

SECTION 3.3

NUMBER 5

3.3.5

Find the coordinate vector of $\vec{v} = [3, 13, -1]$ relative to the ordered basis

$$B = ([1, 3, -2], [4, 1, 3], [-1, 2, 0]).$$

Solution

Well, we need to express \vec{v} as a linear combination of the given basis elements.

We'll have the coordinate vector

$$\vec{v}_B = [v_1, v_2, v_3] \text{ where}$$

$$\vec{v} = v_1 \vec{b}_1 + v_2 \vec{b}_2 + v_3 \vec{b}_3.$$

With A as a matrix whose columns are $\vec{b}_1, \vec{b}_2, \vec{b}_3$ we need to solve $A\vec{v}_B = \vec{v}$:

$$[A|\vec{v}] = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 13 \\ -2 & 3 & 0 & -1 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 2R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -11 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 11 & -2 & 5 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -11 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 9 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow R_3 / (3) \\ R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + R_3 \\ R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 5R_3 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -11 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & -11 & 0 & -11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} R_2 \rightarrow R_2 / (-11) \\ R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 4R_2 \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{So } \boxed{\vec{v}_B = [2, 1, 3]}, \quad \square$$