

# MA1522 Linear Algebra for Computing

## Lecture 9: Orthogonality

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# Outline

Questions posed in Dr.Teo's Lectures

Challenges posed in Dr.Teo's Lectures

Some Extra Exercises

# General Remarks

- ▶ Linear Algebra is good at solving systems of equations. Can they do anything else? like geometry?
- ▶ Sure they can!
- ▶ Using dot product, one can talk about angles, distances, etc., even beyond 3D space.
- ▶ Below we focus on Orthogonality.

## Question in Section 5.1

- (i) Can an **orthogonal** set contain the zero vector **0**?
- (ii) Can an **orthonormal** set contain the zero vector **0**?

## Slide 8: Orthogonal and Orthonormal Sets

### Definition

A set  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of vectors is orthogonal if  $\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_j = 0$  for every  $i \neq j$ , that is, vectors in  $S$  are **pairwise orthogonal**.

The set  $S = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  is orthonormal if for all  $i, j = 1, \dots, k$ ,

$$\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_j = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j, \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

That is,  $S$  is orthogonal, and all the vectors are unit vectors.

## Answer to Question in Section 5.1

- (i) Can an **orthogonal** set contain the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$ ?
- (ii) Can an **orthonormal** set contain the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$ ?

Answer: (i) Yes, for example,  $\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{v}\}$  for any nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is an orthogonal set.

(ii) No, because the length of the zero vector is 0, not 1.

## Question One in Section 5.2

Note that this only works if  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  is an **orthogonal** or **orthonormal basis**. Example,  $S = \left\{ \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ , and

$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$$\left( \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 + \left( \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{u}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \mathbf{w}.$$

Why is this so?

## Slide 28: Coordinates Relative to an Orthogonal Basis

### Theorem

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be an *orthogonal basis* for a subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then for any  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ ,

$$\mathbf{v} = \left( \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 + \left( \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{u}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + \left( \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\|\mathbf{u}_k\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_k$$

If further  $S$  is an *orthonormal basis*, then

$$\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{u}_1 + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2) \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k) \mathbf{u}_k.$$

that is  $S$  orthogonal,  $[\mathbf{v}]_S = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2} \\ \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{u}_2\|^2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\|\mathbf{u}_k\|^2} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $S$  orthonormal,  $[\mathbf{v}]_S = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k \end{pmatrix}$ .



## Answer to Question One in Section 5.2

Note that this only works if  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  is an **orthogonal** or **orthonormal basis**. Example,  $S = \left\{ \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ , and

$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$$\left( \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 + \left( \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{u}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \mathbf{w}.$$

Why is this so?

Since  $\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2 = 1$ , they are not orthogonal. The Theorem on Slide 28 does not apply.

## Question Two in Section 5.2

$$\text{Let } \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & -\sqrt{2}/2 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & 1/2 & -1/2 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 0 & -\sqrt{2}/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & -\sqrt{2}/2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Is  $\mathbf{A}$  an orthogonal matrix?

## Slide 35: Orthogonal Matrices

### Definition

An  $n \times n$  square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is orthogonal if  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$ , equivalently,  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T$ .

### Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a square matrix of order  $n$ . The following statements are equivalent.

- (i)  $\mathbf{A}$  is an *orthogonal matrix*.
- (ii) The *columns* of  $\mathbf{A}$  form an *orthonormal basis* for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (iii) The *rows* of  $\mathbf{A}$  form an *orthonormal basis* for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Answer to Question two in section 5.2: No, it is not an orthogonal matrix, because it is not a square matrix.

## Challenge in Section 5.1

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Show that the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}$  is the orthogonal complement of the row space of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,

$$\text{Row}(\mathbf{A})^\perp = \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}).$$

Recall on Slides 18 and 14:

### Definition

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The orthogonal complement of  $V$  is the set of all vectors that are **orthogonal** to  $V$ , and is denoted as

$$V^\perp = \{ \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ for all } \mathbf{v} \text{ in } V \}.$$

### Theorem

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a spanning set for  $V$ ,  $\text{span}(S) = V$ . Then a vector  $\mathbf{w}$  is **orthogonal** to  $V$  if and only if  $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

# Slide 16: Algorithm to check for Orthogonal to a Subspace

## Theorem

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a spanning set for  $V$ . Then  $\mathbf{w}$  is *orthogonal* to  $V$  if and only if  $\mathbf{w}$  is in the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}^T$ , where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{u}_k \end{pmatrix}$ ;

$$\mathbf{w} \perp V \iff \mathbf{w} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}^T)$$

[Sketch of Proof] By previous theorem,  $\mathbf{w} \perp V$  if and only if  $\mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{w} = 0$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . By block multiplication, this is equivalent to

