

# Practical Linear Algebra: A GEOMETRY TOOLBOX

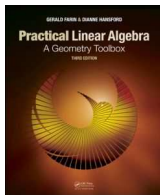
Third edition

## Chapter 1: Descartes' Discovery

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[www.farinhanford.com/books/pla](http://www.farinhanford.com/books/pla)

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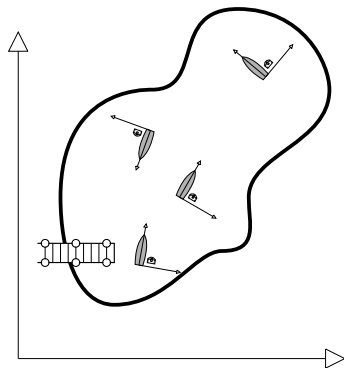


# Outline

- 1 Introduction to Descartes' Discovery
- 2 Local and Global Coordinates: 2D
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- 5 Stepping Outside the Box
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# Introduction to Descartes' Discovery

**Tale of Schilda:** Save the town treasure! Hide it in the lake. Where? We'll make a notch in the boat to record treasure location. Good idea?



**Local and global coordinate systems:**

Treasure's local coordinates with respect to the boat do not change as the boat moves.

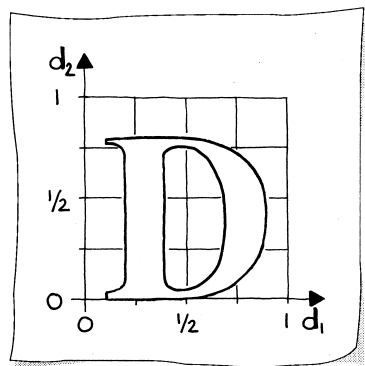
Treasure's global coordinates with respect to the lake do change as the boat moves.

This chapter is about the interplay of local and global coordinates systems

René Descartes (1596-1650)

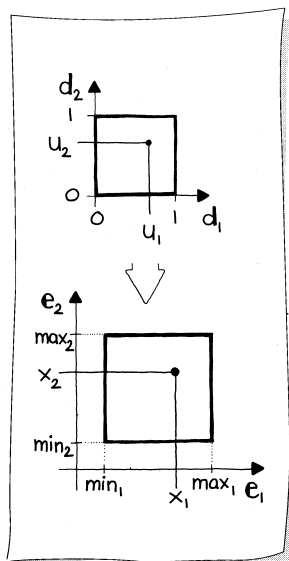
- French philosopher, mathematician, and writer
- Invented the theory of *coordinate systems*
- Cartesian coordinates (Descartes in Latin is Cartesius)
- Key for linking algebra and geometry

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



Font design example:  
a local 2D coordinate system

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



Top: local system

Bottom: global system

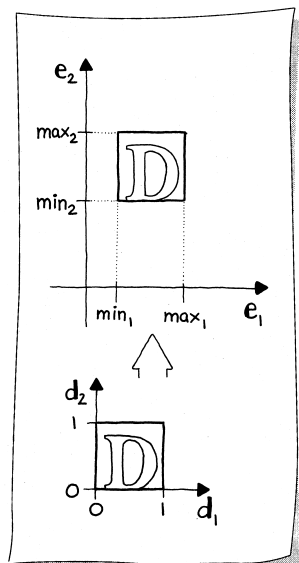
Map local  $(u_1, u_2)$  to global  $(x_1, x_2)$

$$x_1 = (1 - u_1)\min_1 + u_1\max_1$$

$$x_2 = (1 - u_2)\min_2 + u_2\max_2$$

Local coordinates also called  
*parameters*

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



Local and global  $D$

Check mapping of  $(u_1, u_2) = (0, 0)$ :

$$x_1 = (1 - 0) \cdot min_1 + 0 \cdot max_1 = min_1$$

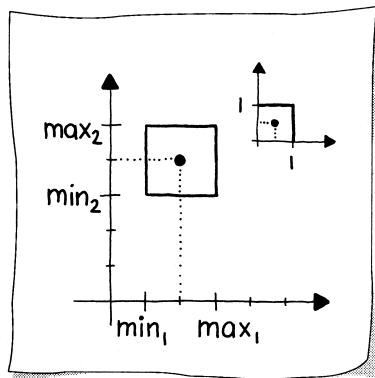
$$x_2 = (1 - 0) \cdot min_2 + 0 \cdot max_2 = min_2$$

