

§6 Inner product spaces

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1. Inner Product Spaces

Recall that for vectors $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$ in \mathbb{R}^n , the **dot product** of \vec{u} and \vec{v} is

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \cdots + u_n v_n.$$

Similarly the dot product of \vec{u} and \vec{v} in \mathbb{C}^n is $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \bar{v}_i$

Theorem 1 (Properties of the dot Product). *For vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and a scalar $c \in \mathbb{R}$, the following hold:*

- (1.) $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$.
- (2.) $(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}$.
- (3.) $(c\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{v} = c(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) = \vec{u} \cdot (c\vec{v})$.
- (4.) $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} \geq 0$, and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = 0$ if and only if $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$.

More generally, we can define inner product on a general vector space V over \mathbb{R} as

Definition 2 (Inner Product). Let V be a real vector space. An **inner product** on V is a binary function

$$\langle -, - \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

such that for vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in V$ and a scalar $c \in \mathbb{R}$, the following hold:

- (1.) $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = \langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle$.
- (2.) $\langle \vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{w} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle$.
- (3.) $\langle c\vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = c\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle$.
- (4.) $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{u} \rangle \geq 0$
- (5.) $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{u} \rangle = 0$ if and only if $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$.

We call V an **inner product space**.

Remark: For complex number field \mathbb{C} , item (1) is conjugate symmetry $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = \overline{\langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle}$.

Over \mathbb{R} , by symmetry, $\langle \vec{u}, c\vec{v} \rangle = c\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle$.

Over \mathbb{C} , by conjugate symmetry, $\langle \vec{u}, c\vec{v} \rangle = \overline{\langle c\vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle} = \overline{c\langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle} = \bar{c}\overline{\langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle} = \bar{c}\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle$.

Example 3. (Weighted dot products) Let c_1, \dots, c_n be positive numbers. The weighted inner product on \mathbb{F}^n is

$$\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle := \sum_{i=1}^n c_i v_i \overline{w_i}$$

Check that it satisfies all axioms.

On \mathbb{R}^n , we don't have to put conjugate.

Example 4. Let $P_n(\mathbb{F})$ be the vector space of polynomials of degree at most n with coefficient in \mathbb{F} .

An inner product on $P_n(\mathbb{R})$ can be defined as

$$\langle p, q \rangle = \int_0^1 p(t)q(t) dt$$

or as $\langle p, q \rangle = \int_0^1 p(t)\overline{q(t)} dt$ on $P_n(\mathbb{C})$.

In an inner product space, we have geometry and more tools to work with. Most properties of inner product space are similar as dot products.

Definition 5. Two vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} are called **orthogonal** if $\langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle = 0$.

2. Norms

Definition 6 (Norm of a Vector). Let V be an inner product space over \mathbb{F} . The **length** or **norm** of a vector $\vec{v} \in V$, denoted by $\|\vec{v}\|$, is defined as

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{\langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle}$$

where v_1, \dots, v_n are the coordinates of \vec{v} .

$\|\vec{v}\| = 0$ if and only if $\vec{v} = \vec{0}$.

A vector \vec{u} is called an **unit vector** if $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$.

If a vector \vec{w} is not an unit vector, we can find a unit vector on the same direction defined by

$$\frac{\vec{w}}{\|\vec{w}\|}$$

and called the **normalization** of \vec{w} .

Proposition 7. For any vector $\vec{v} \in V$ and any scalar $c \in \mathbb{F}$ one obtains

$$\|c \cdot \vec{v}\| = |c| \cdot \|\vec{v}\|.$$

Proof. The proof is the same for $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} .

$$\|c\vec{v}\|^2 = \langle c\vec{v}, c\vec{v} \rangle = c\bar{c}\langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle = |c|^2\|\vec{v}\|^2.$$

□

Theorem 8 (Pythagorean Theorem). If two vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ are orthogonal, then they satisfy the **Pythagorean Relation**

$$\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2.$$

Proof. Proof: Two vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ are orthogonal if and only if $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = 0$.

$$\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 = \langle \vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{u} + \vec{v} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{u} \rangle + \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2$$

□

Definition 9. Let $L = \text{Span}\{\vec{w}\}$ be the subspace in V spanned by $\vec{w} \in V$. For a given vector $\vec{y} \in V$, the vector

$$\text{proj}_L(\vec{y}) := \left(\frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{w} \rangle}{\langle \vec{w}, \vec{w} \rangle} \right) \vec{w}$$

