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Math 22 –  
Linear Algebra and its  
applications

- Lecture 27 -

**Instructor:** Bjoern Muetzel

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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- **Office hours: Tu 1-3 pm, Th, Sun 2-4 pm in KH 229**

**Tutorial: Tu, Th, Sun 7-9 pm in KH 105**

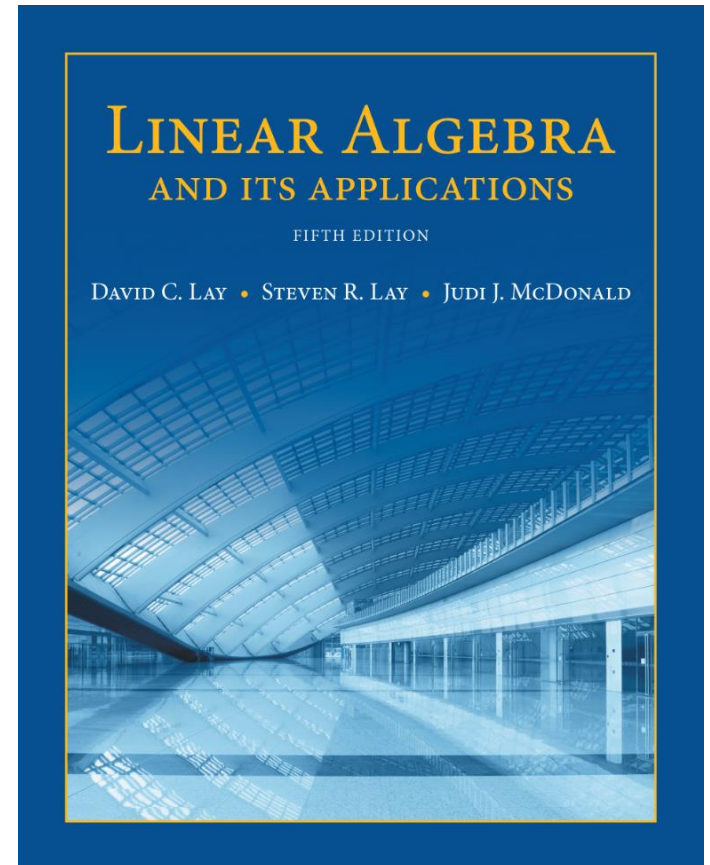
- **Homework 8: due Wednesday at 4 pm outside KH 008. Please give in part B, C and D. There is no part A.**

# 5

## Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

### 5.3

### DIAGONALIZATION



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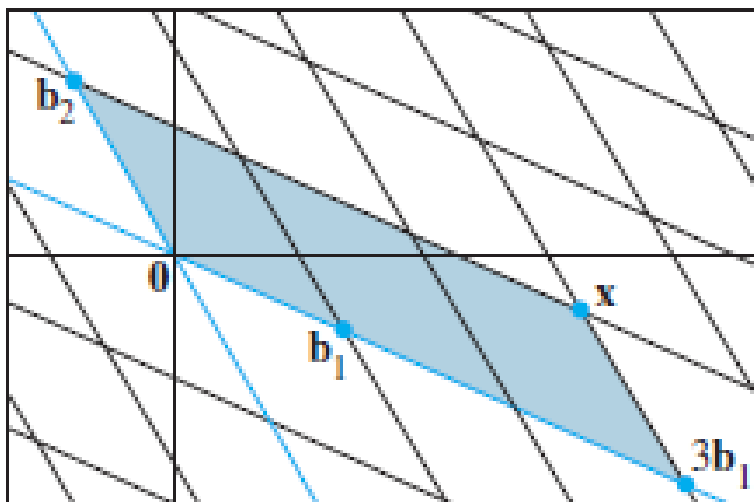
## Summary:

Given a linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , then there is **always a good basis** on which the transformation has a very simple form. In the best case there is a **basis of eigenvectors** and the matrix is **diagonal** with respect to this basis.

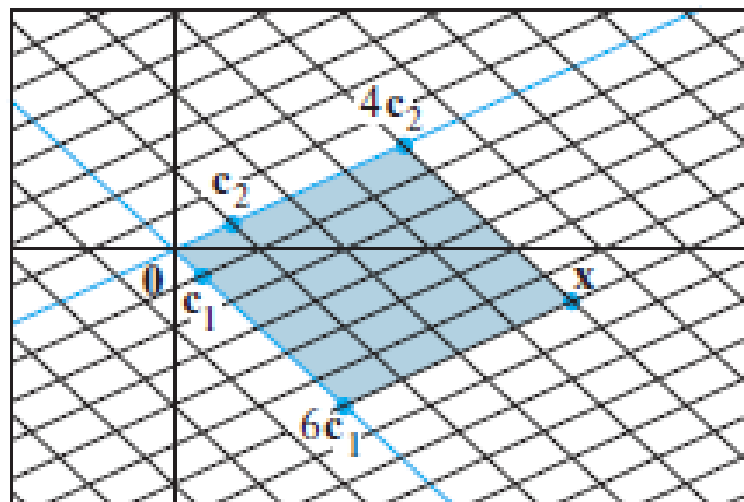
# GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION

