

Section 6.4: Gram-Schmidt Orthogonalization

The goal here is to obtain an orthogonal basis for a vector space. The Gram-Schmidt process will allow us to generate an orthogonal basis if we start with an arbitrary basis.

Theorem: Gram Schmidt Process

Let $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p\}$ be any basis for the nonzero subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n . Define the set of vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ via

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \right) \mathbf{v}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \right) \mathbf{v}_1 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \right) \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{x}_p - \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_j}{\mathbf{v}_j \cdot \mathbf{v}_j} \right) \mathbf{v}_j.$$

Then $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for W . Moreover, for each $k = 1, \dots, p$

$$\text{Span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k\}.$$

Example

Find an orthonormal (that's *orthonormal* not just orthogonal) basis for

Col A where $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 6 & 6 \\ 3 & -8 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 & 6 \\ 1 & -4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$.

We'll start with the columns of A

$$\vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \vec{x}_2 - \frac{\vec{x}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2} \vec{v}_1$$

$$\vec{x}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_1 = -6 - 24 - 2 - 4 = -36$$

$$\|\vec{v}_1\|^2 = 1 + 9 + 1 + 1 = 12$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} - \left(\frac{-36}{12} \right) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \vec{x}_3 - \frac{\vec{x}_3 \cdot \vec{v}_1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|^2} \vec{v}_1 - \frac{\vec{x}_3 \cdot \vec{v}_2}{\|\vec{v}_2\|^2} \vec{v}_2$$

$$\vec{x}_3 \cdot \vec{v}_1 = -6 + 9 + 6 - 3 = 6 \quad \|\vec{v}_1\|^2 = 12$$

$$\vec{x}_3 \cdot \vec{v}_2 = 18 + 3 + 6 + 3 = 30 \quad \|\vec{v}_2\|^2 = 12$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{6}{12} \overset{\text{sh}}{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} - \frac{30}{12} \overset{\text{sh}}{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}}$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 3/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 15/2 \\ 5/2 \\ 5/2 \\ -5/2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6-7 \\ 3-4 \\ 6-3 \\ -3+2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\vec{v}_3\|^2 = 1+1+9+1 = 12$$

$$\|\vec{v}_1\| = \|\vec{v}_2\| = \|\vec{v}_3\| = \sqrt{12}$$

We have orthogonal basis

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

An orthonormal basis is

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{3}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{3}{\sqrt{12}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Section 6.7 Inner Product Spaces

Definition: An **inner product** on a vector space V is a function which assigns to each pair of vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in V a real number denoted by $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$ and that satisfies the following four axioms: For every $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}$ in V and scalar c

i $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle,$

ii $\langle \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle,$

iii $\langle c\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = c \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle,$

iv $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle \geq 0$ and $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$.

A vector space with an inner product is called an **inner product space**.

Example

Consider \mathbb{R}^2 , and define the product

$$\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 2u_1 v_1 + 4u_2 v_2.$$

We saw in an in class assignment that this does define an inner product.

Example

Consider the vector space \mathbb{P}_1 . For polynomials $\mathbf{p}(t)$ and $\mathbf{q}(t)$, show that the product

$$\langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} \rangle = p(0)q(0) + p(1)q(1)$$

defines an inner product on \mathbb{P}_1 .

Note

$$\langle \vec{p}, \vec{q} \rangle = \vec{p}(0)\vec{q}(0) + \vec{p}(1)\vec{q}(1) = \vec{q}(0)\vec{p}(0) + \vec{q}(1)\vec{p}(1) = \langle \vec{q}, \vec{p} \rangle$$

Property i holds

$$\text{For } \vec{p}, \vec{q} \text{ in } \mathbb{P}_1, (\vec{p} + \vec{q})(0) = \vec{p}(0) + \vec{q}(0)$$

$$\text{and} \\ (\vec{p} + \vec{q})(1) = \vec{p}(1) + \vec{q}(1)$$

For $\vec{p}, \vec{q}, \vec{r}$ in \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$\langle \vec{p} + \vec{q}, \vec{r} \rangle = (\vec{p} + \vec{q})(0) \vec{r}(0) + (\vec{p} + \vec{q})(1) \vec{r}(1)$$

$$= (\vec{p}(0) + \vec{q}(0)) \vec{r}(0) + (\vec{p}(1) + \vec{q}(1)) \vec{r}(1)$$

$$= \vec{p}(0) \vec{r}(0) + \vec{q}(0) \vec{r}(0) + \vec{p}(1) \vec{r}(1) + \vec{q}(1) \vec{r}(1)$$

$$= \vec{p}(0) \vec{r}(0) + \vec{p}(1) \vec{r}(1) + \vec{q}(0) \vec{r}(0) + \vec{q}(1) \vec{r}(1)$$

$$= \langle \vec{p}, \vec{r} \rangle + \langle \vec{q}, \vec{r} \rangle \quad \text{property ii holds}$$

$$\langle c\vec{p}, \vec{q} \rangle = (c\vec{p})(0) \vec{q}(0) + (c\vec{p})(1) \vec{q}(1)$$

$$= c \vec{p}(0) \vec{q}(0) + c \vec{p}(1) \vec{q}(1) = c (\vec{p}(0) \vec{q}(0) + \vec{p}(1) \vec{q}(1))$$

$$= c \langle \vec{p}, \vec{q} \rangle.$$

property iii holds.

