

Lecture 19: §3.7 Linear Transformations from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m

GOAL: Study functions between (subspaces of) \mathbb{R}^n & \mathbb{R}^m that respect the vector space structure on both sides (that is, addition and scalar multiplication)

NOTE: Choice of coordinates for finite dimensional vector spaces V will allow us to extend the notion of linear maps to $F: V \rightarrow W$. $\dim V = n$, $\dim W = m$.

$V \cong \mathbb{R}^n$
 $W \cong \mathbb{R}^m$

coords $\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{R}^m$
 wrt fixed bases B_V & B_W

(We will see this in § 5.7, next time)

We start with examples: everything will boil down to one prototypical example, namely multiplication by a fixed $m \times n$ matrix

§1 Examples:

Ex 1 $F: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ($n=3, m=1$)

$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto x_1 + 5x_3$ (this is a linear expression in the unknowns x_1, x_2, x_3)
 $= x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 + 5 \cdot x_3$

We can realize it as multiplication by $A = [1 \ 0 \ 5]$ (1×3 matrix)

$F(\underline{x}) = A \cdot \underline{x} = [1 \ 0 \ 5] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$

Q What does "F is linear" mean?

(1) $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1+y_1 \\ x_2+y_2 \\ x_3+y_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = (x_1+y_1) + 5(x_3+y_3)$
 $= (x_1+5x_3) + (y_1+5y_3) = F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) + F\left(\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

So, the image of a sum of 2 vectors equals the sum of the image of these 2 vectors

(2) $F\left(\alpha \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha x_1 \\ \alpha x_2 \\ \alpha x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = (\alpha x_1) + 5(\alpha x_3) = \alpha(x_1 + 5x_3) = \alpha F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

So the image of a scaled vector is obtained by scaling the image of the vector.

Observation: We can restrict F to a line or a plane through the origin in \mathbb{R}^3 , and set 2 "new" functions $F_1 = F|_L : L \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $F_2 = F|_\Pi : \Pi \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (restriction to subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^3 = \text{domain of } F$)

How? • L line is the linear span of 1 nonzero vector \vec{v} (direction of L) $v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{So } F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F(\alpha \vec{v}) = \alpha F(\vec{v}) = \alpha (v_1 + 5v_3).$$

For example: $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (in L), so L is the x-axis in \mathbb{R}^3 . Then, $F(L)$ is the whole \mathbb{R} since $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \alpha$ & α is any real number.

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Again, } F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 2\alpha \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \alpha \text{ so } F(L) = \mathbb{R}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Now } F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 2\alpha \\ 3\alpha \end{bmatrix}\right) = \alpha + 15\alpha = 16\alpha \quad \text{Again, } F(L) = \mathbb{R}$$

• Π plane is the linear span of 2 l.i. vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , $v = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$, $u = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{So } F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left(\alpha \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F(\alpha \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{F \text{ linear}}) + F(\beta \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{F \text{ linear}})$$

$= \alpha F\left(\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \beta F\left(\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

These 2 vectors completely determine $F(\Pi)$

For example (a) $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\Pi = xy\text{-plane in } \mathbb{R}^3$
 $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \alpha = \alpha F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$
 \rightarrow in Π NOTE: $F(u) = 0$

Q What other vectors go to 0? Only need $\alpha = 0$, so only vectors mapping to 0 in \mathbb{R} are those on the y-axis (that is, scalar multiples of $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$)

(b) $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\Pi = xz\text{-plane in } \mathbb{R}^3$
 $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left(\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}\right) = \alpha + 5\beta = \alpha F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \beta F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$
 $= 1 \quad = 5$

Q: What vectors map to 0? Need $\alpha + 5\beta = 0$ so $\alpha = -5\beta$
in $xz\text{-plane}$ $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = -5\beta \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \beta \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

A The line L with direction $\begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ through the origin maps to 0 in \mathbb{R}
Nothing else maps to 0.

