

Linear Transformation

A linear transformation is a function T defined on a vector space V with range in a vector space W satisfying the rules

$$(a) T(\mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2) = T(\mathbf{v}_1) + T(\mathbf{v}_2)$$

$$(b) T(k\mathbf{v}_1) = kT(\mathbf{v}_1).$$

Theorem 1 (Matrix of T)

Assume $V = R^n$ and $W = R^m$. Then T is represented as a matrix multiply

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$$

where A is the $n \times m$ matrix whose columns are given in terms of the identity matrix I and function T by the formula

$$\text{col}(A, j) = T(\text{col}(I, j)), \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

Definition: A basis of a vector space V is a set of vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ such that every vector \mathbf{v} in V can be uniquely written as a linear combination of $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$. Briefly, the vectors *span* V and are *independent*.

Theorem 2 (Representation of T)

Every basis $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$ of V gives a relation

$$T\left(\sum_{j=1}^n c_j \mathbf{v}_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n c_j \mathbf{w}_j, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{w}_j = T(\mathbf{v}_j).$$