

# Topic#7

## Matrix representation of a linear transformation

**Def.**  $V$ : finite-dimensional v.s. over  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\dim V = n$

$\beta = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ : an ordered basis for  $V$

Let  $v \in V$ , then  $\exists! a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{F}$ , s.t.  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i v_i$ .

If the order of vectors in  $\beta$  is specified,  $\beta$  is called an ordered basis for  $V$ .

Thus, associated with an ordered basis  $\beta$  for  $V$ , we may define

$$[\cdot]_{\beta} : V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$$

such that

$$v \mapsto [v]_{\beta} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{F}^n, \text{ (well-defined)}$$

and  $[v]_{\beta}$  called the **coordinate vector** of  $v$  relative to o.b.  $\beta$

Remarks:

1°.  $[\cdot]_{\beta}$  is defined in terms of the o.b.  $\beta$ , so different  $\beta$ 's give different  $[\cdot]_{\beta}$ 's

**e.g.:**  $V = F^3$ :  $\beta = \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  the standard o.b.

$$\gamma = \{e_2, e_1, e_3\} \text{ o.b.}$$

$[\cdot]_{\beta} \neq [\cdot]_{\gamma}$ . They are different ordered basis

2°  $[\cdot]_{\beta} : V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$  with  $n = \dim(V)$  is linear, i.e.  $[\cdot]_{\beta} \in \mathcal{L}(V, \mathbb{F}^n)$

(note, to show 'bijection' in the future).

**Def.**  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$

$\dim(V) = n, \beta = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ : o.b. for  $V$

$\dim(W) = m, \gamma = \{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$ : o.b. for  $W$

$$[T(v_1)]_\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1} \end{pmatrix}, [T(v_2)]_\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a_{12} \\ a_{22} \\ \vdots \\ a_{m2} \end{pmatrix}, \dots, [T(v_n)]_\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1n} \\ a_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ a_{mn} \end{pmatrix},$$

$\in \mathbb{F}^m$  are  $\gamma$ -coordinate of  $T(v_1) \cdots T(v_n)$ , or equivalently

$$T(v_j) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} w_i, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

where  $v_j$  is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vector in  $\beta$  and  $a_{ij}$  are unique. Then,

$$T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W) \mapsto [T]_\beta^\gamma \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (a_{ij})_{m \times n} = ([T(v_1)]_\gamma, \dots, [T(v_n)]_\gamma)$$

is well-defined, and called  $[T]_\beta^\gamma$  the **matrix representation**

of  $T$  in the ordered bases  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ . **Convention:**  $[T]_\beta = [T]_\beta^\beta$   
if  $V = W, \beta = \gamma$

## Examples:

$$(1) T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(a_1, a_2) \mapsto T(a_1, a_2) = (a_1 + 3a_2, 0, 2a_1 - 4a_2).$$

$$\mathbb{R}^2 : \beta = \{e_1, e_2\}, \text{ s.o.b.}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^3 : \gamma = \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}, \text{ s.o.b.}$$

$$T(e_1) = T(1, 0) = (1, 0, 2) = 1e_1 + 0e_2 + 2e_3$$

$$T(e_2) = T(0, 1) = (3, 0, -4) = 3e_1 + 0e_2 + (-4)e_3$$

$$\therefore [T]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = ([T(e_1)]_{\gamma}, [T(e_2)]_{\gamma}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $\gamma' = \{e_3, e_2, e_1\}$ , then

$$[T]_{\beta}^{\gamma'} = ([T(e_1)]_{\gamma'}, [T(e_2)]_{\gamma'}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$



$$(2) T : P_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R})$$

$$f \in P_3(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto T(f) \in P_2(\mathbb{R}) : T(f(x)) = f'(x)$$

$$T \in \mathcal{L}(P_3(\mathbb{R}), P_2(\mathbb{R})).$$

$$P_3(\mathbb{R}) : \beta = \{1, x, x^2, x^3\} \text{ s.o.b.}$$

$$P_2(\mathbb{R}) : \beta = \{1, x, x^2\} \text{ s.o.b.}$$

$$T(1) = 0 = 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot x + 0 \cdot x^2$$

$$T(x) = 1 = 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot x + 0 \cdot x^2$$

$$T(x^2) = 2x = 0 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot x + 0 \cdot x^2$$

$$T(x^3) = 3x^2 = 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot x + 3 \cdot x^2$$

$$\therefore [T]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$



**Def.** Let  $T, U \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , and  $a \in \mathbb{F}$ . We equip  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  with “+” and “.” as follows:

$$T + U : V \rightarrow W$$

$$x \in V \mapsto (T + U)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T(x) + U(x) \in W$$

$$aT : V \rightarrow W$$

$$x \in V \mapsto (aT)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} aT(x)$$

**Prop.** 1°.  $T + U, aT \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$  (i.e.  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  is closed under “+” and “.”)

