

Math 221: LINEAR ALGEBRA

Chapter 7. Linear Transformations

§7-1. Examples and Elementary Properties

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Emory University, 2021 Spring

(last updated on 04/05/2021)



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¹Slides are adapted from those by Karen Seyffarth from University of Calgary.

What is a Linear Transformations

Examples and Problems

Properties of Linear Transformations

Constructing Linear Transformations

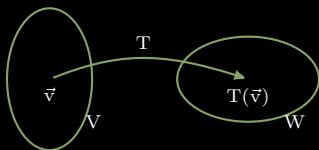
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What is a Linear Transformation?



Definition

Let V and W be vector spaces, and $T : V \rightarrow W$ a function. Then T is called a **linear transformation** if it satisfies the following two properties.

1. T preserves addition.

For all $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in V$, $T(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) = T(\vec{v}_1) + T(\vec{v}_2)$.

2. T preserves scalar multiplication.

For all $\vec{v} \in V$ and $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $T(r\vec{v}) = rT(\vec{v})$.

Remark

Note that the sum $\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$ is in V , while the sum $T(\vec{v}_1) + T(\vec{v}_2)$ is in W . Similarly, $r\vec{v}$ is scalar multiplication in V , while $rT(\vec{v})$ is scalar multiplication in W .

Theorem (Linear Transformations from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^m)

If $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear transformation, then T is induced by an $m \times n$ matrix

$$A = [T(\vec{e}_1) \quad T(\vec{e}_2) \quad \cdots \quad T(\vec{e}_n)],$$

where $\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \dots, \vec{e}_n\}$ is the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^n , and thus for each $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}.$$

Example

$T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is defined by $T \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x + y \\ x - z \end{bmatrix}$ for all $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

One can **show that T preserves addition and scalar multiplication**, and hence is a linear transformation. Therefore, the matrix that induces T is

$$A = \left[T \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad T \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad T \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Remark (Notation and Terminology)

1. If A is an $m \times n$ matrix, then $T_A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ defined by

$$T_A(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x} \text{ for all } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

is the linear (or matrix) transformation induced by A .

2. Let V be a vector space. A linear transformation $T : V \rightarrow V$ is called a **linear operator on V** .

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Example

Let V and W be vector spaces.

1. The zero transformation.

$0 : V \rightarrow W$ is defined by $0(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}$ for all $\vec{x} \in V$.

2. The identity operator on V .

$1_V : V \rightarrow V$ is defined by $1_V(\vec{x}) = \vec{x}$ for all $\vec{x} \in V$.

3. The scalar operator on V .

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$. $s_a : V \rightarrow V$ is defined by $s_a(\vec{x}) = a\vec{x}$ for all $\vec{x} \in V$.

Problem

For vector spaces V and W , prove that the zero transformation 0 , the identity operator 1_V , and the scalar operator s_a are linear transformations.

Solution (the scalar operator)

Let V be a vector space and let $a \in \mathbb{R}$.

1. Let $\vec{u}, \vec{w} \in V$. Then $s_a(\vec{u}) = a\vec{u}$ and $s_a(\vec{w}) = a\vec{w}$. Now

$$s_a(\vec{u} + \vec{w}) = a(\vec{u} + \vec{w}) = a\vec{u} + a\vec{w} = s_a(\vec{u}) + s_a(\vec{w}),$$

and thus s_a preserves addition.

2. Let $\vec{u} \in V$ and $k \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $s_a(\vec{u}) = a\vec{u}$. Now

$$s_a(k\vec{u}) = ak\vec{u} = ka\vec{u} = ks_a(\vec{u}),$$

and thus s_a preserves scalar multiplication.

Since s_a preserves addition and scalar multiplication, s_a is a linear transformation. ■

Problem (Matrix transposition)

Let $R : \mathbf{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}_{nn}$ be a transformation defined by

$$R(A) = A^T \text{ for all } A \in \mathbf{M}_{nn}.$$

Show that R is a linear transformation.

