

The linear transformation  $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$  can now be described in terms of matrix multiplication (notation as above):

Theorem: If  $\varphi: V \rightarrow W$  is linear and  $S, S'$  is a basis for  $V, W$ , respectively, then  $[\varphi]_{S'}^{S'} [\vec{v}]_S = [\varphi(\vec{v})]_{S'}$ .

Proof: If  $\vec{v} = \alpha_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{v}_n$ , then by linearity of  $\varphi$  we have  $\varphi(\vec{v}) = \alpha_1 \varphi(\vec{v}_1) + \dots + \alpha_n \varphi(\vec{v}_n)$ . Since coordinatization in  $W$  is also linear, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [\varphi(\vec{v})]_{S'} &= \alpha_1 [\varphi(\vec{v}_1)]_{S'} + \dots + \alpha_n [\varphi(\vec{v}_n)]_{S'} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} [\varphi(\vec{v}_1)]_{S'} & \dots & [\varphi(\vec{v}_n)]_{S'} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} = [\varphi(\vec{v})]_{S'}^{S'} [\vec{v}]_S \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Remarks: ① The theorem says that via coordinatization, every linear map between finite dimensional vector spaces can be expressed as matrix multiplication.

② If  $V=W$  and  $S=S'=B$ ,  $T: V \rightarrow V$  a linear operator, we write  $[T]_B$  instead of  $[T]_B^{S'}$  or  $[T]_B^B$ , and we call  $[T]_B$  the matrix of  $T$  relative to  $B$ . Then  $[T]_B [\vec{v}]_B = [T(\vec{v})]_B$ .

EXAMPLES:

① If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\varphi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\varphi = \varphi_A$ , then  $A = [\varphi]_E$ , where  $E$  is the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (The  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of  $A$  is precisely  $Ae_j = [\varphi(e_j)]_E$ .)

②  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by  $T(x, y, z) = (x+y, y+z, 3z)$  and  $B = \{(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)\}$ , the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Then

$$\left. \begin{aligned} T(1, 0, 0) &= (1, 0, 0) \\ T(0, 1, 0) &= (1, 1, 0) \\ T(0, 0, 1) &= (0, 1, 3) \end{aligned} \right\} s_0 [T]_B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{[T]_B} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}}_{[\vec{v}]_B} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x+y \\ y+z \\ 3z \end{bmatrix}}_{[T(\vec{v})]_B}$$