2°. The set  $\mathcal{L}(V, W)$  equipped with “+” and “.” as above is a v.s. over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

**Pf.:** Use def. (+, · are well-defined, & (VS1)-(VS8) satisfied).  $\square$

**Prop.**  $T, U \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow[\quad U \quad]{} & W \\ \downarrow [\cdot]_{\beta}, \dim(V)=n & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\gamma}, \dim(W)=m \\ \mathbb{F}^n & \xrightarrow[A=[T]_{\beta}^{\gamma}]{B=[U]_{\beta}^{\gamma}} & \mathbb{F}^m \end{array}$$

Then,

$$[T + U]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = [T]_{\beta}^{\gamma} + [U]_{\beta}^{\gamma},$$

$$[aT]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = a[T]_{\beta}^{\gamma}, \quad a \in \mathbb{F}.$$



**Pf.:**

$$(T + U)(v_j) \stackrel{1 \leq j \leq n}{=} T(v_j) + U(v_j) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} w_i + \sum_{i=1}^m b_{ij} w_i \\ = \sum_{i=1}^m (a_{ij} + b_{ij}) w_i$$

$$\therefore ([T + U]_{\beta}^{\gamma})_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij} = ([T]_{\beta}^{\gamma})_{ij} + ([U]_{\beta}^{\gamma})_{ij}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m$ .

$$\therefore [T + U]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = [T]_{\beta}^{\gamma} + [U]_{\beta}^{\gamma}$$

□

**Thm.**  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ ,  $U \in \mathcal{L}(W, Z)$ ,  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are o.b. for  $V$ ,  $W$ ,  $Z$  respectively.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{T} & W & \xrightarrow{U} & Z \\
 \downarrow [\cdot]_{\alpha} & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\beta} & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\gamma} \\
 \mathbb{F}^{\dim(V)} & \xrightarrow{[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}} & \mathbb{F}^{\dim(W)} & \xrightarrow{[U]_{\beta}^{\gamma}} & \mathbb{F}^{\dim(Z)}
 \end{array}$$

Then,

1°.  $UT \in \mathcal{L}(V, Z)$ , i.e.  $UT$  is linear. where

$$UT(x) \stackrel{\forall x \in V}{=} U(T(x)).$$

2°.

$$\underbrace{[UT]_{\alpha}^{\gamma}}_{\# \gamma \times \# \alpha} = \underbrace{[U]_{\beta}^{\gamma}}_{\# \gamma \times \# \beta} \underbrace{[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}}_{\# \beta \times \# \alpha}.$$

**Proof.**

1°.  $UT : V \rightarrow Z$  is well-defined.

$UT$  is linear. Indeed,  $x, y \in V, a \in \mathbb{F}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} UT(x + y) &= U(T(x) + T(y)) \\ &= U(T(x)) + U(T(y)) = UT(x) + UT(y), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} UT(ax) &= U(T(ax)) = U(aT(x)) \\ &= aU(T(x)) = aUT(x). \end{aligned}$$



2°.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 V & \xrightarrow{T} & W & \xrightarrow{U} & Z \\
 \downarrow [\cdot]_{\alpha} & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\beta} & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\gamma} \\
 \mathbb{F}^n & \xrightarrow{B_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}} & \mathbb{F}^m & \xrightarrow{A_{p \times m} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [U]_{\beta}^{\gamma}} & \mathbb{F}^p
 \end{array}$$

$\alpha = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  o.b. for  $V$ ,  $\beta = \{w_1, \dots, w_m\}$  o.b. for  $W$   
 $\gamma = \{z_1, \dots, z_p\}$  o.b. for  $Z$

$$[U]_{\beta}^{\gamma} = A = [a_{ik}]_{p \times m} : U(w_k) = \sum_{i=1}^p a_{ik} z_i, 1 \leq k \leq m,$$

$$[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta} = B = [b_{kj}]_{m \times n} : T(v_j) = \sum_{k=1}^m b_{kj} w_k, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore UT(v_j) &\stackrel{j=1, \dots, n}{=} U\left(\sum_{k=1}^m b_{kj} w_k\right) = \sum_{k=1}^m b_{kj} U(w_k) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^m b_{kj} \left(\sum_{i=1}^p a_{ik} z_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^p \left(\sum_{k=1}^m a_{ik} b_{kj}\right) z_i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore ([UT]_{\alpha}^{\gamma})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^m a_{ik} b_{kj} = (AB)_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, p, j = 1, \dots, n.$$

$$\text{namely, } [UT]_{\alpha}^{\gamma} = AB = [U]_{\beta}^{\gamma} [T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}.$$