In both cases: $F(\Pi) = \mathbb{R} \quad \& \quad \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3 : F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = 0 \right\} = \text{a line through } (0,0,0) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3$

EX 2

We can get a linear function $G: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ by 2 linear

$$\text{functions } F_1: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{1st coordinate for } G) \quad \rightsquigarrow G(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} F_1(\underline{x}) \\ F_2(\underline{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F_2: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{2nd coordinate for } G)$$

Example: $F_1(\underline{x}) = x_1 + 5x_3 = [1 \ 0 \ 5] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$F_2(\underline{x}) = 3x_1 - 7x_2 + 8x_3 = [3 \ -7 \ 8] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then $G\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 5x_3 \\ 3x_1 - 7x_2 + 8x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & -7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}}_{=: A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$
↑ in \mathbb{R}^3 ↑ in \mathbb{R}^2

Conclusion: $G: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ becomes matrix multiplication by a fixed 2×3 matrix A (NOTE: # rows of $A = 2 = \dim \text{target space } (= \mathbb{R}^2)$)
 # columns of $A = 3 = \dim \text{domain } (= \mathbb{R}^3)$

Crucial observation: What are the images of the canonical basis elements of \mathbb{R}^3 ? (e_1, e_2, e_3)

- $G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ = 1st column of A
- $G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$ = 2nd column of A
- $G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$ = 3rd column of A

In other words The 3 vectors $G(e_1), G(e_2) & G(e_3)$ determine the matrix A & hence the map G

Q: Another way of seeing this?

$$G\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right) = G\left(\underbrace{x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{sum of 3 vectors}}\right) \stackrel{\text{G linear}}{=} G\left(x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + G\left(y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + G\left(z \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{G linear}}{=} x \underbrace{G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{\text{col}_1(A)} + y \underbrace{G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{\text{col}_2(A)} + z \underbrace{G\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{\text{col}_3(A)}$$

$$= A \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

Conclude The 3 boxed vectors determine $G\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}\right)$ because they determine the matrix A we were looking for earlier.

Q: What vectors $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ go to $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ under G ?

To answer, need to solve $A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \underline{N} = \text{Null Space of } A !!!$

In this example: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & -7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & -7 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow \frac{R_2}{-7}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$x_1 = -5x_3$
 $x_2 = -x_3$

So $\text{Null}(A) = \left\{ x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : x_3 \text{ arbitrary} \right\} = \langle \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rangle$ (check: $G \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5+5 \\ -15+7+8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$)

Q: What vectors lie in the image of G in \mathbb{R}^2 ?

To answer this, we have to find vectors of the form $G \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ as we vary $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ in \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$G \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \right) = A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & -7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \text{col}_1(A) + x_2 \text{col}_2(A) + x_3 \text{col}_3(A) \quad \text{for } x_1, x_2, x_3 \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

So Image of G = Column Space of A !!!

NOTE: $\text{rank}(A) = 2$ in $\text{ColSp}(A)$ lies in \mathbb{R}^2 , so $\text{Image } G = \mathbb{R}^2$

$\dim \text{ColSp}(A)$

In both examples: Maps are determined by multiplication by a fixed matrix A .

- Image of map = Column Space of A

- vectors mapping to $\underline{0}$ = Null Space of A

These 3 things will be true for any linear map $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

§ 2. General definition:

Def: $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ function is a linear transformation if 2 conditions hold

(1) $T(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = T(\vec{u}) + T(\vec{v})$ for all \vec{u}, \vec{v} in \mathbb{R}^m (addition is respected)

(2) $T(\alpha \vec{u}) = \alpha T(\vec{u})$ for all \vec{u} in \mathbb{R}^m & $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ (scalar mult. is respected)

Nm-example 1: $F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ $F(\underline{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_2 + 1 \\ x_2 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ is NOT linear

→ problem!

$$F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

BUT $F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) + F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = F \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$ \rightarrow condition (1) fails

Nm-example 2: $F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ $F(x) = e^x$ is nm-linear

$$F(0) = 1, F(1) = e$$

$$F(0) + F(1) = 1 + e \neq e = F(0+1)$$

$$F(2) = e^2 \neq 2e = 2F(1)$$

(1) & (2) fail.

