

Let V be a vector space of dimension k with two bases B, C :

$$B = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\},$$

$$C = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}.$$

Since C is a basis, we can write

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = a_{11}\mathbf{u}_1 + a_{21}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = a_{12}\mathbf{u}_1 + a_{22}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots,$$

etc

Letting $M = (a_{ij})$ we have obtained the change of basis matrix

$$C \leftarrow B = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

Since B is a basis we can similarly write

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = b_{11}\mathbf{v}_1 + b_{21}\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots$$

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = b_{12}\mathbf{v}_1 + b_{22}\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots, \text{ etc}$$

etc

$$B \leftarrow C = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

We check

$$\mathbf{u}_i = b_{1i}\mathbf{v}_1 + b_{2i}\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots = b_{1i}(a_{11}\mathbf{u}_1 + a_{21}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots) + b_{2i}(a_{12}\mathbf{u}_1 + a_{22}\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots) + \dots$$

Now the coefficient of \mathbf{u}_i must be one since C is a basis with unique coordinates and similarly the coefficient of \mathbf{u}_j for $i \neq j$ must be 0.

Thus $1 = b_{1i}a_{i1} + b_{2i}a_{i2} + \dots = a_{i1}b_{1i} + a_{i2}b_{2i} + \dots$ which is the ii entry of MN .

Also $0 = b_{1i}a_{j1} + b_{2i}a_{j2} + \dots = a_{j1}b_{1i} + a_{j2}b_{2i} + \dots$ which is the ij entry of MN for $i \neq j$. We have shown $MN = I$ and so M is invertible.