Solution

1. Let $A, B \in \mathbf{M}_{nn}$. Then $R(A) = A^T$ and $R(B) = B^T$, so

$$R(A + B) = (A + B)^T = A^T + B^T = R(A) + R(B).$$

2. Let $A \in \mathbf{M}_{nn}$ and let $k \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $R(A) = A^T$, and

$$R(kA) = (kA)^T = kA^T = kR(A).$$

Since R preserves addition and scalar multiplication, R is a linear transformation. ■

Problem (Evaluation at a point)

For each $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the transformation $E_a : \mathcal{P}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$E_a(p) = p(a) \text{ for all } p \in \mathcal{P}_n.$$

Show that E_a is a linear transformation.

Solution

1. Let $p, q \in \mathcal{P}_n$. Then $E_a(p) = p(a)$ and $E_a(q) = q(a)$, so

$$E_a(p + q) = (p + q)(a) = p(a) + q(a) = E_a(p) + E_a(q).$$

2. Let $p \in \mathcal{P}_n$ and $k \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $E_a(p) = p(a)$ and

$$E_a(kp) = (kp)(a) = kp(a) = kE_a(p).$$

Since E_a preserves addition and scalar multiplication, E_a is a linear transformation. ■

Problem

Let $S : \mathbf{M}_{nn} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a transformation defined by

$$S(A) = \text{tr}(A) \text{ for all } A \in \mathbf{M}_{nn}.$$

Prove that S is a linear transformation.

Solution

Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ and $B = [b_{ij}]$ be $n \times n$ matrices. Then

$$S(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \quad \text{and} \quad S(B) = \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ii}.$$

1. Since $A + B = [a_{ij} + b_{ij}]$,

$$S(A+B) = \text{tr}(A+B) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_{ii} + b_{ii}) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_{ii} \right) = S(A) + S(B).$$

2. Let $k \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $kA = [ka_{ij}]$,

$$S(kA) = \text{tr}(kA) = \sum_{i=1}^n ka_{ii} = k \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} = kS(A).$$

Therefore, S preserves addition and scalar multiplication, and thus is a linear transformation. ■

Problem

Show that the differentiation and integration operations on \mathbf{P}_n are linear transformations. More precisely,

$$D : \mathbf{P}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_{n-1} \quad \text{where } D[p(x)] = p'(x) \text{ for all } p(x) \text{ in } \mathbf{P}_n$$

$$I : \mathbf{P}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_{n+1} \quad \text{where } I[p(x)] = \int_0^x p(t)dt \text{ for all } p(x) \text{ in } \mathbf{P}_n$$

are linear transformations.

Solution (Sketch)

$$[p(x) + q(x)]' = p'(x) + q'(x), \quad [rp(x)]' = (rp)'(x)$$

$$\int_0^x [p(t) + q(t)] dt = \int_0^x p(t)dt + \int_0^x q(t)dt, \quad \int_0^x rp(t)dt = r \int_0^x p(t)dt$$



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Theorem

Let V and W be vector spaces, and $T : V \rightarrow W$ a linear transformation. Then

1. T preserves the zero vector. $T(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$.
2. T preserves additive inverses. For all $\vec{v} \in V$, $T(-\vec{v}) = -T(\vec{v})$.
3. T preserves linear combinations.

For all $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_m \in V$ and all $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$T(k_1\vec{v}_1 + k_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + k_m\vec{v}_m) = k_1T(\vec{v}_1) + k_2T(\vec{v}_2) + \dots + k_mT(\vec{v}_m).$$

Proof.

1. Let $\vec{0}_V$ denote the zero vector of V and let $\vec{0}_W$ denote the zero vector of W . We want to prove that $T(\vec{0}_V) = \vec{0}_W$. Let $\vec{x} \in V$. Then $0\vec{x} = \vec{0}_V$ and

$$T(\vec{0}_V) = T(0\vec{x}) = 0T(\vec{x}) = \vec{0}_W.$$

2. Let $\vec{v} \in V$; then $-\vec{v} \in V$ is the additive inverse of \vec{v} , so $\vec{v} + (-\vec{v}) = \vec{0}_V$.
Thus

$$\begin{aligned}T(\vec{v} + (-\vec{v})) &= T(\vec{0}_V) \\T(\vec{v}) + T(-\vec{v}) &= \vec{0}_W \\T(-\vec{v}) &= \vec{0}_W - T(\vec{v}) = -T(\vec{v}).\end{aligned}$$

3. This result follows from preservation of addition and preservation of scalar multiplication. A formal proof would be by induction on m .



