

Section 6.1: Inner Product, Length, and Orthogonality

Recall that we defined the inner product in \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 noted that this product has several properties.

Theorem (Properties of the Inner Product)

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

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 $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$.

The Norm and Orthogonality

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} .

If \mathbf{v} is any nonzero vector, the vector $\mathbf{v}/\|\mathbf{v}\|$ is a unit vector in the direction of \mathbf{v} .

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

In \mathbb{R}^n , orthogonality corresponds geometrically with being perpendicular.

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} is orthogonal to W if
 $\mathbf{z} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ for every \vec{w} 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

$$W^\perp.$$

Theorem:

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

Note that for any \vec{w} in W ,

$$\vec{w} \cdot \vec{0} = w_1 \cdot 0 + w_2 \cdot 0 + \dots + w_n \cdot 0 = 0$$

so $\vec{0}$ is orthogonal to W ; it is in W^\perp .

Suppose \vec{u} and \vec{v} are in W^\perp . Then $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ and $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ for every \vec{w} in W . Note

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

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

For scalar c and \vec{w} in W

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

Hence W^\perp is closed under scalar multiplication.

W^\perp meets all properties required to be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

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 $\vec{w} = w_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + w_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ 0 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$
for some real numbers w_1 and w_3 . For \vec{z} in \mathbb{R}^3 ,
 $\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{bmatrix}$, if $\vec{z} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$, then \vec{z} is in W^\perp .

$0 = \vec{z} \cdot \vec{w} = z_1 w_1 + 0 + z_3 w_3$. This has to hold

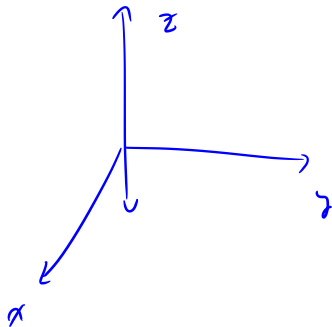
for every w_1, w_3 pair. If $w_1 = 1$ and $w_3 = 0$, we

Let $z_1 \cdot 1 = 0 \Rightarrow z_1 = 0$. Taking $w_1 = 0, w_3 = 1$,
we get $0 = z_2 \cdot 1 \Rightarrow z_2 = 0$. So \vec{z} must have
the form $\vec{z} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ z_2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = z_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Hence

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

As for the geometry, \vec{w} in W looks like
 $(w_1, 0, w_3)$. These are points in the xz plane.
Points in W^\perp look like $(0, z_2, 0)$.

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

If \vec{x} is in $\text{Nul } A$, then $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$. For such \vec{x} , $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 \\ -2x_1 + 4x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{v}_1 \quad \text{where } \vec{v}_1 \text{ is the first row of } A$$

$$\text{and } -2x_1 + 4x_3 = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{v}_2 \quad \text{where } \vec{v}_2 \text{ is the 2nd row of } A.$$

Since $\text{row } A = \text{Span} \{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \}$, any \vec{x} in $\text{Nul } A$ is orthogonal to every vector in $\text{row } A$.

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 orthongal 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 $\text{Col}(A)$

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

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

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

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

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

$$\vec{x} = x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 54 \\ \frac{146}{3} \\ -63 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -\frac{19}{3} \\ 8 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{so}$$

$$[\text{Col } A]^\perp = \text{Span}$$

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

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

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

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.

label those \vec{u}_1 \vec{u}_2 \vec{u}_3

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

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

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

So $\vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_j = 0$ for all $i \neq j$. 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

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

$$c_j = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}.$$

Take u_j

$$\vec{u}_j \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{u}_j \cdot (c_1 \vec{u}_1 + c_2 \vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_j \vec{u}_j + \dots + c_p \vec{u}_p)$$

$$= c_1 \vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_j + c_2 \vec{u}_2 \cdot \vec{u}_j + \dots + c_j \vec{u}_j \cdot \vec{u}_j + \dots + c_p \vec{u}_p \cdot \vec{u}_j$$

$$= 0 + 0 + \dots + c_j \|\vec{u}_j\|^2 + 0 + \dots$$

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

Example

$\left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{u}_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{u}_2}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{u}_3} \right\}$ 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.

$$\|\vec{u}_1\|^2 = 9+1+1=11, \quad \|\vec{u}_2\|^2 = 1+4+1=6, \quad \|\vec{u}_3\|^2 = 1+16+49=66$$

$$\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1 = -6+3 = -3, \quad \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2 = 2+6 = 8, \quad \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_3 = 2-12 = -10$$

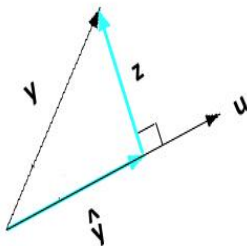
$$\begin{aligned} \vec{y} &= \frac{-3}{11} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{8}{6} \vec{u}_2 - \frac{10}{66} \vec{u}_3 \\ &= \frac{-3}{11} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{4}{3} \vec{u}_2 - \frac{5}{33} \vec{u}_3 = \frac{-9\vec{u}_1 + 44\vec{u}_2 - 5\vec{u}_3}{33} \end{aligned}$$

Projection

Given a nonzero vector \mathbf{u} , suppose we wish to decompose another nonzero vector \mathbf{y} into a sum of the form

$$\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}$$

in such a way that $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is parallel to \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{z} is perpendicular to \mathbf{u} .



Projection

Since $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is parallel to \mathbf{u} , there is a scalar α such that

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \alpha \mathbf{u}.$$

From $\vec{y} = \hat{y} + \vec{z}$, $\hat{y} = \vec{y} - \vec{z}$. Dot product w/ \vec{u}

$$\vec{u} \cdot \hat{y} = \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{y} - \vec{z}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{y} - \vec{u} \cdot \vec{z}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot (\alpha \vec{u}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{y} - 0$$

$$\alpha (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{y} \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2}$$