



Topic :

The change of bases and the change of coordinates.



Discussion :

Let  $A_{old} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ ,

$A_{new} = (v'_1, v'_2, \dots, v'_n)$ ,

where  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $\{v'_1, v'_2, \dots, v'_n\}$  are two bases of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and the relation between the two sets of basis vectors is

$$\begin{cases} v'_1 = a_{11} \cdot v_1 + a_{21} \cdot v_2 + \dots + a_{n1} \cdot v_n \\ v'_2 = a_{12} \cdot v_1 + a_{22} \cdot v_2 + \dots + a_{n2} \cdot v_n \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ v'_n = a_{1n} \cdot v_1 + a_{2n} \cdot v_2 + \dots + a_{nn} \cdot v_n \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{(v'_1 \ v'_2 \ \dots \ v'_n)}_{A_{new}} = \underbrace{(v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n)}_{A_{old}} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}}_{P_{n \times n}}$$

$\Rightarrow A_{new} = A_{old} P$ , where  $P$  is called the transition matrix.

(Since  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $A_{old}$  is invertible

Similarly, we can show that  $A_{new}$  is invertible.

$$\Rightarrow P = A_{old}^{-1} \cdot A_{new} \Rightarrow \det(P) = \det(A_{old}^{-1} \cdot A_{new}) = \frac{1}{\det(A_{old})} \cdot \det(A_{new}) \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow P$  is invertible  $\Rightarrow A_{old}, A_{new}, P$  are all invertible.

Let the coordinate of a vector  $u$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$  relative to the two bases are

$$x_{old} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T, \text{ and } x_{new} = (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_n)^T.$$

$$\text{Then } u = x'_1 \cdot v'_1 + x'_2 \cdot v'_2 + \dots + x'_n \cdot v'_n = x_1 \cdot v_1 + x_2 \cdot v_2 + \dots + x_n \cdot v_n$$

$$\Rightarrow (v'_1 \ v'_2 \ \dots \ v'_n) \cdot (x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_n)^T = (v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n) \cdot (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{\text{new}} \cdot x_{\text{new}} = A_{\text{old}} \cdot x_{\text{old}}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{\text{new}} = A_{\text{new}}^{-1} \cdot A_{\text{old}} \cdot x_{\text{old}} \quad (*)$$

Since  $A_{\text{new}} = A_{\text{old}} \cdot P$ , then  $A_{\text{old}} = A_{\text{new}} \cdot P^{-1}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow x_{\text{new}} &= A_{\text{new}}^{-1} \cdot A_{\text{new}} \cdot P^{-1} \cdot x_{\text{old}} \\ &= P^{-1} \cdot x_{\text{old}}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$



Conclusion:

If the change of bases is  $A_{\text{new}} = A_{\text{old}} \cdot P$ ,

the change of coordinates is  $x_{\text{new}} = P^{-1} \cdot x_{\text{old}}$ .