Problem

Let $T : \mathcal{P}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a linear transformation such that

$$T(x^2 + x) = -1; \quad T(x^2 - x) = 1; \quad T(x^2 + 1) = 3.$$

Find $T(4x^2 + 5x - 3)$.

Solution (first)

Suppose $a(x^2 + x) + b(x^2 - x) + c(x^2 + 1) = 4x^2 + 5x - 3$. Then

$$(a + b + c)x^2 + (a - b)x + c = 4x^2 + 5x - 3.$$

Solving for a , b , and c results in the unique solution $a = 6$, $b = 1$, $c = -3$.
Thus

$$\begin{aligned} T(4x^2 + 5x - 3) &= T(6(x^2 + x) + (x^2 - x) - 3(x^2 + 1)) \\ &= 6T(x^2 + x) + T(x^2 - x) - 3T(x^2 + 1) \\ &= 6(-1) + 1 - 3(3) = -14. \end{aligned}$$



Solution (second)

Notice that $S = \{x^2 + x, x^2 - x, x^2 + 1\}$ is a basis of \mathcal{P}_2 , and thus x^2 , x , and 1 can each be written as a linear combination of elements of S .

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) + \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x) \\x &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x) \\1 &= (x^2 + 1) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x).\end{aligned}$$

↓

$$\begin{aligned}T(x^2) &= T\left(\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) + \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x)\right) = \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 + x) + \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 - x) \\&= \frac{1}{2}(-1) + \frac{1}{2}(1) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(x) &= T\left(\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x)\right) = \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 - x) \\&= \frac{1}{2}(-1) - \frac{1}{2}(1) = -1.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}T(1) &= T\left((x^2 + 1) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - x)\right) \\&= T(x^2 + 1) - \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 + x) - \frac{1}{2}T(x^2 - x) \\&= 3 - \frac{1}{2}(-1) - \frac{1}{2}(1) = 3.\end{aligned}$$

↓

$$T(4x^2 + 5x - 3) = 4T(x^2) + 5T(x) - 3T(1) = 4(0) + 5(-1) - 3(3) = -14.$$



Remark

The advantage of the second solution over the first is that if you were now asked to find $T(-6x^2 - 13x + 9)$, it is easy to use $T(x^2) = 0$, $T(x) = -1$ and $T(1) = 3$:

$$\begin{aligned}T(-6x^2 - 13x + 9) &= -6T(x^2) - 13T(x) + 9T(1) \\ &= -6(0) - 13(-1) + 9(3) = 13 + 27 = 40.\end{aligned}$$

More generally,

$$\begin{aligned}T(ax^2 + bx + c) &= aT(x^2) + bT(x) + cT(1) \\ &= a(0) + b(-1) + c(3) = -b + 3c.\end{aligned}$$

Definition (Equality of linear transformations)

Let V and W be vector spaces, and let S and T be linear transformations from V to W . Then $S = T$ if and only if,

$$S(\vec{v}) = T(\vec{v}) \quad \text{for every } \vec{v} \in V.$$

Theorem

Let V and W be vector spaces, where

$$V = \text{span}\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}.$$

Suppose that S and T are linear transformations from V to W . If $S(\vec{v}_i) = T(\vec{v}_i)$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq n$, then $S = T$.

Remark

This theorem tells us that a linear transformation is completely determined by its actions on a spanning set.

Proof.

We must show that $S(\vec{v}) = T(\vec{v})$ for each $\vec{v} \in V$. Let $\vec{v} \in V$. Then (since V is spanned by $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$), there exist $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{R}$ so that

$$\vec{v} = k_1\vec{v}_1 + k_2\vec{v}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{v}_n.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} S(\vec{v}) &= S(k_1\vec{v}_1 + k_2\vec{v}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{v}_n) \\ &= k_1S(\vec{v}_1) + k_2S(\vec{v}_2) + \cdots + k_nS(\vec{v}_n) \\ &= k_1T(\vec{v}_1) + k_2T(\vec{v}_2) + \cdots + k_nT(\vec{v}_n) \\ &= T(k_1\vec{v}_1 + k_2\vec{v}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{v}_n) \\ &= T(\vec{v}). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $S = T$. ■

