

Advanced Linear Algebra

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Orthogonality

Recall that the orthogonal projection of \vec{v} onto \hat{u} is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} \cdot \hat{u} &= \|\vec{v}\| \|\hat{u}\| \cos \theta \\ \text{proj}_{\hat{u}} \vec{v} &= (\|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta) \hat{u} \\ &= \|\vec{v}\| \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \hat{u}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \hat{u} \\ &= (\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \cdot \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle) \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (v_1 u_1 + v_2 u_2) \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} v_1 u_1^2 + v_2 u_1 u_2 \\ v_1 u_1 u_2 + v_2 u_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} u_1^2 & u_1 u_2 \\ u_1 u_2 & u_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= P \vec{v}\end{aligned}$$

If we look at the projection matrix, we observe the following:

$$\begin{aligned}P &= \begin{bmatrix} u_1^2 & u_1 u_2 \\ u_1 u_2 & u_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \hat{u} \hat{u}^T\end{aligned}$$

Projection is a linear transformation that can be expressed as a matrix operation.

Example

Given $\hat{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, find $\text{proj}_{\hat{u}}\vec{v}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= \hat{u}\hat{u}^T \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \\
 \text{proj}_{\hat{u}}\vec{v} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{7}{2} \\ -\frac{7}{2} \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example

Show that $P = \hat{u}\hat{u}^T$ is symmetric.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P^T &= (\hat{u}\hat{u}^T)^T \\
 &= (\hat{u}^T)^T(\hat{u})^T \\
 &= \hat{u}\hat{u}^T
 \end{aligned}$$

Show that $P^2 = P$ (P is idempotent).

$$\begin{aligned}
 P^2 &= (\hat{u}\hat{u}^T)(\hat{u}\hat{u}^T) \\
 &= \hat{u}(\hat{u}^T\hat{u})\hat{u}^T \\
 \hat{u}^T\hat{u} &= 1 \\
 &= \hat{u}\hat{u}^T
 \end{aligned}$$

Orthogonal Projection of \vec{v} onto a Plane through Origin

Given a plane, its normal vector \vec{n} , a vector \vec{v} , the distance from the tip of \vec{v} to the plane is some length that can be represented by a vector $-c\vec{n}$. We can represent the

projection of \vec{v} onto the plane as $\vec{p} = \vec{v} - c\vec{n}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{p} &= \vec{v} - c\vec{n} \\ \vec{n} \cdot \vec{p} &= \vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - c\vec{n}) \\ 0 &= \vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} - c(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{n}) \\ c &= \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{n}}\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, if instead of being given a unit vector \vec{n} , suppose we are given two orthogonal vectors \hat{u}_1 and \hat{u}_2 that span the plane. Let $\vec{p}_1 = \text{proj}_{\hat{u}_1} \vec{v}$ and $\vec{p}_2 = \text{proj}_{\hat{u}_2} \vec{v}$. The projection of \vec{v} onto the plane spanned by \hat{u}_1 and \hat{u}_2 is equal to $\vec{p} = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2$.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{p}_1 &= \text{proj}_{\hat{u}_1} \vec{v} = \hat{u}_1 \hat{u}_1^T \vec{v} \\ \vec{p}_2 &= \text{proj}_{\hat{u}_2} \vec{v} = \hat{u}_2 \hat{u}_2^T \vec{v} \\ \vec{p} &= \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2 \\ &= (\hat{u}_1 \hat{u}_1^T + \hat{u}_2 \hat{u}_2^T) \vec{v} = P\vec{v}\end{aligned}$$

Example

Project $\vec{v} = \langle 1, 0, -2 \rangle$ onto the plane $x + y + z = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle \cdot \langle x, y, z \rangle &= 0 \\ \vec{n} &= \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle \\ c &= \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{n}} \\ &= \frac{1 + 0 - 2}{1 + 1 + 1} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \\ \vec{p} &= \vec{v} + \frac{1}{3}\vec{n} \\ &= \left\langle \frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{7}{3} \right\rangle\end{aligned}$$

Example

Project $\vec{v} = \langle 1, 0, -2 \rangle$ onto $x + y + z = 0$ with $\hat{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\hat{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{6} & -\frac{2}{6} & -\frac{2}{6} \\ -\frac{2}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ -\frac{2}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \\ P\vec{v} &= \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{8}{6} \\ \frac{2}{6} \\ -\frac{10}{6} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{4}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{5}{3} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Concept

What is the rank of $P = \hat{u}_1\hat{u}_1^T + \hat{u}_2\hat{u}_2^T$?

Every vector in \mathbb{R}^3 gets mapped by $P\vec{v}$ onto a two dimensional plane, so that means that the column space of P must be two dimensional.

Orthogonality in \mathbb{R}^n

A set of vectors is **orthogonal** if $\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{v}_j = 0, i \neq j$. For example:

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

An **orthogonal basis** is a basis that is an orthogonal set.