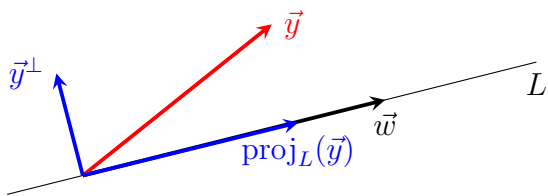
is called the **orthogonal projection of \vec{y} onto L** (or onto \vec{w}) and

$$\vec{y}^\perp := \vec{y} - \text{proj}_L(\vec{y})$$

the component of \vec{y} orthogonal to L (or \vec{w}).

Proposition 10. Let \vec{w} be a nonzero vector in V . Any vector $\vec{y} \in V$ can be uniquely written as the sum of a scalar product of $\vec{w} \in V$ and a vector orthogonal to \vec{w} .

Proof. $\vec{y} = \text{proj}_L(\vec{y}) + \vec{y}^\perp$. Suppose there is another decomposition $\vec{y} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}$ such that $\vec{a} = c\vec{w}$ and \vec{b} is orthogonal to \vec{w} . Then $\langle \vec{y}, \vec{w} \rangle = \langle \vec{a} + \vec{b}, \vec{w} \rangle = \langle c\vec{w}, \vec{w} \rangle + \langle \vec{b}, \vec{w} \rangle = c\langle \vec{w}, \vec{w} \rangle$. Hence $c = \frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{w} \rangle}{\langle \vec{w}, \vec{w} \rangle}$ □



Theorem 11 (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality).

$$|\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle| \leq \|\vec{x}\| \cdot \|\vec{y}\|$$

The equality holds if and only if $\vec{y} = c\vec{x}$.

Proof. $\vec{y} = \text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y}) + \vec{y}^\perp$.

$$\|\vec{y}\|^2 = \langle \vec{y}, \vec{y} \rangle = \|\text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})\|^2 + \|\vec{y}^\perp\|^2 = \frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{x} \rangle^2}{\langle \vec{x}, \vec{x} \rangle} + \|\vec{y}^\perp\|^2 \geq \frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{x} \rangle^2}{\langle \vec{x}, \vec{x} \rangle}.$$

The equality holds if and only if $\vec{y}^\perp = \vec{0}$. □

In particular, $\|\vec{y}\| \geq \|\text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})\|$.

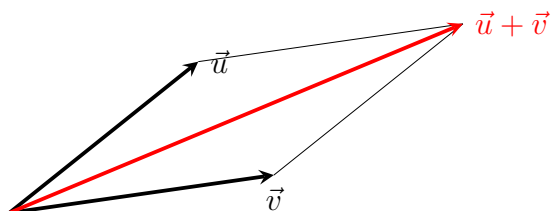
Proposition 12 (Triangle Inequality). Two vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ satisfy

$$\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 &= \langle \vec{u} + \vec{v}, \vec{u} + \vec{v} \rangle = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{u} \rangle + \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \vec{u} \rangle + \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 + 2\text{Re}\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle \\ &\leq \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 + 2|\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle| \leq \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 + 2\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| = (\|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

□



Definition 13. (Angles Between Vectors) The **angle between two nonzero vectors** $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in V$ is the angle $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ satisfying

$$\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = \|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cdot \cos \theta.$$

Or we can write

$$\theta = \arccos \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\|}.$$

In particular, when $\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle = 0$, the angle $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$.

A vector space V with norm is called a **normed vector space**. In fact, not every norm is defined by inner product. More generally, one can define normed space by axioms:

Definition 14. A **norm** on V is a map from V to \mathbb{F} such that

- (1) $\|\vec{x}\| \geq 0$ for all $\vec{x} \in V$. $\|\vec{x}\| = 0$ if and only if $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.
- (2) $\|c\vec{x}\| = |c| \cdot \|\vec{x}\|$ for all $\vec{x} \in V$ and $c \in \mathbb{F}$.
- (3) The triangle inequality $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$ holds for all vectors in V .

Definition 15 (Distance Between Vectors). The **distance** $\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v})$ between vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined as

$$\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|.$$

Note that $\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) \geq 0$ for any pair of vectors $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = 0$ if and only if $\vec{u} = \vec{v}$. Also, $\text{dist}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \text{dist}(\vec{v}, \vec{u})$.