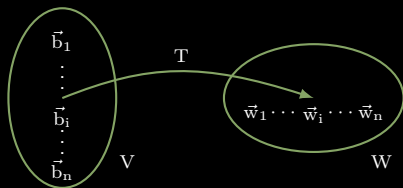
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Theorem

Let V and W be vector spaces, let $B = \{\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \dots, \vec{b}_n\}$ be a basis of V , and let $\vec{w}_1, \vec{w}_2, \dots, \vec{w}_n$ be (not necessarily distinct) vectors of W . Then

1. There exists a linear transformation $T : V \rightarrow W$ such that $T(\vec{b}_i) = \vec{w}_i$ for each i , $1 \leq i \leq n$;
2. This transformation is unique;
3. If

$$\vec{v} = k_1 \vec{b}_1 + k_2 \vec{b}_2 + \cdots + k_n \vec{b}_n$$

is a vector of V , then

$$T(\vec{v}) = k_1 \vec{w}_1 + k_2 \vec{w}_2 + \cdots + k_n \vec{w}_n.$$

Proof.

Suppose $\vec{v} \in V$. Since B is a basis, there exist unique scalars $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{R}$ so that $\vec{v} = k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \dots + k_n\vec{b}_n$. We now **define** $T : V \rightarrow W$ by

$$T(\vec{v}) = k_1\vec{w}_1 + k_2\vec{w}_2 + \dots + k_n\vec{w}_n$$

for each $\vec{v} = k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \dots + k_n\vec{b}_n$ in V . From this definition, $T(\vec{b}_i) = \vec{w}_i$ for each i , $1 \leq i \leq n$.

To prove that T is a linear transformation, prove that T preserves addition and scalar multiplication. Let $\vec{v}, \vec{u} \in V$. Then

$$\vec{v} = k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \dots + k_n\vec{b}_n \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{u} = l_1\vec{b}_1 + l_2\vec{b}_2 + \dots + l_n\vec{b}_n$$

for some $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \in \mathbb{R}$ and $l_1, l_2, \dots, l_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

Proof. (continued)

$$\begin{aligned}T(\vec{v} + \vec{u}) &= T[(k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{b}_n) + (\ell_1\vec{b}_1 + \ell_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + \ell_n\vec{b}_n)] \\&= T[(k_1 + \ell_1)\vec{b}_1 + (k_2 + \ell_2)\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + (k_n + \ell_n)\vec{b}_n] \\&= (k_1 + \ell_1)\vec{w}_1 + (k_2 + \ell_2)\vec{w}_2 + \cdots + (k_n + \ell_n)\vec{w}_n \\&= (k_1\vec{w}_1 + k_2\vec{w}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{w}_n) + (\ell_1\vec{w}_1 + \ell_2\vec{w}_2 + \cdots + \ell_n\vec{w}_n) \\&= T(k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{b}_n) + T(\ell_1\vec{b}_1 + \ell_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + \ell_n\vec{b}_n) \\&= T(\vec{v}) + T(\vec{u}).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, T preserves addition. Let \vec{v} be as already defined and let $r \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}T(r\vec{v}) &= T[r(k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{b}_n)] \\&= T[(rk_1)\vec{b}_1 + (rk_2)\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + (rk_n)\vec{b}_n] \\&= (rk_1)\vec{w}_1 + (rk_2)\vec{w}_2 + \cdots + (rk_n)\vec{w}_n \\&= r(k_1\vec{w}_1 + k_2\vec{w}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{w}_n) \\&= rT(k_1\vec{b}_1 + k_2\vec{b}_2 + \cdots + k_n\vec{b}_n) \\&= rT(\vec{v}).\end{aligned}$$

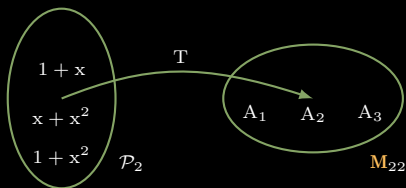
Therefore, T preserves scalar multiplication.