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{u}_k \end{pmatrix}^T \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k^T \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{w} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k^T \mathbf{w} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Answer to Challenge in Section 5.1

Q: Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Show that the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}$  is the orthogonal complement of the row space of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,

$$\text{Row}(\mathbf{A})^\perp = \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}).$$

Answer: By the theorem on Slide 16, we have

$$\text{Null}(\mathbf{A}^T) = [\text{Col}(\mathbf{A})]^\perp.$$

Thus,

$$\text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{Null}((\mathbf{A}^T)^T) = [\text{Col}(\mathbf{A}^T)]^\perp = \text{Row}(\mathbf{A})^\perp.$$

## Challenge in Section 5.2

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $S$  an **orthonormal basis** of  $V$ . Show that for any  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in V$ ,

1.  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = [\mathbf{u}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{v}]_S$ .
2.  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\| = \|[\mathbf{u}]_S - [\mathbf{v}]_S\|$ .

Answer: Let  $S = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_k\}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} = a_1\mathbf{w}_1 + \dots + a_k\mathbf{w}_k$ , and  $\mathbf{v} = b_1\mathbf{w}_1 + \dots + b_k\mathbf{w}_k$ . Then we have

$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_i = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j,$$

and

$$[\mathbf{u}]_S = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_k \end{pmatrix}, \quad [\mathbf{v}]_S = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Answer to Challenge in Section 5.2 (conti.)

(Continue from previous Slide) Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} &= (a_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \cdots + a_k \mathbf{w}_k) \cdot (b_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + b_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \cdots + b_k \mathbf{w}_k) \\ &= a_1 b_1 (\mathbf{w}_1 \cdot \mathbf{w}_1) + a_1 b_2 (\mathbf{w}_1 \cdot \mathbf{w}_2) + \cdots + a_1 b_k (\mathbf{w}_1 \cdot \mathbf{w}_k) \\ &\quad + \dots\dots\dots \\ &\quad + a_k b_1 (\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{w}_1) + a_k b_2 (\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{w}_2) + \cdots + a_k b_k (\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{w}_k) \\ &= a_1 b_1 + \cdots + a_k b_k \\ &= [\mathbf{u}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{v}]_S,\end{aligned}$$

which establishes the first statement.



## Answer to Challenge in Section 5.2 (part 2)

Next, we show that  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2 = \|[\mathbf{u}]_S - [\mathbf{v}]_S\|^2$ . Since both sides are nonnegative, we can take square root and obtain the result. By part 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|^2 &= (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \\&= (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}) - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) - (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}) + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \\&= ([\mathbf{u}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{u}]_S) - ([\mathbf{u}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{v}]_S) - ([\mathbf{v}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{u}]_S) + ([\mathbf{v}]_S \cdot [\mathbf{v}]_S) \\&= ([\mathbf{u}]_S - [\mathbf{v}]_S) \cdot ([\mathbf{u}]_S - [\mathbf{v}]_S) \\&= \|[\mathbf{u}]_S - [\mathbf{v}]_S\|^2,\end{aligned}$$

which establishes the second statement.

## Challenge in Section 5.3

### Theorem (Orthogonal projection theorem)

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Every vector  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be decomposed *uniquely* as a sum

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_p + \mathbf{w}_n,$$

where  $\mathbf{w}_n$  is orthogonal to  $V$  and  $\mathbf{w}_p$  is a vector in  $V$ , that is,  $\mathbf{w}_n \perp V$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_p \in V$ .

Challenge: Prove it!

## Slide 44: Orthogonal Projection

### Theorem (Orthogonal projection theorem)

Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Every vector  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be decomposed *uniquely* as

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_p + \mathbf{w}_n,$$

where  $\mathbf{w}_n \perp V$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_p \in V$ . Moreover, if  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  is an *orthogonal basis* for  $V$ , then

$$\mathbf{w}_p = \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\mathbf{u}_k \cdot \mathbf{u}_k} \mathbf{u}_k.$$

We call the vector  $\mathbf{w}_p$  as the orthogonal projection (or just projection) of  $\mathbf{w}$  onto the subspace  $V$ .

## Answer to Challenge in Section 5.3

Prove the orthogonal projection theorem: Let  $V$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Every vector  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be decomposed **uniquely** as a sum

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_p + \mathbf{w}_n,$$

where  $\mathbf{w}_n \perp V$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_p \in V$ .