Example 16. (l^p spaces) Let $1 \leq p < \infty$, it is natural to define l^p norms on \mathbb{F}^n

$$\|\vec{x}\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

When $p = 2$, it is the norm induced by the dot product.

Example 17. (l^∞ spaces) It is natural to define l^∞ norms on \mathbb{F}^n

$$\|\vec{x}\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \{|x_i|\}$$

Example 18. (Norms on $\mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$ induced by norms on \mathbb{F}^n) Normed matrix vector spaces $\mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$. Using norms on \mathbb{F}^n , one can define norms on matrix vector spaces

$$\|A\| = \sup\{\|A\vec{x}\| \mid \vec{x} \in \mathbb{F}^n \text{ with } \|\vec{x}\| = 1\} = \sup\left\{\frac{\|A\vec{x}\|}{\|\vec{x}\|} \mid \vec{x} \neq \vec{0} \in \mathbb{F}^n\right\}$$

Example 19. Infinity norm on $\mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$.

$$\|A\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}| \right\}$$

3. Orthogonal Projections and Orthonormal Bases

Definition 20 (Orthogonal Set). A set $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ of vectors in a inner vector space V is called **orthogonal** if $\langle \vec{u}_i, \vec{u}_j \rangle = 0$ for any choice of indices $i \neq j$.

Proposition 21.

- *Orthogonal vectors are linear independent.*
- *Orthonormal vectors $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n form a basis of \mathbb{R}^n .*

Proof. Suppose $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ is orthogonal and $c_1\vec{u}_1 + \dots + c_p\vec{u}_p = \vec{0}$. Then $\langle c_i\vec{u}_i, \vec{u}_i \rangle = c_i \langle \vec{u}_i, \vec{u}_i \rangle = 0$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$. So, $c_i = 0$.

□

Definition 22. • An **orthogonal basis** for a subspace W of an inner product space V is any basis for W which is also an orthogonal set.

• If each vector is a **unit** vector in an orthogonal basis, then it is an **orthonormal basis**.

Theorem 23 (Coordinates with respect to an orthogonal basis). Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ be an **orthogonal** basis for a subspace W of an inner product space V , and let \vec{y} be any vector in W . Then

$$\vec{y} = \left(\frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1 \rangle} \right) \vec{u}_1 + \dots + \left(\frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_p \rangle}{\langle \vec{u}_p, \vec{u}_p \rangle} \right) \vec{u}_p$$

If $W = \mathbb{R}^n$, then the \mathcal{B} -coordinates of \vec{y} are given by:

$$[\vec{y}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad c_i = \frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_i \rangle}{\langle \vec{u}_i, \vec{u}_i \rangle} = \frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_i \rangle}{\|\vec{u}_i\|^2}$$

In particular, let $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ be an **orthonormal** basis for a subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n , and let \vec{y} be any vector in W . Then

$$\vec{y} = \langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_1 \rangle \vec{u}_1 + \dots + \langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_p \rangle \vec{u}_p$$

Proof. Suppose $\vec{y} = c_1 \vec{u}_1 + \dots + c_p \vec{u}_p$. □

Let V be an inner product space.

We have defined orthogonal projection onto a vector in V . We can define the orthogonal projection on to an subspace W of V .

More generally, given a subspace W of V and a vector $\vec{y} \in V$, we can ask if/how one can find a decomposition of \vec{y} as

$$\vec{y} = \text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) + \vec{y}^\perp$$

with $\text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) \in W$ (the **orthogonal projection of \vec{y} on to W**) and \vec{y}^\perp is the **component of \vec{y} perpendicular to W** .

Theorem 24 (Orthogonal Decomposition). Let W be any subspace of V and let $\vec{y} \in V$ be any vector. Then there exists a unique decomposition

$$\vec{y} = \text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) + \vec{y}^\perp$$

with $\text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) \in W$ and \vec{y}^\perp is perpendicular to W .

Theorem 25 (Orthogonal Decomposition). If $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for W , then

$$\text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) = \left(\frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_1 \rangle} \right) \vec{u}_1 + \dots + \left(\frac{\langle \vec{y}, \vec{u}_p \rangle}{\langle \vec{u}_p, \vec{u}_p \rangle} \right) \vec{u}_p$$

and $\vec{y}^\perp = \vec{y} - \text{proj}_W(\vec{y})$.