§3 Special cases: $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ linear

• $n = m = 1 \rightsquigarrow T: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ linear

Q: What does the formula for T look like?

Prop 1: $T: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is linear if and only if $T(x) = ax$ for a fixed $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Moreover, $a = T(1)$.

Proof: $T(x) = ax$ is clearly linear. $T(x+y) = a(x+y) = ax + ay = T(x) + T(y)$
 $T(ax) = a(ax) = a^2x = a(Tx)$

• If T is linear, then $T(x) = T(x \cdot 1) = x T(1) = ax$ for $a = T(1)$
 scalar! $\underline{\underline{=a}}$

• $m = 1, n$ arbitrary $\rightsquigarrow T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ linear

Q: What does it look like?

Prop 2: $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ linear if and only if $T(x) = \vec{u}^T x$ for some vector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Moreover $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} T(e_1) \\ T(e_2) \\ \vdots \\ T(e_n) \end{bmatrix}$ = $1 \times n$ matrix

Proof: • $x \mapsto \boxed{\vec{u}^T} x$ is a linear map
 FIXED

• Now, assume we have a map $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that is linear.

$$\text{Then: } T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}\right) = T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

sum of n vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

BUT, T is linear so

$$\begin{aligned} T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) &= T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + T\left(x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \dots + T\left(x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) \\ &\stackrel{\text{T linear}}{=} x_1 \underbrace{T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=: u_1} + x_2 \underbrace{T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=: u_2} + \dots + x_n \underbrace{T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)}_{=: u_n} \\ &= u_1 x_1 + u_2 x_2 + \dots + u_n x_n = \vec{u}^T \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

§3 general form of $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ linear

• We build T from m linear functions $T_1: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (1st coord)
 $T_2: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (2nd coord)
 \vdots
 $T_m: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (last coord)

By Prop 2:

$$\begin{aligned} T_1(x) &= \vec{v}_1^T \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ T_2(x) &= \vec{v}_2^T \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ &\vdots \\ T_m(x) &= \vec{v}_m^T \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_m \in \mathbb{R}^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \underline{T(x)} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1(x) \\ T_2(x) \\ \vdots \\ T_m(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1^T & x \\ \vec{v}_2^T & x \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \vec{v}_m^T & x \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{v}_m^T \end{bmatrix}}_{=: A} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem: Every linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ has the form $T(\underline{x}) = A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ for some $m \times n$ matrix A .
 $= A$ $m \times n$ matrix!

Moreover: $\text{col}_1(A) = T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$, $\text{col}_2(A) = T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$, ..., $\text{col}_n(A) = T\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

so $A = [T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n)]$ (Columns are the image of the canonical basis!)

Proof: First part we know from the earlier discussion

(7)

For the second part, we only need to use that $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n & that T is linear

$$\begin{aligned} T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}\right) &\stackrel{\text{basis property}}{=} T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \dots + x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) \\ &= T\left(x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) + \dots + T\left(x_n \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) \\ &= x_1 T(e_1) + \dots + x_n T(e_n) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} T(e_1) & \dots & T(e_n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

This has to be the matrix A .

Exercise: Find a linear transformation $F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$, $F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

Is F unique?

Solution: Write e_1 & e_2 in terms of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ & $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$
(We can do this because $\{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^2)
$$\begin{cases} e_1 = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ e_2 = -\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{cases}$$

so $F(e_1) = 2F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) - F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
so $F(e_2) = -F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) + F\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = -\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Conclude by the Theorem that
In particular, it is unique!

$$F\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 8 & -4 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$