Proof. (continued)

Finally, the previous Theorem guarantees that T is unique: since B is a basis (and hence a spanning set), the action of T is completely determined by the fact that $T(\vec{b}_i) = \vec{w}_i$ for each i , $1 \leq i \leq n$. This completes the proof of the theorem. ■

Remark

The significance of this Theorem is that it gives us the ability to define linear transformations between vector spaces, a useful tool in what follows.



Problem

$B = \{1+x, x+x^2, 1+x^2\}$ is a basis of \mathcal{P}_2 . Let

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Find a linear transformation $T : \mathcal{P}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}_{2,2}$ so the

$$T(1+x) = A_1, \quad T(x+x^2) = A_2, \quad \text{and} \quad T(1+x^2) = A_3,$$

by specifying $T(a+bx+cx^2)$ for any $a+bx+cx^2 \in \mathcal{P}_2$.

Solution

Notice that $(1 + x) + (x + x^2) - (1 + x^2) = 2x$, and thus

$$x = \frac{1}{2}(1 + x) + \frac{1}{2}(x + x^2) - \frac{1}{2}(1 + x^2),$$

\Downarrow

$$\begin{aligned} T(x) &= \frac{1}{2}T(1 + x) + \frac{1}{2}T(x + x^2) - \frac{1}{2}T(1 + x^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}A_1 + \frac{1}{2}A_2 - \frac{1}{2}A_3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Solution (continued)

Next, $1 = (1 + x) - x$, so $T(1) = T(1 + x) - T(x)$, and thus

$$T(1) = A_1 - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Finally, $x^2 = (x + x^2) - x$, so $T(x^2) = T(x + x^2) - T(x)$, and thus

$$T(x^2) = A_2 - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} T(ax + bx + cx^2) &= aT(1) + bT(x) + cT(x^2) \\ &= \frac{a}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{b}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{c}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} a + b - c & -a + b + c \\ -a + b + c & a - b + c \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$



Solution (Two – sketch)

Since the set $\{1 + x, x + x^2, 1 + x^2\}$ is a basis of \mathcal{P}_2 , there exists unique representation:

$$\begin{aligned} a + bx + cx^2 &= l_1(1 + x) + l_2(x + x^2) + l_3(1 + x^2) \\ &= (l_1 + l_3) + (l_1 + l_2)x + (l_2 + l_3)x^2 \end{aligned}$$

↓

$$\begin{cases} l_1 + l_3 = a \\ l_1 + l_2 = b \\ l_2 + l_3 = c \end{cases}$$

↓

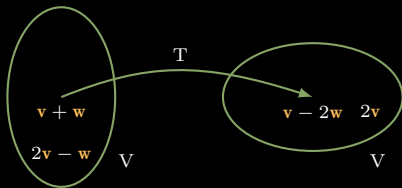
$$\begin{cases} l_1 = \frac{1}{2}(a + b - c) \\ l_2 = \frac{1}{2}(-a + b + c) \\ l_3 = \frac{1}{2}(a - b + c) \end{cases}$$

Solution (Two – continued)

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & T[a + bx + cx^2] \\ & \parallel \\ & T[l_1(1 + x) + l_2(x + x^2) + l_3(1 + x^2)] \\ & \parallel \\ & l_1T[1 + x] + l_2T[x + x^2] + l_3T[1 + x^2] \\ & \parallel \\ & l_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + l_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + l_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \parallel \\ & \frac{1}{2}(a + b - c) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2}(-a + b + c) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2}(a - b + c) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \parallel \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} a + b - c & -a + b + c \\ -a + b + c & a - b + c \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$





Problem

Let V be a vector space, and T be a linear operator on V , and $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$ such that

$$T(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{v} - 2\mathbf{w} \quad \text{and} \quad T(2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}) = 2\mathbf{v}.$$

Find $T(\mathbf{v})$ and $T(\mathbf{w})$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}T(\mathbf{v}) &= T \left[\frac{1}{3} ([\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}] + [2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}]) \right] \\&= \frac{1}{3} T [\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}] + \frac{1}{3} T [2\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}] \\&= \frac{1}{3} (\mathbf{v} - 2\mathbf{w}) + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{v} \\&= \mathbf{v} - \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{w}.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, as an exercise, $T(\mathbf{w}) = -\frac{4}{3}\mathbf{w}$.