Definition 26 (Orthogonal Complements). Given a nonempty **subset** (finite or infinite) W of V , we define its **orthogonal complement** W^\perp (pronounced “ W perp”) as the set of all vectors $\vec{v} \in V$ such that

$$\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle = 0, \quad \text{for all } \vec{w} \in W.$$

Expressed in set notation:

$$W^\perp = \{ \vec{v} \in V \mid \langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } \vec{w} \in W \}$$

Theorem 27. *Let S be a subset of V . Let $W = \text{Span}(S)$, then*

- (1) $S^\perp = W^\perp$
- (2) If $W = \text{Span}(\mathcal{B})$, then $W^\perp = \mathcal{B}^\perp$
- (3) W^\perp is a subspace of V (even when S is not).
- (4) $(W^\perp)^\perp = W$.
- (5) $\dim W + \dim W^\perp = \dim V$.

Theorem 28. *Let W be a subspace of V , then*

$$V = W \oplus W^\perp$$

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

The **row space** of A is $\text{Row}(A)$, spanned by the row vectors of A .

The **column space** of A is $\text{Col}(A)$, so $\text{Col}(A) = \text{im}(A)$.

The kernel of A is also called the **null space** of A , denoted $\text{Nul}(A)$.

Theorem 29. *Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix, then*

$$(\text{Row } A)^\perp = \ker(A) \quad \text{and} \quad (\text{im } A)^\perp = \ker A^T.$$

More over,

$$\mathbb{F}^m = \ker A^T \oplus \text{im } A$$

4. Gram-Schmidt process and QR-factorization

The **Gram-Schmidt process** is an algorithm that produces an orthogonal (or orthonormal) basis for any subspace W of V by starting with any basis for W .

Theorem 30 (Gram-Schmidt (Orthogonalize)). Let W be a subspace of V and let $\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_p$ be a basis for W . Define vectors $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p$ as

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_1 &= \vec{b}_1 \\ \vec{v}_2 &= \vec{b}_2 - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_2, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle} \vec{v}_1 \\ \vec{v}_3 &= \vec{b}_3 - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle} \vec{v}_1 - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{v}_2 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2 \rangle} \vec{v}_2 \\ &\vdots \\ \vec{v}_p &= \vec{b}_p - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_p, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_1 \rangle} \vec{v}_1 - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_p, \vec{v}_2 \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_2 \rangle} \vec{v}_2 - \dots - \frac{\langle \vec{b}_p, \vec{v}_{p-1} \rangle}{\langle \vec{v}_{p-1}, \vec{v}_{p-1} \rangle} \vec{v}_{p-1}\end{aligned}$$

Then $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for W and

$$\text{Span}\{\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_k\} = \text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k\}$$

for and $k = 1, \dots, p$.

Theorem 31 (Gram-Schmidt (Normalize)). If $\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for W , then $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$ is an orthonormal basis for W , where, $\vec{u}_i = \frac{\vec{v}_i}{\|\vec{v}_i\|}$ for $i = 1, \dots, p$.

Basis $\xrightarrow{\text{orthogonalize}}$ Orthogonal basis $\xrightarrow{\text{normalize}}$ Orthonormal basis.

- Note that the formula for computing \vec{v}_i for any $i = 2, 3, \dots, p$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v}_i &= \vec{b}_i - \text{proj}_{\vec{v}_1}(\vec{b}_i) - \text{proj}_{\vec{v}_2}(\vec{b}_i) - \dots - \text{proj}_{\vec{v}_{i-1}}(\vec{b}_i) \\ &= \vec{b}_i - \text{proj}_{\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{i-1}\}}(\vec{b}_i).\end{aligned}$$

So, $\vec{v}_i = \vec{b}_i^\perp$ respect to $\text{Span}\{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{i-1}\}$.

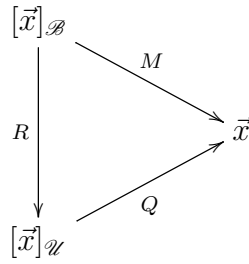
- This formula is *inductive* in that the computation of \vec{v}_i relies on the vectors $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{i-1}$.

QR-Factorization.

QR-Factorization is the matrix version of Gram-Schmidt process for a subspace W of \mathbb{F}^n :

Basis $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_p\} \xrightarrow{\text{orthogonalize}}$ Orthogonal basis $\mathcal{V} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_p\}$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{normalize}}$ Orthonormal basis $\mathcal{U} = \{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$.