Example

Find an orthogonal basis for the subspace W of \mathbb{R}^3 given by

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} : x - y + 2z = 0 \right\}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y - 2z \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

These two vectors form a basis for W but are not orthogonal. Let $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ be orthogonal to \vec{u} in the plane.

$$\begin{aligned} x - y + 2z &= 0 \\ \vec{w} \cdot \vec{u} &= 0 \\ x + y &= 0 \quad y = -x \\ 2x + 2z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} -z \\ z \\ z \end{bmatrix} = z \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This vector \vec{w} satisfies the equation and the orthogonality condition.

$$\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Fact

Let $[\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_k]$ be an orthogonal basis for a subspace W . Let \vec{w} be any vector in W .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{w} &= c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + c_k\vec{v}_k \\ c_1 &= \frac{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_1} \\ c_2 &= \frac{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{v}_2} \\ &\dots \\ c_i &= \frac{\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{v}_i}\end{aligned}$$

Example

Let $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$. Find the coordinates of \vec{w} with respect to

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{w} &= c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2 + c_3\vec{v}_3 \\ c_1 &= \frac{2 + 2 - 3}{4 + 1 + 1} = \frac{1}{6} \\ c_2 &= \frac{0 + 2 + 3}{0 + 1 + 1} = \frac{5}{2} \\ c_3 &= \frac{1 - 2 + 3}{1 + 1 + 1} = \frac{2}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Orthonormality

A set of vectors is **orthonormal** if it is an orthogonal set of unit vectors. An orthonormal basis is a basis that is an orthonormal set. Let $[\hat{q}_1, \hat{q}_2, \dots, \hat{q}_k]$ be an orthonormal basis for a subspace W . Then $\vec{w} = c_1\hat{q}_1 + c_2\hat{q}_2 + \dots + c_k\hat{q}_k$ where $c_i = \hat{q}_i \cdot \vec{w}$.

Orthogonal Matrices

The columns of an $m \times n$ matrix Q form an orthonormal set if $Q^T Q = I_n$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{q}_1 \\ \hat{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{q}_n \end{bmatrix} [\hat{q}_1 \quad \hat{q}_2 \quad \dots \quad \hat{q}_n] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem: An $n \times n$ matrix Q whose columns form an orthonormal set is called an “orthogonal matrix”. A square matrix Q is orthogonal if and only if $Q^{-1} = Q^T$.

Example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A^{-1}$$

Another example:

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$
$$B^T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} = B^{-1}$$

The following statements are equivalent:

1. Q is orthogonal.
2. $\|Q\vec{x}\| = \|\vec{x}\|$ for every \vec{x} in \mathbb{R}^n .
3. $(Q\vec{x}) \cdot (Q\vec{y}) = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}$.

$$\begin{aligned} (Q\vec{x}) \cdot (Q\vec{y}) &= (Q\vec{x})^T (Q\vec{y}) \\ &= \vec{x}^T Q^T Q \vec{y} \\ &= \vec{x}^T \vec{y} \\ &= \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} \end{aligned}$$

If Q is an orthogonal matrix ($Q^{-1} = Q^T$), the following consequences result:

1. Q^{-1} is orthogonal.

$$\begin{aligned}(Q^{-1})^{-1} &= (Q^{-1})^T \\ Q &= (Q^T)^T \\ Q &= Q\end{aligned}$$

2. $\det(Q) = \pm 1$
3. If λ is an eigenvalue of Q , then $|\lambda| = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}Q\vec{v} &= \lambda\vec{v} \\ \|Q\vec{v}\| &= \|\lambda\vec{v}\| \\ \|\vec{v}\| &= |\lambda|\|\vec{v}\| \\ 1 &= \lambda\end{aligned}$$

4. If Q_1 and Q_2 are orthogonal then so is Q_1Q_2 .

Theorem: Let W be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . The set of all vectors that are orthogonal to W is called the “orthogonal complement”.

$$W^\perp = \{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \forall \vec{w} \in W\}$$

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

$$(\text{row}(A))^T = \text{null}(A)$$

\vec{x} is in the null space of A if $\vec{a}_i \cdot \vec{x} = 0$ therefore every vector in the row space is orthogonal to every vector in the null space. Also, note that $(\text{col}(A))^\perp = \text{null}(A^T)$.

Example

Let W be the subspace of \mathbb{R}^5 spanned by

$$\vec{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 5 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{w}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find a basis for W^\perp .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 5 & 0 & 5 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & -1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 & -2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & -1 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3x_4 - 4x_5 \\ -x_4 - 3x_5 \\ -2x_5 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -3 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W^\perp = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ -3 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

You can find all my notes at <http://omgimanerd.tech/notes>. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me at alvin@omgimanerd.tech