**Example:** Consider the two bases for  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$B = \{b_1, b_2\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \text{ and } C = \{c_1, c_2\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 \\ -0.3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$



(a)



(b)

Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, x \mapsto T(x) = Ax$ , where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Question:** What is the matrix of  $T$  with respect to the bases  $B$  and  $C$ ?

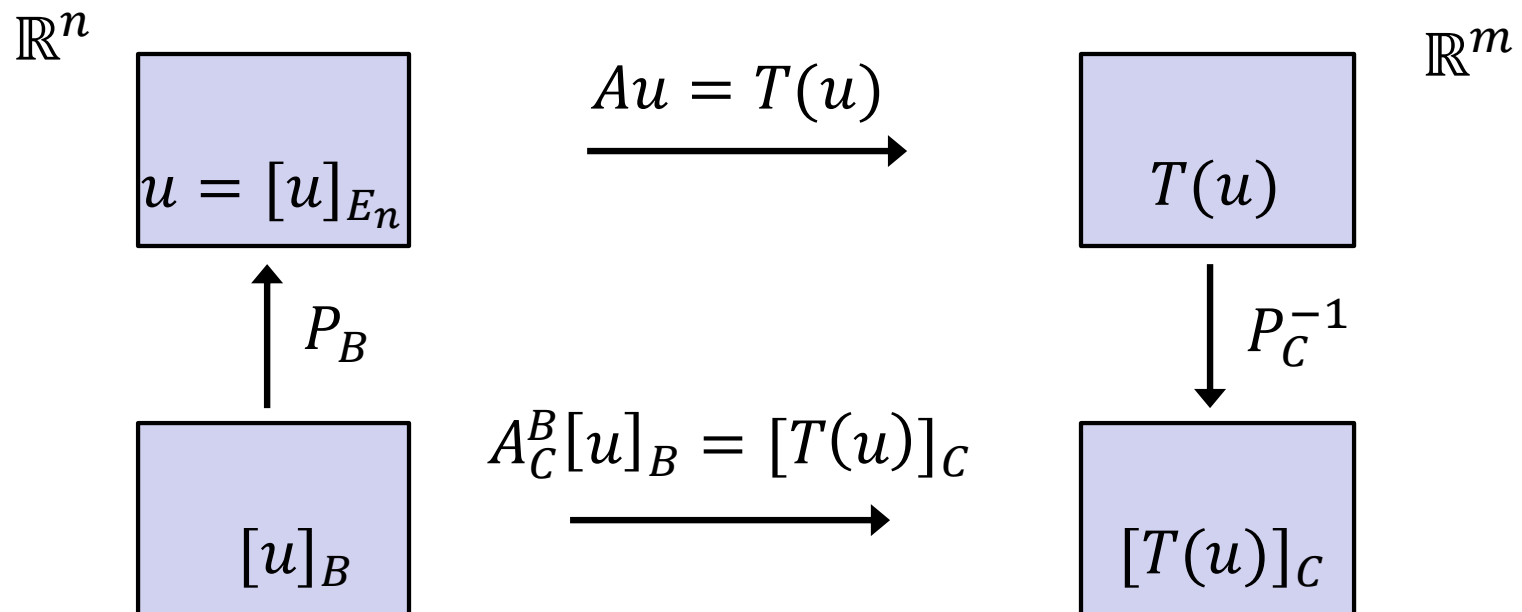


# LINEAR TRANSFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO DIFFERENT BASES

Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a linear transformation with standard matrix  $A$ . Let  $E_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $E_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  be the **standard bases**.

Given **different** bases  $\mathbf{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{C} = \{\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_m\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

**What is the matrix of the linear transformation  $T$  with respect to the bases  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  ?**



**More precisely:** What is the matrix  $A_C^B$ , such that

$$\boxed{A_C^B [u]_B = [T(u)]_C} \text{ for all } u \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n$$

**Theorem:** Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a linear transformation with standard matrix  $A$ . Given bases  $\mathbf{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbf{C} = \{\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_m\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Let  $A_C^B$  be the matrix of  $T$  with respect to  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$ , i.e.

$$\boxed{A_C^B [u]_B = [T(u)]_C} \text{ for all } u \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Then

$$\boxed{A_C^B = P_C^{-1} A P_B}.$$

**Proof:** Idea: Read the diagram above.



# SIMILARITY = SAME TRANSFORMATION WITH DIFFERENT BASIS

**Note:** Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a linear transformation with **standard matrix**  $A$ . Then  $A$  and  $K$  are similar matrices, if and only if  $K$  is the matrix of  $T$  with respect to another basis  $B$ .

