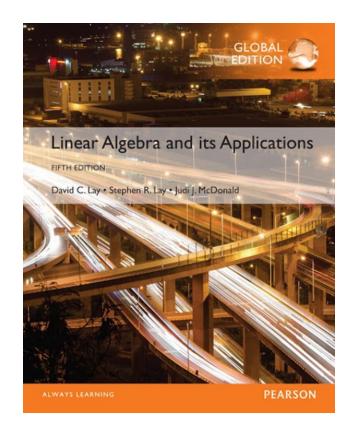
6

# Orthogonality and Least Squares

6.7

# THE GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS



- **Definition**An **inner product** on a vector space V is a function that, to each pair of vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in V, associates a real number  $\langle u, v \rangle$  and satisfies the following axioms, for all  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}$  in V and all scalars c:
- 1.  $\langle u, v \rangle = \langle v, u \rangle$
- 2.  $\langle u + v, w \rangle = \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$
- 3.  $\langle c\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = c \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$
- 4.  $\langle u, u \rangle \ge 0$  and  $\langle u, u \rangle = 0$  if and only u = 0
- A vector space with an inner product is called an inner product space.

**Example 1**Fix any two positive numbers—say, 4 and 5—and for vectors  $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$  and  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , set

$$\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 4u_1 v_1 + 5u_2 v_2 \tag{1}$$

- Show that equation (1) defines an inner product.
- Solution Certain Axiom 1 is satisfied, because  $\langle u, v \rangle = 4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2 = 4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2 = \langle v, u \rangle$ .

• If  $w = (w_1, w_2)$ , then

$$\langle u + v, w \rangle = 4(u_1v_1)w_1 + 5(u_2v_2)w_2$$
  
=  $4u_1w_1 + 5u_2w_2 + 4v_1w_1 + 5v_2w_2$   
=  $\langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$ 

This verifies Axiom 2. For Axiom 3, compute

$$\langle cu, v \rangle = 4(cu_1)v_1 + 5(cu_2)v_2 = c(4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2) = c\langle u, v \rangle$$

- For Axiom 4, note that  $\langle u, u \rangle = 4u_1^2 + 5u_2^2 \ge 0$ , and  $4u_1^2 + 5u_2^2 = 0$  only if  $u_1 = u_2 = 0$ , that is, if u = 0.
- Also,  $\langle 0, 0 \rangle = 0$ . So (1) defines an inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

# LENGTHS, DISTANCES, AND ORTHOGONALITY

Let V be an inner product space, with the inner product denoted by  $\langle u, v \rangle$ . Just as in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we define the length, or norm, of a vector v to be the scalar

$$||v|| = \sqrt{(v, v)}$$

- Equivalently,  $||v||^2 = \langle v, v \rangle$ .
- A unit vector is one whose length is 1. The distance between u and v is ||u v||. Vectors u and v are orthogonal if  $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ .

Given a vector v in an inner product space V and given a finite-dimensional subspace W, we may apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the orthogonal decomposition of v with respect to W and obtain

$$||v||^2 = ||proj_W v||^2 + ||v - proj_W v||^2$$

• See Fig 2 on the next slide. In particular, this shows that the norm of the projection of v onto W does not exceed the norm of v itself. This simple observation leads to the following important inequality.

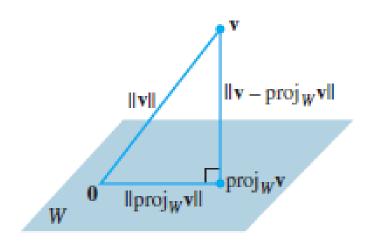


FIGURE 2

The hypotenuse is the longest side.

• Theorem 16 The Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality: For all u, v in V,

$$|(u,v)| \le ||u|| ||v|| \tag{4}$$

- **Proof** If u = 0, then both sides of (4) are zero, and hence the inequality is true in this case.
- If  $u \neq 0$ , let W be the subspace spanned by u.
- Recall that ||cu|| = |c| ||u|| for any scalar c. Thus  $||proj_W v|| = \left| \frac{\langle v, u \rangle}{\langle u, u \rangle} u \right| = \frac{|\langle v, u \rangle|}{|\langle u, u \rangle|} u = \frac{|\langle v, u \rangle|}{||u||^2} ||u|| = \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|}{||u||}$
- Since  $||proj_W v|| \le ||v||$ , we have  $\frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|}{||u||} \le ||v||$ , which gives (4).

• Theorem 17 The Triangle Inequality: For all u, v in V,

$$||u + v|| \le ||u|| + ||v||$$

■ **Proof** 
$$||u + v||^2 = \langle u + v, u + v \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle + 2\langle u, v \rangle + \langle v, v \rangle$$
  
 $\leq ||u||^2 + 2|\langle u, v \rangle| + ||v||^2$   
 $\leq ||u||^2 + 2||u||||v|| + ||v||^2$   
 $= (||u|| + ||v||)^2$ 

• The triangle inequality follows immediately by taking square roots of both sides.