Check mapping of  $(u_1, u_2) = (1, 0)$ :

$$x_1 = (1 - 1) \cdot min_1 + 1 \cdot max_1 = max_1$$

$$x_2 = (1 - 0) \cdot min_2 + 0 \cdot max_2 = min_2$$

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



## Example:

Given target box

$$(\min_1, \min_2) = (1, 3)$$

$$(\max_1, \max_2) = (3, 5)$$

Local midpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$  maps to

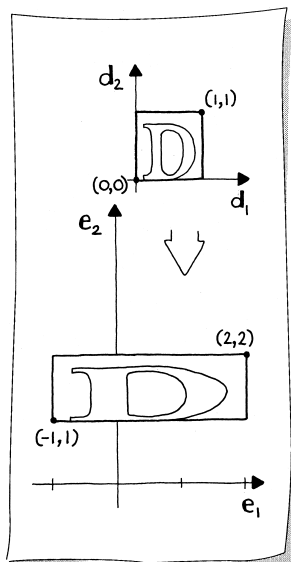
$$x_1 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 = 2$$

$$x_2 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 5 = 4$$

midpoint of the target box



# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



Target box need not be square:

$$(\min_1, \min_2) = (-1, 1)$$

$$(\max_1, \max_2) = (2, 2)$$

Results in a distortion of  $D$

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D

Local to global transformation:

$$x_1 = (1 - u_1)\min_1 + u_1\max_1$$

$$x_2 = (1 - u_2)\min_2 + u_2\max_2$$

Define  $\Delta_1 = \max_1 - \min_1$  and  $\Delta_2 = \max_2 - \min_2$ .

Now we have

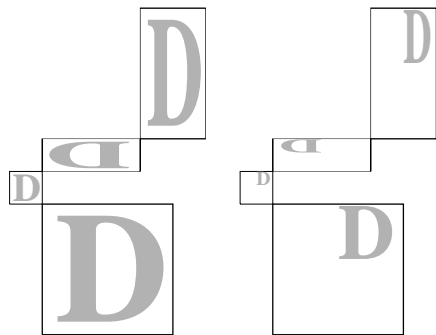
$$x_1 = \min_1 + u_1\Delta_1$$

$$x_2 = \min_2 + u_2\Delta_2$$

**Aspect ratio** is ratio of width to height:  $\Delta_1/\Delta_2$  or  $\Delta_1 : \Delta_2$

- Old television: 4 : 3 (nearly square)
- New television: 16 : 9
- International (ISO A series) paper: 1 :  $\sqrt{2}$

# Local and Global Coordinates: 2D



Target boxes:

Letter **D** mapped several times.

Left: centered in the unit square.

Right: not centered

$\Delta_1$  and geometry in  $\mathbf{e}_1$ -direction:

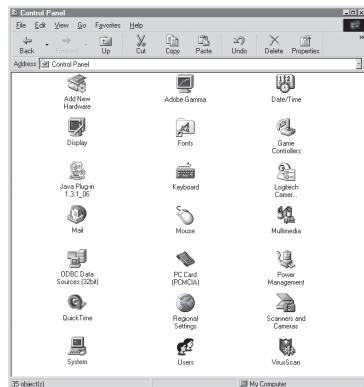
- $\Delta_1 > 1$ : stretch
- $0 < \Delta_1 < 1$ : shrink
- $\Delta_1 < 0$ : reverse

Same idea for

$\Delta_2$  and geometry in  $\mathbf{e}_2$ -direction

# Going from Global to Local

**Example:** selecting an icon



Pixel extents of window on screen:

$$(\min_1, \min_2) = (120, 300)$$

$$(\max_1, \max_2) = (600, 820)$$

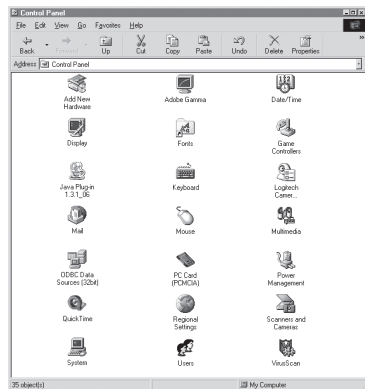
$7 \times 3$  icons live in  
local coordinate partition:

$$0, 0.33, 0.67, 1$$

$$0, 0.14, 0.29, 0.43, 0.57, 0.71, 0.86, 1$$

# Going from Global to Local

$$u_1 = \frac{x_1 - \min_1}{\Delta_1} \quad u_2 = \frac{x_2 - \min_2}{\Delta_2}$$