Proof: Let's follow the "Moreover" part to find  $\mathbf{w}_p$ : Fix an orthonormal basis  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  for  $V$ . Let

$$\mathbf{w}_p = (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)\mathbf{u}_1 + (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2)\mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k)\mathbf{u}_k,$$

which is in  $V$ . Next let  $\mathbf{w}_n = \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_p$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{w}_n \cdot \mathbf{u}_i &= (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_p) \cdot \mathbf{u}_i \\ &= \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i - ((\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1)\mathbf{u}_1 + \cdots + (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k)\mathbf{u}_k) \cdot \mathbf{u}_i \\ &= \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

which says  $\mathbf{w}_n \perp V$ . Clearly  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_n + \mathbf{w}_p$ .

## Answer to Challenge in Section 5.3 (Uniqueness Part)

Suppose that

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}_p + \mathbf{w}_n = \mathbf{z}_p + \mathbf{z}_n$$

where  $\mathbf{w}_n, \mathbf{z}_n \in V^\perp$  and  $\mathbf{w}_p, \mathbf{z}_p \in V$ . Then

$$\mathbf{w}_p - \mathbf{z}_p = \mathbf{z}_n - \mathbf{w}_n \in V^\perp \cap V.$$

But any vector  $\mathbf{x} \in V^\perp \cap V$  must be zero, because  $\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x} = 0$ . Thus

$$\mathbf{w}_p - \mathbf{z}_p = \mathbf{z}_n - \mathbf{w}_n = \mathbf{0}.$$

Therefore,  $\mathbf{w}_p = \mathbf{z}_p$  and  $\mathbf{w}_n = \mathbf{z}_n$ . We got the uniqueness.

# Nonzero Orthogonal Vectors are Linearly Independent

Suppose  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  is an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors. Then  $S$  is linearly independent.

Proof: Suppose that

$$c_1\mathbf{u}_1 + c_2\mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{u}_n = \mathbf{0}.$$

If follows that

$$(c_1\mathbf{u}_1 + c_2\mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{u}_n) \cdot \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{0} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i = 0.$$

Then

$$c_i \|\mathbf{u}_i\|^2 = 0.$$

Since  $\mathbf{u}_i \neq \mathbf{0}$ , we have  $c_i = 0$  for all  $i \leq n$ . Hence they are linearly independent.

## Exercise about Orthogonal Matrices

Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are orthogonal matrices. Which of the following are also orthogonal matrices?

- (a)  $\mathbf{AB}$
- (b)  $\mathbf{AB}^T$
- (c)  $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{B}$
- (d)  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$

Answer: All of them except (d).  $\mathbf{A}$  is orthogonal if and only if  $\mathbf{A}^T$  is. Also, product of orthogonal matrices is an orthogonal matrix, because

$$(\mathbf{AB})^T \mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{I}.$$

For (d), consider  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then

$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is not an orthogonal matrix.

## Slide 51: Gram-Schmidt Process

Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  be a **linearly independent** set. Let

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

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{u}_3 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_1 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{u}_k - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_1 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_2 - \dots - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_{k-1} \cdot \mathbf{u}_k}{\|\mathbf{v}_{k-1}\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_{k-1}.$$

Then  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  is an **orthogonal set** (of nonzero vectors), and hence,

$$\left\{ \frac{\mathbf{v}_1}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|}, \frac{\mathbf{v}_2}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|}, \dots, \frac{\mathbf{v}_k}{\|\mathbf{v}_k\|} \right\}$$

is an **orthonormal set** such that  $\text{span}\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\} = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$ .



## An Example of Gram-Schmidt

Find an orthonormal basis for the column space of  $\mathbf{A}$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3).$$

We follow the algorithm.

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \|\mathbf{v}_1\| = 2.$$

Normalize,

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = \left( \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} \right)^T.$$

## Calculating $\mathbf{v}_2$

$$\frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} = \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_2 &= \mathbf{u}_2 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_1 \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 4 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^T - \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^T \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{2} & \frac{5}{2} & \frac{5}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \end{pmatrix}^T, \quad \|\mathbf{v}_2\| = 5.\end{aligned}$$

Normalize,

$$\mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}^T.$$

## Calculating $\mathbf{v}_3$

Next,

$$\frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} = 1 \quad \frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} = \frac{-10}{25} = -\frac{2}{5}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_3 &= \mathbf{u}_3 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_1 - \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^T - 1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \left(-\frac{2}{5}\right) \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{2} & \frac{5}{2} & \frac{5}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \end{pmatrix}^T \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}^T, \quad \|\mathbf{v}_3\| = 4\end{aligned}$$

Normalize,

$$\mathbf{w}_3 = \left( \frac{1}{2} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \right)^T.$$

In short,  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthogonal basis, whereas  $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\}$  is an orthonormal one.