Given a vector in W , let's compare their coordinates:



Each matrix defines an isomorphism. So, $M = QR$.

Here $M = [\vec{b}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{b}_p]$ and $Q = [\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p]$.

Theorem 32. Given a $n \times p$ matrix $M = [\vec{b}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{b}_p]$ with independent columns. There is a unique decomposition

$$M = QR$$

where, $Q = [\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p]$ has orthonormal columns and R is an $p \times p$ upper triangular matrix with

$$r_{ii} = \|\vec{v}_i\| \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, p \text{ and } r_{ij} = \langle \vec{u}_i, \vec{b}_j \rangle \text{ for } i < j.$$

Proof. Proof(for $p = 3$): From Gram-Schmidt process, write \vec{b}_i as linear combinations of \vec{u}_i .

$$\vec{b}_1 = \vec{v}_1 = \|\vec{v}_1\| \vec{u}_1$$

$$\vec{b}_2 = \vec{v}_2 + \frac{\langle \vec{b}_2, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2} \vec{v}_1 = \|\vec{v}_2\| \vec{u}_2 + \langle \vec{b}_2, \vec{u}_1 \rangle \vec{u}_1$$

$$\vec{b}_3 = \vec{v}_3 + \frac{\langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{v}_1 \rangle}{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2} \vec{v}_1 + \frac{\langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{v}_2 \rangle}{\|\vec{v}_2\|^2} \vec{v}_2 = \|\vec{v}_3\| \vec{u}_3 + \langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{u}_1 \rangle \vec{u}_1 + \langle \vec{b}_3, \vec{u}_2 \rangle \vec{u}_2$$

So,

$$[\vec{b}_1 \ \vec{b}_2 \ \vec{b}_3] = [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \vec{u}_3] \begin{bmatrix} \|\vec{v}_1\| & \langle \vec{u}_1, \vec{b}_2 \rangle & \langle \vec{u}_1, \vec{b}_3 \rangle \\ 0 & \|\vec{v}_2\| & \langle \vec{u}_2, \vec{b}_3 \rangle \\ 0 & 0 & \|\vec{v}_3\| \end{bmatrix}$$

□

5. Orthogonal Transformations and Orthogonal Matrices

Let V be a inner product space.

Definition 33. A linear transformation $T : V \rightarrow V$ is called **orthogonal** if

$$\|T(\vec{x})\| = \|\vec{x}\| \text{ for all } \vec{x} \in V$$

that is, T preserves the length of vectors.

Example 34. Whether or not the following transformations are orthogonal.

(1.) Rotations $S : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ are orthogonal transformations.

The matrix of rotation $S = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$ is orthogonal.

(2.) Reflections $R : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ are orthogonal transformations.

The matrix of reflection matrix $R = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{bmatrix}$ with $a^2 + b^2 = 1$ is orthogonal.

(3.) Orthogonal projections $P : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ are NOT orthogonal transformations.

The matrix of an orthogonal transformation $T : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^n$ is called an **orthogonal matrix**.

Theorem 35. Let U be an $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix and let \vec{x} and \vec{y} be any vectors in \mathbb{F}^n . Then

- (1) $\|U\vec{x}\| = \|\vec{x}\|$.
- (2) $\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$.
- (3) $\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle = 0$ if and only if $\langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle = 0$.

Proof. The transformation $T(\vec{x}) = U\vec{x}$ is orthogonal. So, we have 1.

For 2. $\|U(\vec{x} + \vec{y})\|^2 = \|\vec{x} + \vec{y}\|^2 = (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \cdot (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = \|\vec{x}\|^2 + 2\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} + \|\vec{y}\|^2$

$\|U(\vec{x} + \vec{y})\|^2 = \|U(\vec{x}) + U(\vec{y})\|^2 = \|U(\vec{x})\|^2 + \|U(\vec{y})\|^2 + 2\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle$.

Compare two formulas, we have $\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$. □

Proposition 36. U is an orthogonal matrix if and only if $\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$ for any \vec{x} and \vec{y} in \mathbb{R}^n .

The above theorem says that orthogonal transformations **preserve inner products**, hence also **preserve angles** and orthogonality.

Using the geometric meaning of the orthogonal transformation, we have

Theorem 37. 1. If A is orthogonal, then A is invertible and A^{-1} is orthogonal.