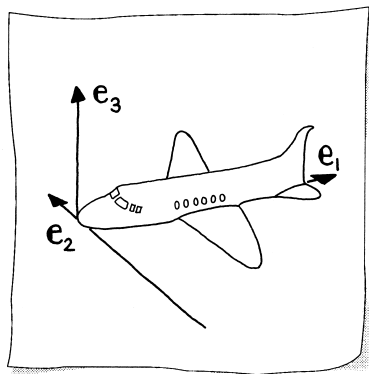
Mouse click returns (200, 709)

$$u_1 = \frac{200 - 120}{480} \approx 0.17$$

$$u_2 = \frac{709 - 300}{520} \approx 0.79$$

Find local coordinates in partition  
"Display" icon picked

# Local and Global Coordinates: 3D



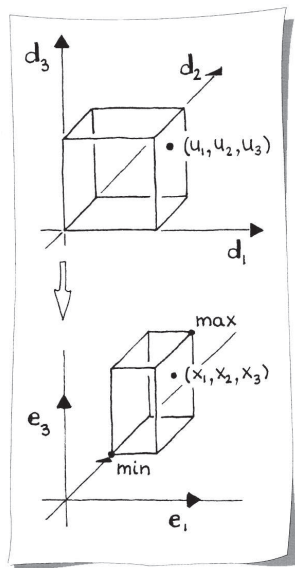
Engineering objects designed using *Computer Aided Design (CAD)* system

Every object defined in a (local) coordinate system

Many individual objects integrated into one (global) coordinate system

**Example:** airplane  
engines, seats, wheels, body, etc.

# Local and Global Coordinates: 3D



Local 3D coordinate system:

$[d_1, d_2, d_3]$ -system

Coordinates  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$

Defining *unit cube*

$$0 \leq u_1, u_2, u_3 \leq 1$$

Cube mapped to *3D target box* in  
global  $[e_1, e_2, e_3]$ -system

Target box extents:

$$(\min_1, \min_2, \min_3)$$

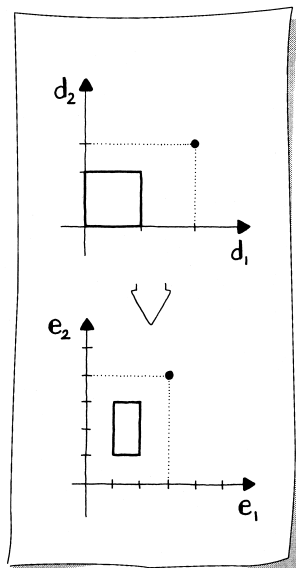
$$(\max_1, \max_2, \max_3)$$

$$x_1 = (1 - u_1)\min_1 + u_1\max_1$$

$$x_2 = (1 - u_2)\min_2 + u_2\max_2$$

$$x_3 = (1 - u_3)\min_3 + u_3\max_3$$

# Stepping Outside the Box



2D coordinate outside the target box  
Target box given by

$$(\min_1, \min_2) = (1, 1)$$

$$(\max_1, \max_2) = (2, 3)$$

Coordinates  $(u_1, u_2) = (2, 3/2)$

not inside the  $[\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2]$ -system

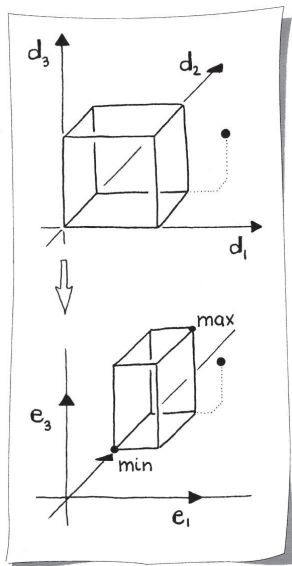
Corresponding global coordinates:

$$x_1 = -\min_1 + 2\max_1 = 3,$$

$$x_2 = -\frac{1}{2}\min_2 + \frac{3}{2}\max_2 = 4$$



# Stepping Outside the Box

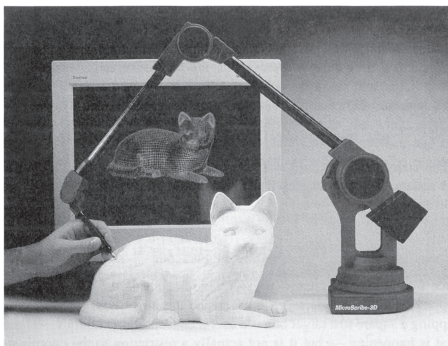


3D coordinates outside the target box

# Application: Creating Coordinates

Digitizing: Real object  $\Rightarrow$  digital object

Cat “discretized” – turned into a finite number of coordinate triples



Coordinate Measuring Machine (CMM)

Arm records the position of its tip

Touch three points on the table to establish 3D coordinate system

Touch cat model to record coordinates for position

Points called a **point cloud**

- unit square
- 2D and 3D local coordinates
- 2D and 3D global coordinates
- coordinate transformation
- parameter
- aspect ratio
- normalized coordinates
- digitizing
- point cloud