

Warmup in  $F^2$ , provisionally define:

a reflection to be a lin op that sends  
 $e_1, e_2$  mapsto  $e_1, -e_2$   
for some basis  $e_1, e_2$

a shear to be a lin op that sends  
 $e_1, e_2$  mapsto  $e_1, e_1 + be_2$   
for some basis  $e_1, e_2$

e.g.,

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is a shear matrix that is not  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Q reflection matrix that is not diagonal?  
shear matrix that is not triangular?

take  $e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   $e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

graphing shows:  $e_1, e_2$  mapsto  $e_1, -e_2$

yields  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in the std basis

Ex  $M = \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 & -3/2 \\ 3/2 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$  is a shear matrix  
wrt  $e_1, e_2$

$Me_1 = e_1$  and

$M$  sends  $e_2$  to  $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Idea have: qualitative defns of geometric ops  
 and examples given by matrices  
 want: matrix-independent defns

Q how to formalize “matrix-independent”?

fix linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$

$(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  ordered basis of  $V$ ,  
 $(w_1, \dots, w_m)$  ordered basis of  $W$   
 $M$  matrix of  $T$  wrt  $(v_i)_i, (w_j)_j$

$(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  another ordered basis of  $V$ ,  
 $(f_1, \dots, f_m)$  another ordered basis of  $W$   
 matrix of  $T$  wrt  $(e_i)_i, (f_j)_j$ ? in terms of  $M$ ?

	$\text{id}_V$		$T$		$\text{id}_W$
$V$	to	$V$	to	$W$	to $W$
$e_i$		$v_i$		$w_j$	$f_j$

let  $A$  be the matrix of  $\text{id}_V$  “from  $e_i$  to  $v_i$ ”  
 $B$   $\text{id}_W$  “from  $w_j$  to  $f_j$ ”

$A, B$  are invertible [since they represent iso’s]  
 the matrix of  $T$  wrt  $(e_i)_i, (f_j)_j$  is  $B \cdot M \cdot A$

possibly confusing:  
 $i$ th col of  $A$  expresses  $e_i$  as  $\sum_j A_{\{k, i\}} v_k$   
 $j$ th col of  $B$   $w_j$  as  $\sum_\ell B_{\{\ell, j\}} f_\ell$

[ $\text{id}_V$  sends  $e_i$  to  $e_i$ ;  $\text{id}_W$  sends  $w_j$  to  $w_j$ ]

suppose  $W = V$ ,  
 $(w_j)_j = (v_i)_i$ ,  
 $(f_j)_j = (e_i)_i$

here  $T$  is a linear op on  $V$ ,  
 $M$  is its matrix “from  $(v_i)_i$  to  $(v_i)_i$ ”

$A$  is the matrix of the id map “from  $e_i$  to  $v_i$ ”

$B$  is the matrix of the id map “from  $v_i$  to  $e_i$ ”

so  $A = B^{-1}$

Thm if  $M$  is the matrix of a lin op  $T : V$  to  $V$   
wrt a basis  $(v_i)_i$  for  $V$ ,  
then  $BMB^{-1}$  is its matrix  
wrt another basis  $(e_i)_i$   
where  $v_j = \sum_i B_{\{j, i\}} e_i$

Rem general case  $T : V$  to  $W$  also useful,  
but the statement is cumbersome –  
easier to rederive from picture of maps

Ex  $V = \{p \text{ in } F[x] \mid p = 0 \text{ or } \deg p \leq 3\}$   
 $T(p) = dp/dx$   
 $(v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) = (1, x, x^2, x^3)$   
 $(e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4) = (1, x, x^2/2, x^3/6)$

$M =$	0	1	0	0	$B =$	1	0	0	0
	0	0	2	0		0	1	0	0
	0	0	0	3		0	0	2	0
	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	6

[compute  $B^{-1}$ ]

[compute  $BMB^{-1}$ ]

Df matrices  $M, N$  are conjugate\* iff,  
for some matrix  $P$ ,  
 $P \cdot M \cdot P^{-1}$  is well-defined,  
equals  $N$

\* also say “ $M$  and  $N$  are conjugates of each other”

Rem almost always, we only use this notion  
in the context where  $M, N$  are square

Df a property of  $M$  is conjugation-invariant  
iff it is the same for all conjugates of  $M$

Cor if  $M$  is the matrix of a lin op  $T$ ,  
then any property of  $T$  is  
a conjugation-invariant property of  $M$

and conversely!  
any conjugation-invariant property of  $M$   
only depends on  $T$

Ex entries of  $M$  are not conj-invariant

what are the conj-invariant functions  $\text{Mat}_2$  to  $F$ ?

for a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $M = \begin{pmatrix} P & Q \\ R & S \end{pmatrix}$

$\text{tr}(M) = P + S$  and  $\det(M) = PS - QR$  are invariant  
[any others?]

Thm any invariant poly of the coord fns  
on  $\text{Mat}_2$  must be a poly in  $\text{tr}$  and  $\det$

why this is hard:

$$\begin{array}{cc|cc|cc} a & b & P & Q & d & -b \\ c & d & R & S & -c & a \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc|cc} aP + bR & aQ + bS & d & -b \\ cP + dR & cQ + dS & -c & a \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} adP + bdR - acQ - bcS \\ -abP - bbR + aaQ + bbS \\ cdP + ddR - ccQ - cdS \\ -bcP - bdR + acQ + adS \end{array}$$

...we will give a better proof later

Ex fix an integer  $k > 0$

the property  $(M^k = 0_n)$  is conj-invariant  
because

$$(BMB^{(-1)})^k = BM^k B^{(-1)} = 0_n$$

corresponds to having  $T \circ \dots \circ T = \text{zero}$   
where  $T$  is iterated  $k$  times

Ex since nilpotence is conj-invariant,  
unipotence is conj-invariant:

$$\begin{aligned} B(I_n + M)B^{(-1)} &= BI_n B^{(-1)} + BMB^{(-1)} \\ &= I_n + BMB^{(-1)} \end{aligned}$$

above, used the left & right distributive properties  
for matrix multiplication

Ex        for fixed  $k > 0$ ,  
             the property  $M^k = I_n$  is conj-invariant

$M$  is called an involution iff  $M^2 = I_n$

Rem       reflections are involutions

observe that for any  $n$ ,  
conjugacy is an equivalence relation on  $\text{Mat}_n$

Df        the conjugacy classes of  $\text{Mat}_n$  are  
             the equivalence classes for conjugacy