

A *linear mapping*  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a mapping compatible with vector addition and scalar multiplication, meaning for any vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and scalars  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have:

$$L(s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{v}) = sL(\mathbf{u}) + tL(\mathbf{v}).$$

For  $L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , this means  $L$  is specified by the two outputs  $L(\mathbf{i}) = L(1, 0) = (a, b)$  and  $L(\mathbf{j}) = L(0, 1) = (c, d)$ . For a general vector  $(x, y) = x(1, 0) + y(0, 1)$ , we have:

$$L(x, y) = x(a, b) + y(c, d) = (ax+cy, bx+dy),$$

so that  $a, b, c, d$  are slope coefficients, which we write in a  $2 \times 2$  matrix:

$$[L] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} a & c \\ \hline b & d \end{array} \right].$$

When computing with matrices, we usually write a vector  $\mathbf{v} = (x, y)$  in column form as  $[\mathbf{v}] = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ . We define multiplication of the matrix  $[L]$  times the vector  $[\mathbf{v}]$  so that it produces the above output:  $[L] \cdot [\mathbf{v}] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [L(\mathbf{v})]$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{bmatrix} ax + cy \\ bx + dy \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (a, c) \cdot (x, y) \\ (b, d) \cdot (x, y) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, matrix multiplication takes dot products of row vectors of  $[L]$  with  $\mathbf{v}$ .

## Problems

1. For two linear mappings  $L_1, L_2 : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ , the composite function  $L_3 = L_1 \circ L_2$  is defined by  $L_3(\mathbf{v}) = L_1(L_2(\mathbf{v}))$ . Prove  $L_3$  is a linear mapping.

2. Given the matrices:

$$[L_1] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} a_1 & c_1 \\ \hline b_1 & d_1 \end{array} \right], \quad [L_2] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} a_2 & c_2 \\ \hline b_2 & d_2 \end{array} \right],$$

compute  $L_2(x, y)$  and input the result into  $L_1(x, y)$  to find the composite  $L_3(x, y) = L_1(L_2(x, y))$ . Determine its slope coefficients to find the matrix  $[L_3]$ , which we define as the *matrix product*:  $[L_1] \cdot [L_2] \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [L_3]$ .

As before, interpret each entry of  $[L_3]$  as a dot product of certain row and column vectors of  $[L_1]$  and  $[L_2]$ .

**3.** Write the matrix of a general plane rotation  $R = \text{Rot}_\theta$ , counterclockwise by angle  $\theta$  as well as an explicit formula for  $R(x, y)$ . *Hint:* Find  $R(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$  by trigonometry, then compute  $R(x, y) = R(\mathbf{v}) = [R] \cdot [\mathbf{v}]$ .

**4.** Compute the matrix of the composite mapping  $\text{Rot}_\alpha \circ \text{Rot}_\beta$ , and interpret it geometrically as a known linear mapping.

**5.** Let  $\mathbf{u}_\theta = (\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta))$  be the unit vector with angle  $\theta$  from the  $x$ -axis. Let  $\text{Ref}_\theta : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be the reflection of the plane which flips  $\mathbf{u}_\theta$  across the line perpendicular to  $\mathbf{u}_\theta$ . (This is called an *orthogonal reflection* since the flipped and fixed lines are perpendicular.)

*Problem:* Find the matrix of  $\text{Ref}_\theta$ .

*Hint:* Recall that  $\text{Ref}_\theta(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v} - 2\mathbf{p}$ , where  $\mathbf{p}$  is the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{v}$  onto the direction  $\mathbf{u}_\theta$ .

**6.** Find the matrix of the composite mapping  $\text{Ref}_\alpha \circ \text{Ref}_\beta$ , and interpret it geometrically as a known linear mapping.

**7.** Fix a unit vector  $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, m_2)$  with  $|\mathbf{m}| = 1$ , and consider the mappings  $\ell_1 : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\ell_2 : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $\ell_1(t) = \mathbf{m}t$  and  $\ell_2(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ .

**a.** Compute a formula for the composite  $\ell_3(\mathbf{v}) = \ell_1(\ell_2(\mathbf{v}))$ .

**b.** Re-do this by multiplying matrices:  $[\ell_3] = [\ell_1] \cdot [\ell_2]$ .

**c.** Interpret  $\ell_3 : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  geometrically as a known linear mapping.

*Hint:* Picture the effect of  $\ell_2$  followed by  $\ell_1$ , applied to an input vector  $\mathbf{v}$ .