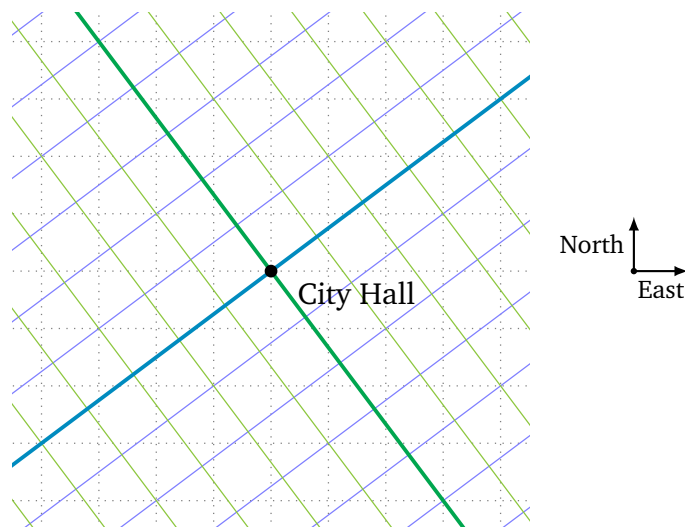


Change of Basis & Coordinates

41

The mythical town of Oronto is not aligned with the usual compass directions. The streets are laid out as follows:



Instead, every street is parallel to the vector $\vec{d}_1 = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \text{ east} \\ 3 \text{ north} \end{bmatrix}$ or $\vec{d}_2 = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} -3 \text{ east} \\ 4 \text{ north} \end{bmatrix}$. The center of town is City Hall at $\vec{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \text{ east} \\ 0 \text{ north} \end{bmatrix}$.

Locations in Oronto are typically specified in *street coordinates*. That is, as a pair (a, b) where a is how far you walk along streets in the \vec{d}_1 direction and b is how far you walk in the \vec{d}_2 direction, provided you start at city hall.

- 41.1 The points $A = (2, 1)$ and $B = (3, -1)$ are given in street coordinates. Find their east-north coordinates.
- 41.2 The points $X = (4, 3)$ and $Y = (1, 7)$ are given in east-north coordinates. Find their street coordinates.
- 41.3 Define $\vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \text{ east} \\ 0 \text{ north} \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \text{ east} \\ 1 \text{ north} \end{bmatrix}$. Does $\text{span}\{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\} = \text{span}\{\vec{d}_1, \vec{d}_2\}$?
- 41.4 Notice that $Y = 5\vec{d}_1 + 5\vec{d}_2 = \vec{e}_1 + 7\vec{e}_2$. Is the point Y better represented by the pair $(5, 5)$ or by the pair $(1, 7)$? Explain.

Representation in a Basis

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_n\}$ be a basis for a subspace V and let $\vec{v} \in V$. The *representation of \vec{v} in the \mathcal{B} basis*, notated $[\vec{v}]_{\mathcal{B}}$, is the column matrix

$$[\vec{v}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ uniquely satisfy $\vec{v} = \alpha_1 \vec{b}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{b}_n$.

Conversely,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}_{\mathcal{B}} = \alpha_1 \vec{b}_1 + \dots + \alpha_n \vec{b}_n$$

is notation for the linear combination of $\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_n$ with coefficients $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$.

DEFINITION

42

Let $\mathcal{E} = \{\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2\}$ be the standard basis for \mathbb{R}^2 and let $\mathcal{C} = \{\vec{c}_1, \vec{c}_2\}$ where $\vec{c}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}_{\mathcal{E}}$ and $\vec{c}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}_{\mathcal{E}}$ be another basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

- 42.1 Express \vec{c}_1 and \vec{c}_2 as a linear combination of \vec{e}_1 and \vec{e}_2 .
- 42.2 Express \vec{e}_1 and \vec{e}_2 as a linear combination of \vec{c}_1 and \vec{c}_2 .
- 42.3 Let $\vec{v} = 2\vec{e}_1 + 2\vec{e}_2$. Find $[\vec{v}]_{\mathcal{E}}$ and $[\vec{v}]_{\mathcal{C}}$.
- 42.4 Can you find a matrix X so that $X[\vec{w}]_{\mathcal{C}} = [\vec{w}]_{\mathcal{E}}$ for any \vec{w} ?
- 42.5 Can you find a matrix Y so that $Y[\vec{w}]_{\mathcal{E}} = [\vec{w}]_{\mathcal{C}}$ for any \vec{w} ?
- 42.6 What is YX ?