 + v_1 \\ u_2 + v_2 \\ u_3 + v_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 + v_1 + u_3 + v_3 \\ u_2 + v_2 - u_3 - v_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(\vec{u}) + L(\vec{v}) &= L\left(\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) + L\left(\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 + u_3 \\ u_2 - u_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_1 + v_3 \\ v_2 - v_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 + u_3 + v_1 + v_3 \\ u_2 - u_3 + v_2 - v_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= L(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \end{aligned}$$

$$L(c\vec{u}) = L\left(\begin{bmatrix} cu_1 \\ cu_2 \\ cu_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} cu_1 + cu_3 \\ cu_2 - cu_3 \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} u_1 + u_3 \\ u_2 - u_3 \end{bmatrix} = c \cdot L\left(\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = c \cdot L(\vec{u})$$

Therefore, L is a linear transformation.

Example: $V = \mathbb{R}^2$, $W = \mathbb{R}^2$

Define $L: V \rightarrow W$ by $L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Is L a linear transformation?

Let $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$L(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = L\left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 + 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 11 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$L(\vec{u}) + L(\vec{v}) = L\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) + L\left(\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq L(\vec{u} + \vec{v})$$

L fails rule (a), so it is not a linear transformation.

Example:

Let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by $T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = x_1 + 3x_2$

is T a linear transformation? **No.**

$$T(2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}) = T \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = 4 + 6 = 10$$

$$2T \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 8 \neq T(2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix})$$

T fails (b), not a linear transformation.

$$T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix

$$T(\vec{u}) = A \vec{u}$$

$m \times n$ $n \times 1$

$$T(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = A(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = A\vec{u} + A\vec{v} = T(\vec{u}) + T(\vec{v}) \quad \checkmark \quad (a)$$

$$T(c\vec{u}) = A(c\vec{u}) = cA\vec{u} = cT(\vec{u}) \quad \checkmark \quad (b)$$

T is a linear transformation

Theorem

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

$$a. L[\vec{0}_V] = \vec{0}_W$$

$$b. L(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) = L(\vec{u}) - L(\vec{v})$$

Proof

(a) let $\vec{v} \in V$

$$L(\vec{0} \cdot \vec{v}) = 0 \cdot L(\vec{v})$$

$$\stackrel{||}{L(\vec{0}_V)} = \stackrel{||}{\vec{0}_W}$$

(b) $L(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) = L(\vec{u} + (-1)\vec{v})$

$$= L(\vec{u}) + L(-1\vec{v})$$

$$= L(\vec{u}) + (-1)L(\vec{v})$$

$$= L(\vec{u}) - L(\vec{v})$$

Other examples

① $V = P_n$ (polynomials of degree $\leq n$) $T: P_n \rightarrow P_n$

multiplication by other polynomials

② $V =$ space of differentiable functions $\frac{d}{dx}: V \rightarrow W$

derivatives

(Things in W may not be differentiable)

③ $V = C[a, b]$ (integrable functions on $[a, b]$)

$T: C[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

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

Theorem

Let $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a linear transformation and

consider the basis $\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ of \mathbb{R}^n

let A be the $m \times n$ matrix whose columns are $L(\vec{e}_1), L(\vec{e}_2), \dots, L(\vec{e}_n)$

The matrix A has the property that

$$L(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} \quad \forall \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$