

2.2 Linear Transformation in Geometry

Example. 1 Consider a linear transformation system $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$ from R^n to R^m .

a. $T(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = T(\vec{v}) + T(\vec{w})$

In words, the transformation of the sum of two vectors equals the sum of the transformation.

b. $T(k\vec{v}) = kT(\vec{v})$

In words, the transformation of a scalar multiple of a vector is the scalar multiple of the transform.

See Figure 1 (pp.50).

Fact A transformation T from R^n to R^m is linear iff

a. $T(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = T(\vec{v}) + T(\vec{w})$, for all \vec{v}, \vec{w} in R^n , and

b. $T(k\vec{v}) = kT(\vec{v})$, for all \vec{v} in R^n and all scalars k .

Proof

Idea: To prove the converse, we must show a matrix A such that $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$. Consider a transformation T from R^n to R^m that satisfy (a) and (b), find A .

Example. 2 Consider a linear transformation T from \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^2 . The vectors $T\vec{e}_1$ and $T\vec{e}_2$ are sketched in Figure 2. Sketch the **image** of the unit square under this transformation.

See Figure 2. (pp. 51)

Example. 3 Consider a linear transformation T from \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^2 such that $T(\vec{v}_1) = \frac{1}{2}\vec{v}_1$ and $T(\vec{v}_2) = 2\vec{v}_2$, for the vectors \vec{v}_1 and \vec{v}_2 in Figure 5. On the same axes, sketch $T(\vec{x})$, for the given vector \vec{x} .

See Figure 5. (pp. 52)

[Rotation]

Example. 4 Let T be the counterclockwise rotation through an angle α .

a. Draw sketches to illustrate that T is a linear transformation.

b. Find the matrix of T .

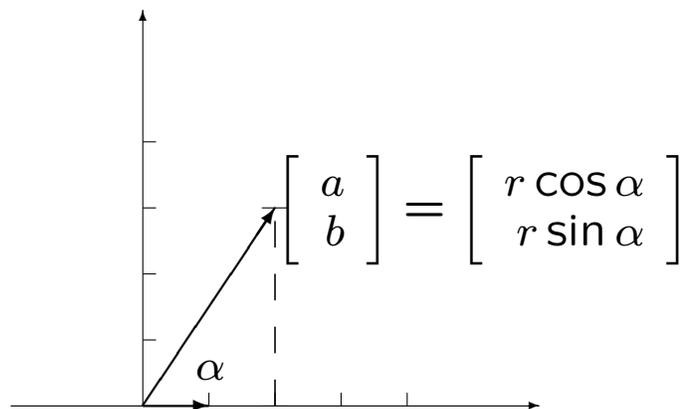
Example. 5 Give a geometric interpretation of the linear transformation.

$$T(\vec{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

Rotation-dilations A matrix with this form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

denotes a counterclockwise rotation through the angle α followed by a dilation by the factor r where $\tan(\alpha) = \frac{b}{a}$ and $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$. Geometrically,



[Shears]

Example. 6 Consider the linear transformation

$$T(\vec{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

To understand this transformation, sketch the image of the **unit square**.

Solution The transformation $T(\vec{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$ is called a *shear* parallel to the x_1 -axis.

Definition. Shear Let L be a line in \mathbb{R}^2 . A linear transformation T from \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^2 is called a **shear parallel to L** if

a. $T(\vec{v}) = \vec{v}$, for all vectors \vec{v} on L , and

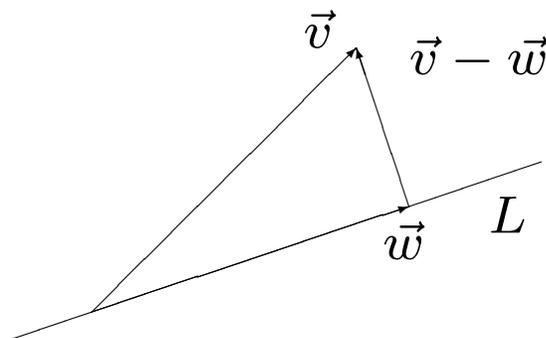
b. $T(\vec{x}) - \vec{x}$ is parallel to L for all vectors $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

Example. 7 Consider two perpendicular vectors \vec{u} and \vec{w} in \mathbb{R}^2 . Show that the transformation

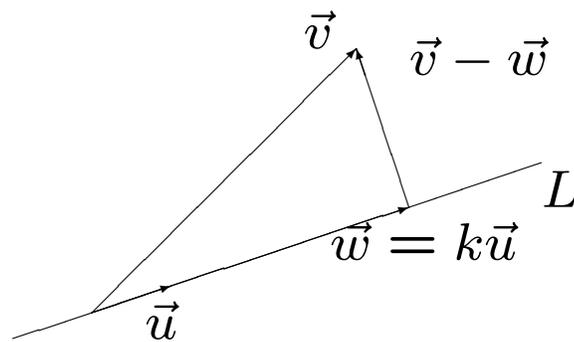
$$T(\vec{x}) = \vec{x} + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{x})\vec{w}$$

is a shear parallel to the line L spanned by \vec{w} .

Consider a line L in R^2 . For any vector \vec{v} in R^2 , there is a unique vector \vec{w} on L such that $\vec{v} - \vec{w}$ is perpendicular to L .



How can we generalize the idea of an orthogonal projection to lines in R^n ?



Definition. orthogonal projection Let L be a line in R^n consisting of all scalar multiples of some unit vector \vec{u} . For any vector \vec{v} in R^n there is a unique vector \vec{w} on L such that $\vec{v} - \vec{w}$ is perpendicular to L , namely, $\vec{w} = (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})\vec{u}$. This vector \vec{w} is called the **orthogonal projection** of \vec{v} onto L :

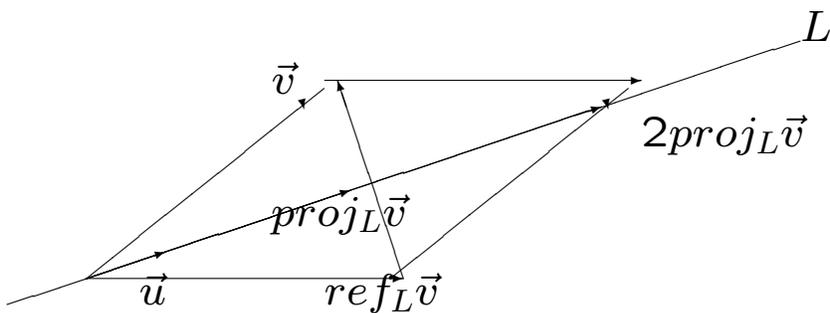
$$\text{proj}_L(\vec{v}) = (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})\vec{u}$$

The transformation proj_L from R^n to R^n is linear.

Definition. Let L be a line in \mathbb{R}^n , the vector $2(\text{proj}_L \vec{v}) - \vec{v}$ is called the **reflection** of \vec{v} in L :

$$\text{ref}_L(\vec{v}) = 2(\text{proj}_L \vec{v}) - \vec{v} = 2(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})\vec{u} - \vec{v}$$

where \vec{u} is a unit vector on L .



Homework. Exercise 2.2: 1, 9, 13, 17, 27