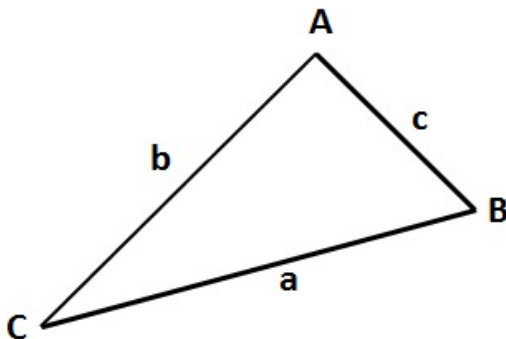


Recall the Law of Cosines

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

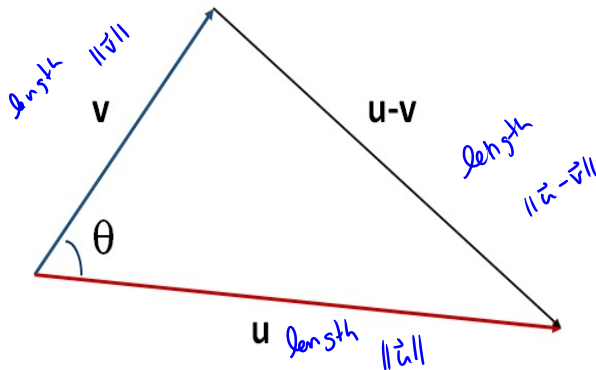


Figure: We can use the law of cosines to show that in \mathbb{R}^2 that $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ is related to the angle between the two (nonzero) vectors. This holds in \mathbb{R}^n . We're just restricting n to 2 for ease of computation.

By the law of Cosines

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

We can note that $\|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 = (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} - \vec{v})$

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

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

$$\cancel{-2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}} = \cancel{-2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta}$$

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

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 & Orthogonal Bases

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

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

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

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

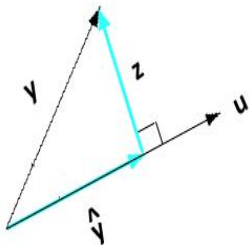
$$c_j = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}.$$

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} .



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

Projection

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

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

We determined last time that the scalar

$$\alpha = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2}$$

so that

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2} \mathbf{u} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}.$$

Projection onto the subspace $L = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$

Notation: $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \text{proj}_L = \left(\frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \right) \mathbf{u}$

Example: Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Write $\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}$ where $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is in $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$ and \mathbf{z} is orthogonal to \mathbf{u} .

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^2} \mathbf{u} = \left(\frac{7(4) + 6(2)}{4^2 + 2^2} \right) \mathbf{u} = \frac{40}{20} \mathbf{u} = 2\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

So

$$s = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example Continued...

Determine the distance between the point $(7, 6)$ and the line $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$.

The shortest distance is $\|\tilde{\mathbf{z}}\|$.

The distance is $\sqrt{(-1)^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{5}$

Orthonormal Sets

Definition: A set $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ is called an **orthonormal set** if it is an orthogonal set of **unit vectors**.

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

Example: Show that $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4}{5} \\ \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_2 = \frac{3}{5} \left(-\frac{4}{5} \right) + \left(\frac{4}{5} \right) \left(\frac{3}{5} \right) = \frac{-16 + 16}{25} = 0 \quad \text{They are orthogonal}$$

$$\|\vec{u}_1\|^2 = \left(\frac{3}{5} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5} \right)^2 = \frac{16 + 9}{25} = \frac{25}{25} = 1, \quad \|\vec{u}_2\|^2 = \left(-\frac{4}{5} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{5} \right)^2 = \frac{16 + 9}{25} = 1$$

They are also unit vectors.

If the vectors are linearly independent, they span \mathbb{R}^2 (since there are 2 of them).

$$c_1 \vec{u}_1 + c_2 \vec{u}_2 = \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4}{5} \\ \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}_1 \text{ is not a scaled version of } \vec{u}_2.$$

Hence they are lin. independent and $\{\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2\}$ is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

Orthogonal Matrix

Consider the matrix $U = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5} & -\frac{4}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix}$ whose columns are the vectors in the last example. Compute the product

$$U^T U = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5} & \frac{4}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{5} & \frac{4}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This shows that $U^T = U^{-1}$

What does this say about U^{-1} ?