$$\langle \vec{p}, \vec{p} \rangle = \vec{p}(0) \vec{p}(0) + \vec{p}(1) \vec{p}(1)$$

$$= (\vec{p}(0))^2 + (\vec{p}(1))^2 \geq 0 \quad \text{as a sum of squares.}$$

$$\text{let } \vec{p} = p_0 + p_1 t.$$

$$\text{If } \vec{p}(0) = 0, \text{ then } \vec{p}(0) = p_0 + p_1 \cdot 0 = p_0$$

$$\text{So } p_0 = 0.$$

If $\vec{p}(1) = 0$ too, then $\vec{p}(1) = 0 + p_1 \cdot 1 = p_1 = 0$

So the only way that $\langle \vec{p}, \vec{p} \rangle = 0$

is if $\vec{p}(t) = \vec{0}$

So property iv holds.

Example

Show that the product in the previous example is **not** an inner product on \mathbb{P}_2 by showing that the last axiom does not hold. In particular, show that there is a nonzero polynomial \mathbf{p} for which $\langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p} \rangle = 0$.

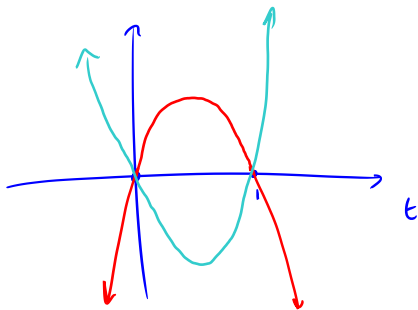
\vec{p} in \mathbb{P}_2 has the form $\vec{p} = p_0 + p_1 t + p_2 t^2$

$$\vec{p}(0) = 0 \Rightarrow p_0 = 0$$

$$\vec{p}(1) = 0 \Rightarrow p_1 + p_2 = 0 \Rightarrow p_1 = -p_2$$

Any \vec{p} that looks like $\vec{p} = p_1(t - t^2)$ would have $\langle \vec{p}, \vec{p} \rangle = 0$ for this product.

If you consider polynomials w/ $p(0) = p(1) = 0$



There are infinitely many quadratics through the points $(0,0)$ and $(1,0)$.

An Inner Product in \mathbb{P}_2

An element in \mathbb{P}_2 , $\mathbf{p} = p_0 + p_1 t + p_2 t^2$, has three defining coefficients p_0 , p_1 , and p_2 . So it is not surprising that evaluation at two points is not sufficient to define an inner product. The following does define an inner product on \mathbb{P}_2 :

$$\langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q} \rangle = \mathbf{p}(-1)\mathbf{q}(-1) + \mathbf{p}(0)\mathbf{q}(0) + \mathbf{p}(1)\mathbf{q}(1)$$

Norm, Distance, and Orthogonality

Norm: The norm of a vector \mathbf{v} is $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}$.

A Unit Vector: is a vector whose norm is 1.

Distance: The distance between two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} is $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|$.

Orthogonality: Two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are orthogonal if $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$

Orthogonal Projection: The orthogonal projection of \mathbf{v} onto \mathbf{u} is the vector

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \left(\frac{\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle} \right) \mathbf{u}.$$

Pythagorean Theorem: If \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are orthogonal, then

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

Example

(a) For the inner product on \mathbb{P}_1 in the previous example, find the norm of $\mathbf{p}(t) = 1 + t$.

$$\|\vec{p}\|^2 = \langle \vec{p}, \vec{p} \rangle = p(0)p(0) + p(1)p(1) = 1^2 + 2^2 = 5$$

$$\|\vec{p}\| = \sqrt{5}$$

(b) Find a unit vector *in the direction* (i.e. a scalar multiple) of $\mathbf{p}(t)$.

$$\text{Calling it } \vec{u} \quad \vec{u} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{p}\|} \vec{p} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (1+t)$$

Example

(c) Find a polynomial $\mathbf{q}(t) = q_0 + q_1 t$ that is orthogonal to $\mathbf{p}(t) = 1 + t$.

We need $\langle \vec{p}, \vec{q} \rangle = 0$

$$0 = \vec{p}(0) \vec{q}(0) + \vec{p}(1) \vec{q}(1)$$

$$= 1 q_0 + 2 (q_0 + q_1) = 3q_0 + 2q_1$$

An example would be $q_0 = 2, q_1 = -3$

So $\vec{q} = 2 - 3t$ is a vector orthogonal
to $\vec{p} = 1 + t$.