**Proof:**

**Example:** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be the linear transformation with standard matrix  $A$ .

1.) Show that the matrix  $A_B^B = P_B^{-1}AP_B$  of  $T$  with respect to  $B$  (and  $B$ ) is a diagonal matrix  $D$ . This means that  $A$  and  $D$  are similar.

2.) Use 1.) to find the determinant of  $A$ .

3.) Calculate  $A^5$  in a simple way using 1.)



# DIAGONALIZATION

**Definition:** A square matrix  $A$  is said to be **diagonalizable** if  $A$  is similar to a diagonal matrix, that is, if

$$A = PDP^{-1}$$

for some **invertible matrix**  $P = P_B = [b_1, \dots, b_n]$  and some **diagonal matrix**  $D$ .

**Theorem 5:** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is **diagonalizable** if and only if  $A$  has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors that form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We call such a basis  $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  an **eigenvector basis** of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Note 1: Theorem 5** says that if there is an eigenvector basis  $B$  of  $A$ , then the corresponding transformation

$$T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, x \mapsto T(x) = Ax$$

has a very **simple form** with respect to the basis  $B$ .



# DIAGONALIZATION

**General procedure for a diagonalization of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ :**

1.) Find the **eigenvalues** of  $A$  by solving the equation

$$\boxed{\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0} \quad \text{for } \lambda.$$

2.) For each **eigenvalue**  $\lambda_i$  find a **basis of eigenvectors**  $\mathbf{B}(\lambda_i)$  for

$$\boxed{\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_i) = \text{Nul}(A - \lambda_i I_n)}.$$

3.) If the combined bases  $(\mathbf{B}(\lambda_i))_i$  form a basis  $\mathbf{B}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\boxed{P_B = [\mathbf{B}(\lambda_1), \mathbf{B}(\lambda_2), \dots]} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{A = P_B D P_B^{-1}}.$$

**Note: Theorem 7** will give us conditions to see when a diagonalization is not possible. These conditions allow us to stop after Step 1.) or 2.)

**Example:** Diagonalize the following matrix, if possible.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Note:**  $\det(A - \lambda I_n) = -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 2)^2$  and

$$\text{Nul}(A - 1I_n) = \text{Span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

# DIAGONALIZATION

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# THEOREMS ABOUT DIAGONALIZATION

**Theorem 6:** An  $n \times n$  matrix with  $n$  distinct eigenvalues is diagonalizable.

- **Proof:** Let  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n$  be eigenvectors corresponding to the  $n$  distinct eigenvalues of a matrix  $A$ . Then  $\{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n\}$  is linearly independent, by **Theorem 2** in **Sect. 5.1**. Hence  $A$  is diagonalizable, by **Theorem 5**.

**Note: 1.)** It is **not necessary** for an  $n \times n$  matrix to have  $n$  distinct eigenvalues in order to be diagonalizable (see the previous **Example**)

**2.)** When  $A$  is diagonalizable but has fewer than  $n$  distinct eigenvalues, it might still be possible to find a basis of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n$ , to build  $P_B = [\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n]$ .



# THEOREMS ABOUT DIAGONALIZATION

**Theorem 7:** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$ , where  $p \leq n$ . Let  $m(\lambda_k)$  be the multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$ .

a. For  $1 \leq k \leq p$  we have:  $\dim(\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_k)) \leq m(\lambda_k)$  .

b. The matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if

$$\dim(\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_1)) + \dots + \dim(\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_p)) = n$$
 .

This happens if and only if

(i) the **char. polynomial factors completely** into linear factors

(ii) For  $1 \leq k \leq p$  we have  $\dim(\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_k)) = m(\lambda_k)$  .

c. If  $A$  is diagonalizable and  $B_k$  is a basis for  $\text{Eig}(A, \lambda_k)$ , then  $B = \{B_1, \dots, B_p\}$  forms an eigenvector basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Example 1:** We have seen that the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{is diagonalizable.}$$

**Example 2:** The matrix

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{is not diagonalizable.}$$

**Note:**  $\det(B - \lambda I_n) = -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 2)^2$  and

$$\text{Nul}(B - 1I_n) = \text{Span}\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

# THEOREMS ABOUT DIAGONALIZATION

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