2. If A and B are orthogonal, then AB is orthogonal.

Theorem 38. The $n \times n$ matrix U is orthogonal if and only if $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$ is an orthonormal set.

Proof. Proof. “ \Rightarrow ” Suppose U is an orthogonal matrix. We prove that $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$ is an orthonormal set.

Use the property that U is orthogonal if and only if $\langle U\vec{x}, U\vec{y} \rangle = \langle \vec{x}, \vec{y} \rangle$. Apply the formula to standard vectors $\vec{x} = \vec{e}_i$ and $\vec{y} = \vec{e}_j$.

$$U\vec{e}_i = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \cdots \ u_n] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{u}_i$$

$$\text{Hence } \langle \vec{u}_i, \vec{u}_j \rangle = \langle U\vec{e}_i, U\vec{e}_j \rangle = \langle \vec{e}_i, \vec{e}_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{when } i = j \end{cases}$$

So, $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$ is orthonormal.

“ \Leftarrow ” Suppose $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n\}$ is an orthonormal set. We show that U is an orthogonal matrix.

$$\text{For any } \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, U\vec{x} = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \cdots \ u_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = x_1\vec{u}_1 + x_2\vec{u}_2 + \cdots + x_n\vec{u}_n$$

$$\|U\vec{x}\|^2 = \langle (x_1\vec{u}_1 + x_2\vec{u}_2 + \cdots + x_n\vec{u}_n), (x_1\vec{u}_1 + x_2\vec{u}_2 + \cdots + x_n\vec{u}_n) \rangle = x_1^2 + \cdots + x_n^2 = \|\vec{x}\|^2$$

So, $\|U\vec{x}\| = \|\vec{x}\|$ and hence U is an orthogonal matrix. □

Recall the transpose of a matrix: Given an $m \times n$ matrix A , we define the **transpose matrix** A^T as the $n \times m$ matrix whose (i, j) -th entry is the (j, i) -th entry of A . The dot product can be written as matrix product

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{v}^T \vec{w}$$

Theorem 39. *The $n \times n$ matrix A is orthogonal if and only if $A^T A = I_n$; if and only if $A^{-1} = A^T$.*

Proof. Proof. A is orthogonal if and only if $\{\vec{a}_1, \dots, \vec{a}_n\}$ is orthonormal, i.e., $\vec{a}_i \cdot \vec{a}_j = 1$ if $i = j$ and $\|\vec{a}_i\| = 1$.

On the other side, (write for the case $n = 3$)

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_1^T \\ \vec{a}_2^T \\ \vec{a}_3^T \end{bmatrix} [\vec{a}_1 \ \vec{a}_2 \ \vec{a}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_1^T \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_1^T \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_1^T \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{a}_2^T \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_2^T \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_2^T \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{a}_3^T \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_3^T \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_3^T \vec{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{a}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_1 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{a}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_2 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \\ \vec{a}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_1 & \vec{a}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_2 & \vec{a}_3 \cdot \vec{a}_3 \end{bmatrix} = I_3$$

□

Theorem 40. *Let W be any subspace of \mathbb{R}^n with an orthonormal basis $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$. Let $U = [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \cdots \ \vec{u}_p]$. For any $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$,*

$$\text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) = UU^T \vec{y}.$$

*That is, the **matrix of the projection** onto W is*

$$P = UU^T$$

Remark: 1. $p < n$ since W is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . When $p = n$, then $P = I_n$.

2. We always have $U^T U = I$ for orthonormal basis $\{\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_p\}$.

The theorem comes from the following formula from §5.1. The idea is to translate dot product to matrix product.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{proj}_W(\vec{y}) &= (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1)\vec{u}_1 + (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2)\vec{u}_2 + \cdots + (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_p)\vec{u}_p \\
 &= [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \cdots \ \vec{u}_p] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1 \\ \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_p \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \cdots \ \vec{u}_p] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{y} \\ \vec{u}_2 \cdot \vec{y} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{u}_p \cdot \vec{y} \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \cdots \ \vec{u}_p] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1^T \vec{y} \\ \vec{u}_2^T \vec{y} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{u}_p^T \vec{y} \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= [\vec{u}_1 \ \vec{u}_2 \ \cdots \ \vec{u}_p] \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1^T \\ \vec{u}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \vec{u}_p^T \end{bmatrix} \vec{y} \\
 &= UU^T \vec{y}
 \end{aligned}$$

6. THE ADJOINT OF A LINEAR OPERATOR