

## Section 6.1: Inner Product, Length, and Orthogonality

We defined the inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

**Definition:** For vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we define the **inner product** of  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  (also called the **dot product**) by the **matrix product**

$$\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = [u_1 \ u_2 \ \cdots \ u_n] \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \cdots + u_n v_n.$$

We'll use the notation  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v}$ .

## Properties of the Inner Product & Norm

**Theorem:** For  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and real scalar  $c$

(a)  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$

(b)  $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$

(c)  $c(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = (c\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \cdot (c\mathbf{v})$

(d)  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} \geq 0$ , with  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Definition:** The **norm** of the vector  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the nonnegative number denoted and defined by

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}} = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \cdots + v_n^2}$$

where  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are the components of  $\mathbf{v}$ .

## Unit Vectors and Normalizing

**Theorem:** For vector  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and scalar  $c$

$$\|c\mathbf{v}\| = |c|\|\mathbf{v}\|.$$

**Definition:** A vector  $\mathbf{u}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for which  $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$  is called a **unit vector**.

**Remark:** Given any nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we can obtain a unit vector  $\mathbf{u}$  in the same direction as  $\mathbf{v}$

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}.$$

This process, of dividing out the norm, is called **normalizing** the vector  $\mathbf{v}$ .

## Distance in $\mathbb{R}^n$ & Orthogonality

**Definition:** For vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the **distance between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$**  is denoted and defined by

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

**Definition:** Two vectors are  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  **orthogonal** if  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ .

**Perpendicular:** If nonzero vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are perpendicular in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\| = \|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\|$ . This is the case if and only if  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ .

**The Pythagorean Theorem:** Two vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are orthogonal if and only if

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

## Orthogonal Complement

**Definition:** Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . A vector  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be **orthogonal to  $W$**  if  $\mathbf{z}$  is orthogonal to every vector in  $W$ .

$$\mathbf{z} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \text{ for every } \vec{w} \text{ in } W.$$

**Definition:** Given a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the set of all vectors orthogonal to  $W$  is called the **orthogonal complement** of  $W$  and is denoted by

$$W^\perp.$$

read as "W perp"

## Theorem:

$W^\perp$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

We have to show that  $\vec{0}$  is in  $W^\perp$ ,  $W^\perp$  is closed under vector addition, and  $W^\perp$  is closed under scalar multiplication.

Since  $\vec{0} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$  for all  $\vec{w}$  in  $W$ ,  $\vec{0}$  is in  $W^\perp$ .

Let  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  be in  $W^\perp$ . Then for any  $\vec{w}$  in  $W$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0. \quad \text{Note that}$$

$$(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 + 0 = 0$$

So  $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$  is in  $W^\perp$ .  $W^\perp$  is closed under vector addition.

For any scalar  $c$

$$(c\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{w} = c(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}) = c(0) = 0$$

Hence  $c\vec{u}$  is in  $W^\perp$ .  $W^\perp$  is closed under scalar multiplication.

So  $W^\perp$  is a subspace.

## Example

Let  $W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Show that  $W^\perp = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

Give a geometric interpretation of  $W$  and  $W^\perp$  as subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

If  $\vec{w}$  is in  $W$ , then

$$\vec{w} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ b \end{bmatrix} \text{ for some scalars } a, b.$$

Let  $\vec{u}$  be in  $W^\perp$ . Then  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$

for every  $\vec{w}$  in  $W$ .

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ b \end{bmatrix} = u_1 a + u_2 \cdot 0 + u_3 b = u_1 a + u_3 b$$



So  $u_1 a + u_3 b = 0$  for all  $a, b$ .

This must hold if  $a=1$  and  $b=0$ .

$$u_1 \cdot 1 + u_3(0) = 0 \Rightarrow u_1 = 0$$

This also must hold if  $b=1$  giving

$$u_3(1) = 0 \Rightarrow u_3 = 0.$$

So  $\vec{u}$  in  $W^\perp$  has the form

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ u_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = u_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

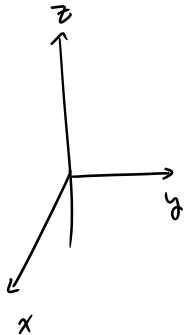
we can say  $\vec{u}$  is in  $\text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

Thus  $W^\perp = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

$W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ , so these are  
points like  $(x, 0, z)$ .

The  $xz$ -plane.

$W^\perp = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ , these are  
points  $(0, y, 0)$ . This is  
the  $y$ -axis.



## Example

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . Show that if  $\mathbf{x}$  is in  $\text{Nul}(A)$ , then  $\mathbf{x}$  is in  $[\text{Row}(A)]^\perp$ .

$$A \text{ rref} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{4}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $\vec{x}$  in  $\text{Nul} A$  (i.e.  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 2x_3 \\ x_2 &= -\frac{4}{3}x_3 \\ x_3 &\text{-free} \end{aligned}$$

so  $\vec{x} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -\frac{4}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

For  $\vec{w}$  in  $\text{Row}(A)$   $\vec{w} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \frac{4}{3} \end{bmatrix}$  for some scalars  $a, b$ .