Orthogonal Matrix

Definition: A square matrix U is called an **orthogonal matrix** if $U^T = U^{-1}$.

Theorem: An $n \times n$ matrix U is orthogonal if and only if its columns form an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^n .

The linear transformation associated to an orthogonal matrix preserves *lengths* and *angles* in the following sense:

Theorem: Orthogonal Matrices

Let U be an $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix and \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . Then

(a) $\|U\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\|$

(b) $(U\mathbf{x}) \cdot (U\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$, in particular

(c) $(U\mathbf{x}) \cdot (U\mathbf{y}) = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = 0$.

Proof (of (a)):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Recall } \|U\vec{x}\|^2 &= (U\vec{x}) \cdot (U\vec{x}) \\ &= (U\vec{x})^T (U\vec{x}) \end{aligned}$$

This is how we
defined the
dot product

$$= (\vec{x}^T U^T)(U \vec{x})$$

Recall
 $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$

$$= \vec{x}^T (U^T U) \vec{x}$$

$$= \vec{x}^T I \vec{x}$$

$$= \vec{x}^T \vec{x} = \|\vec{x}\|^2$$

So

$$\|U \vec{x}\| = \|\vec{x}\|$$

Section 6.3: Orthogonal Projections

Equating points with position vectors, we may wish to find the point $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ in a subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n that is *closest* to a given point \mathbf{y} .

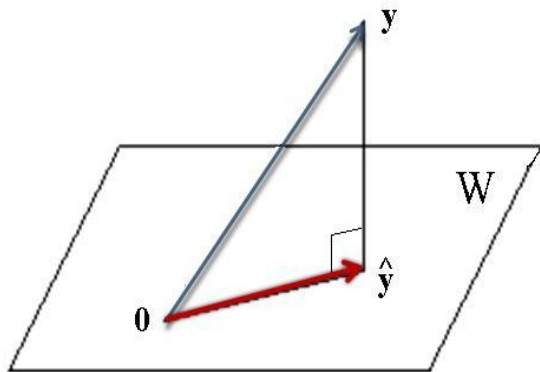


Figure: Illustration of an orthogonal projection. Note that $\text{dist}(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{y}})$ is the shortest distance between \mathbf{y} and the points on W .

Orthogonal Decomposition Theorem

Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . Each vector \mathbf{y} in \mathbb{R}^n can be written uniquely as a sum

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

where $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is in W and \mathbf{z} is in W^\perp .

If $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ is **any orthogonal basis** for W , then

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{j=1}^p \left(\frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j} \right) \mathbf{u}_j, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}.$$

Remark: Note that the basis must be orthogonal, but otherwise the vector $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is **independent** of the particular basis used!

Remark: The vector $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is called the **orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto W** . We can denote it

$$\text{proj}_W \mathbf{y}.$$

Example

Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and

call these

$$W = \text{Span} \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{u}_1}, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{u}_2} \right\}.$$

(a) Verify that the spanning vectors for W given are an orthogonal basis for W .

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{u}_2 = 2(-2) + 1(2) + 2(1) = -4 + 2 + 2 = 0$$

They are orthogonal. This implies that they are also linearly independent hence as orthogonal basis.

Example Continued...

$$W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Find the orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto W .

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1}{\|\vec{u}_1\|^2} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2}{\|\vec{u}_2\|^2} \vec{u}_2$$

$$\|\vec{u}_1\|^2 = 2^2 + 1^2 + 2^2 = 9 \Rightarrow \|\vec{u}_1\| = 3$$

$$\|\vec{u}_2\|^2 = (-2)^2 + 2^2 + 1^2 = 9 \Rightarrow \|\vec{u}_2\| = 3$$

$$\vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_1 = 2 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 8 + 2 \cdot 1 = 18, \quad \vec{y} \cdot \vec{u}_2 = -2(4) + 2(8) + 1 = 9$$

$$\vec{y} = \frac{18}{9} \vec{u}_1 + \frac{9}{9} \vec{u}_2 = 2\vec{u}_1 + \vec{u}_2$$

$$= 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4-2 \\ 2+2 \\ 4+1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) Find the shortest distance between \mathbf{y} and the subspace W .

$$\text{let } \vec{z} = \vec{y} - \hat{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The shortest distance is

$$\|\vec{z}\| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-4)^2 + (-4)^2} = \sqrt{4 + 16 + 16} = 6$$