□□

**e.g.**  $T : P_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_3(\mathbb{R}), f \in P_2(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto T(f) \in P_3(\mathbb{R}), T(f(x)) = \int_0^x f(t)dt.$   
 $U : P_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R}), f \in P_3(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto U(f) \in P_3(\mathbb{R}), U(f(x)) = f'(x).$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P_2(\mathbb{R}) & \xrightarrow{T} & P_3(\mathbb{R}) & \xrightarrow{U} & P_2(\mathbb{R}) \\ \downarrow [\cdot]_\alpha & & \downarrow [\cdot]_\beta & & \downarrow [\cdot]_\alpha \\ \mathbb{R}^3 & \xrightarrow{[T]_\alpha^\beta} & \mathbb{R}^4 & \xrightarrow{[U]_\beta^\gamma} & \mathbb{R}^3 \end{array}$$

For  $T(1) = x, T(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^2, T(x^2) = \frac{1}{3}x^3$   
 $u(1) = 0, u(x) = 1, u(x^2) = 2x, u(x^3) = 3x^2$

$$[T]_\alpha^\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix}_{4 \times 3}, \quad [U]_\beta^\gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}_{3 \times 4}$$

$$[UT]_\alpha = I_{3 \times 3} = [U]_\beta^\alpha [T]_\alpha^\beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By definition,  $UT = I : P_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R})$

$$[UT]_{\alpha}^{\alpha} = [I_{P_2(\mathbb{R}^2)}]_{\alpha} = I_3 = [U]_{\beta}^{\alpha} [T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}$$

□

**Remark:**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{T} & W \\ \downarrow [\cdot]_{\alpha} & & \downarrow [\cdot]_{\beta} \\ \mathbb{F} & \xrightarrow{[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta}} & \mathbb{R}^n \end{array}$$

**Case  $\dim(V) = 1$ :**  $\alpha = \{v\}$  o.b. for  $V$  where  $v \neq 0$ .

For the matrix of  $T$  in  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$ ,

$$[T]_{\alpha}^{\beta} = [T(v)]_{\beta}$$

which is just the coordinate (column) vector of  $T(v)$  under  $\beta$ !

□

**Corollary:** Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ , where  $V, W$  are finite-dimensional with the o.b.  $\beta$  &  $\gamma$ , respectively. Then,

$$\forall u \in V, [T(u)]_\gamma = ([T(v)]_\beta) = [T]_\beta^\gamma [u]_\beta.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} u \in V & \xrightarrow{T} & T(u) \in W \\ \downarrow [\cdot]_\beta & & \downarrow [\cdot]_\gamma \\ [u]_\beta \in \mathbb{F}^m & \xrightarrow{[T]_\beta^\gamma} & [T(u)]_\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^p \end{array}$$

$$m = \dim(V), p = \dim(W)$$

**Proof.** Take  $v \in V$  (fix it!). If  $v = 0 \in V$ , it is true since  $T(v) = T(0_v) = 0_W \Rightarrow [0_W]_\gamma = 0, [0_v]_\beta = 0 \Rightarrow [T]_\beta^\gamma 0 = 0$ .

Now let  $v \in V$  with  $v \neq 0$  Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{F} & \xrightarrow{f} & V & \xrightarrow{T} & W \\ \downarrow [\cdot]_\alpha & & \downarrow [\cdot]_\beta & & \downarrow [\cdot]_\gamma \\ \mathbb{F} & \xrightarrow{[f]_\alpha^\beta} & \mathbb{F}^m & \xrightarrow{[T]_\beta^\gamma} & \mathbb{F}^p \end{array}$$

Here,  $\alpha = \{1\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{F}$ , and

$$f(a) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} av \in V, \forall a \in \mathbb{F}.$$

By Thm,  $[Tf]_\alpha^\gamma = [T]_\beta^\gamma [f]_\alpha^\beta$ . Here

$$[Tf]_\alpha^\gamma = [T(f(1))]_\gamma = [T(u)]_\gamma, \quad [f]_\alpha^\beta = [f(1)]_\beta = [u]_\beta.$$

Therefore,  $[T(u)]_\gamma = [T]_\beta^\gamma [u]_\beta$ . □

Realize: for any  $v \in V$ ,  $[T]_\beta^\gamma$  can send  $\beta$ -coordinate of  $v \in V$  to  $\gamma$ -coordinate of  $T(v) \in W$ .