So for  $\vec{x}$  in  $\text{Nul} A$  and  $\vec{w}$  in  $\text{Row}(A)$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{x} \cdot \vec{w} &= x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -\frac{4}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \left( a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{4}{3} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= x_3 a \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -\frac{4}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 b \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -\frac{4}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{4}{3} \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= x_3 a (2 - 2) + x_3 b \left( -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{4}{3} \right) \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0\end{aligned}$$

# Theorem

**Theorem:** Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. The orthogonal complement of the row space of  $A$  is the null space of  $A$ . That is

$$[\text{Row}(A)]^\perp = \text{Nul}(A).$$

The orthogonal complement of the column space of  $A$  is the null space of  $A^T$ —i.e.

$$[\text{Col}(A)]^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T).$$

Example: Find the orthogonal complement of  $\text{Col}(A)$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We'll use that

$$[\text{Col}(A)]^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T)$$

$A^T \rightarrow$  rref

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -54 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{146}{3} & \frac{19}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 63 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $\vec{x}$  in  $\text{Nul } A^T$

$$x_1 = 54x_4 - 7x_5$$

$$x_2 = \frac{146}{3}x_4 - \frac{19}{3}x_5$$

$$x_3 = -63x_4 + 8x_5$$

$x_4, x_5$  - free

$$\vec{x} = x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 54 \\ \frac{146}{3} \\ -63 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -\frac{19}{3} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

So

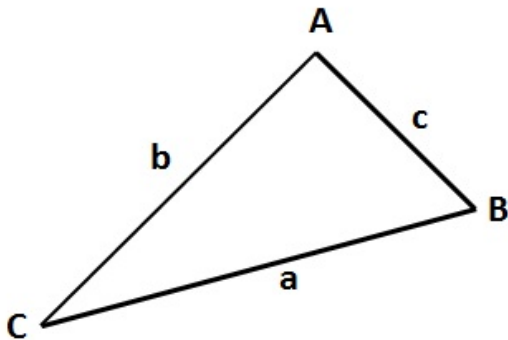
$$[\text{Col } A]^\perp = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 54 \\ \frac{146}{3} \\ -63 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -\frac{19}{3} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

(This is a basis.)

## Recall the Law of Cosines

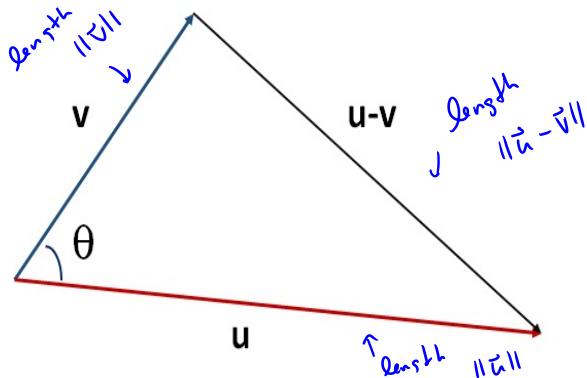
For triangle with angles  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and opposite sides of lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , respectively,

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos(C)$$





## Geometry of the Dot Product



**Figure:** We can use the law of cosines to show that in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$  is related to the angle between the two (nonzero) vectors. This holds in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We're just restricting  $n$  to 2 for ease of computation.

By the law of Cosines

$$\|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta$$

From before, we know that

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

$$\Rightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta$$

If  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  are nonzero then

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|}$$

## Section 6.2: Orthogonal Sets

**Remark:** We know that if  $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_p\}$  is a basis for a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then each vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $W$  can be realized (uniquely) as a sum

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \dots + c_p \mathbf{b}_p.$$

If  $n$  is very large, the computations needed to determine the coefficients  $c_1, \dots, c_p$  may require a lot of time (and machine memory).

**Question:** Can we seek a basis whose nature simplifies this task? And what properties should such a basis possess?

## Orthogonal Sets

**Definition:** An indexed set  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be an **orthogonal set** provided each pair of distinct vectors in the set is orthogonal. That is, provided

$$\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{u}_j = 0 \quad \text{whenever } i \neq j.$$

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**Example:** Show that the set  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is an orthogonal set.

*Call these  $\vec{u}_1$        $\vec{u}_2$        $\vec{u}_3$*

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_2 = 3(-1) + 1(2) + 1(1) = -3 + 3 = 0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_3 = 3(-1) + 1(-4) + 1(7) = -3 - 4 + 7 = 0$$

$$\vec{u}_2 \cdot \vec{u}_3 = -1(-1) + 2(-4) + 1(7) = 1 - 8 + 7 = 0$$

The set is orthogonal.

## Orthogonal Basis

**Definition:** An **orthogonal basis** for a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a basis that is also an orthogonal set.

**Theorem:** Let  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  be an orthogonal basis for a subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then each vector  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $W$  can be written as the linear combination

$\mathbf{y} = c_1\mathbf{u}_1 + c_2\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_p\mathbf{u}_p$ , where the weights

$$c_j = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j} = \frac{\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_j}{\|\vec{u}_j\|^2}$$

Example  $\vec{u}_1$   $\vec{u}_2$   $\vec{u}_3$

$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Express

the vector  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  as a linear combination of the basis vectors.

$$\|\vec{u}_1\|^2 = 3^2 + 1^2 + 1^2 = 11$$

$$\|\vec{u}_2\|^2 = (-1)^2 + 2^2 + 1^2 = 6$$

$$\|\vec{u}_3\|^2 = (-1)^2 + (-4)^2 + 7^2 = 66$$

$$\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1 = -6 + 3 = -3$$

$$\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2 = 2 + 6 = 8$$

$$\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_3 = 2 - 12 = -10$$

$$\text{S} \quad \vec{y} = \frac{-3}{11} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{8}{6} \vec{u}_2 + \frac{-10}{66} \vec{u}_3$$

$$\vec{y} = \frac{-3}{11} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{4}{3} \vec{u}_2 - \frac{5}{33} \vec{u}_3$$