

That is, if

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{v}_1 &= c_{11}\bar{u}_1 + \dots + c_{n1}\bar{u}_n \\ \bar{v}_2 &= c_{12}\bar{u}_1 + \dots + c_{n2}\bar{u}_n \\ &\vdots \\ \bar{v}_n &= c_{1n}\bar{u}_1 + \dots + c_{nn}\bar{u}_n \end{aligned} \quad \text{then } P = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1n} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & c_{n2} & \dots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe that P , the change of basis matrix S to S' , is the matrix relative to S of the linear transformation on V sending $\bar{u}_i \in S$ to $\bar{v}_i \in S'$. This is, if $F: V \rightarrow V$ is linear with $F(\bar{u}_1) = \bar{v}_1, F(\bar{u}_2) = \bar{v}_2, \dots, F(\bar{u}_n) = \bar{v}_n$, then $[F]_S = P$.

Similarly Q , change of basis matrix S' to S is the matrix relative to S' of the map $V \rightarrow V$ sending $\bar{v}_i \in S'$ to $\bar{u}_i \in S$.

Theorem:

Let $S = \{\bar{u}_1, \dots, \bar{u}_n\}, S' = \{\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_n\}$,
 $P = [c_{ij}]_S, \dots, [c_{jn}]_S, Q = [q_{ij}]_{S'}, \dots, [q_{in}]_{S'}$ as above.

For $\bar{w} \in V$:

$$P[\bar{w}]_{S'} = [\bar{w}]_S \quad \text{and} \quad Q[\bar{w}]_S = [\bar{w}]_{S'}$$

Moreover, $Q = P^{-1}$.

Proof: See text, Problem 6.22. \square

Observe that the theorem holds if \bar{w} is \bar{u}_i or \bar{v}_i .

We have $[\bar{v}_i]_{S'} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow i$ and so $P[\bar{v}_i]_{S'} = i^{\text{th}}$ column of $P = [\bar{v}_i]_S$

Similarly, $[\bar{u}_i]_S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow i$ and $Q[\bar{u}_i]_S = i^{\text{th}}$ column of $Q = [\bar{u}_i]_{S'}$

- This observation is a good way to check that you are using the correct basis change matrix.
- Also, the general rule is that the columns of a basis change matrix are the coordinates of the new basis vectors relative to the old basis.