

GEOMETRY OF MATRICES → LINEAR TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE PLANE

\mathbb{R}^2 denotes the xy-plane



A point P can be represented by a pair of real numbers (x, y)

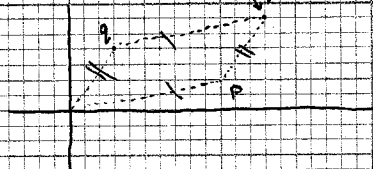
A transformation of the plane is a function

$$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

which inputs a point $P = (x, y)$, and outputs a point $T(P) = T(x, y)$

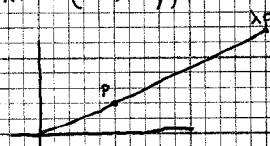
We can add two points $p(x, y)$ and $q(x', y')$ using matrix addition.

$$p + q = (x + x', y + y')$$



We can multiply a point $p(x, y)$ by a scalar $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, using scalar multiplication of matrices

$$\lambda p = (\lambda x, \lambda y)$$



DEFINITION:

A transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is said to be linear if:

$$1) T(p + q) = T(p) + T(q)$$

$$2) T(\lambda p) = \lambda \cdot T(p)$$

for all $p, q \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Example:

Consider the transformation

$$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto (2x + 4y, 6x + 8y)$$

For instance

$$T(1, 2) = (10, 22)$$

$$T(-1, 2) = (6, 10)$$

Is T linear?

Consider $p(x, y)$ and $q(x', y')$

$$T(p + q) = T(x + x', y + y')$$

$$= (2(x + x') + 4(y + y'), 6(x + x') + 8(y + y'))$$

$$= ((2x + 4y) + (2x' + 4y'), (6x + 8y) + (6x' + 8y'))$$

$$= (2x + 4y, 6x + 8y) + (2x' + 4y', 6x' + 8y') \quad // \text{write as the sum of two points}$$

$$= T(p) + T(q)$$

← condition 1 proven

Consider $T(\lambda p) = T(\lambda x, \lambda y)$

$$= (2\lambda x + 4\lambda y, 6\lambda x + 8\lambda y)$$

$$= \lambda (2x + 4y, 6x + 8y)$$

// scalar multiplication of matrices

$$= \lambda T(p)$$

← condition 2 proven

Therefore, T is linear.

Consider

$$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto (x^2, y^2)$$

$$T(1, -3) = (1, 9)$$

is T linear?

if you want to prove that something is linear, you need to prove for arbitrary points.
if you want to disprove, you just need one counterexample.

Consider

$$p = (5, 7)$$

$$T(\lambda p) = T(10, 14) = (100, 196)$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$\lambda T(p) = 2(25, 49) = (50, 98)$$

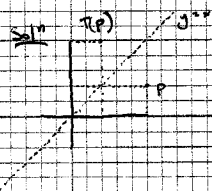
$$(100, 196) \neq (50, 98)$$

$$T(\lambda p) \neq \lambda T(p) \Rightarrow T \text{ is not linear.}$$

Example

let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be the transformation of the plane, reflecting in a line $y = x$.

is T linear?



$$p = (x, y)$$

$$T(p) = (y, x)$$

linear?

Consider two points $p, q = (x, y), (x', y')$

$$T(p+q) = T(x+x', y+y')$$

$$= (y+y', x+x')$$

$$= (y, x) + (y', x')$$

$$= T(p) + T(q) \quad \checkmark$$

$$T(\lambda p) = T(\lambda x, \lambda y)$$

$$= (\lambda y, \lambda x)$$

$$= \lambda(y, x)$$

$$= \lambda T(p) \quad \checkmark$$

linear