

May 30, 2017

Let $\mathbf{n} : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be the normalization function so that for a given vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ it outputs $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{x})$ with $\|\mathbf{y}\| = 1$. The computation of each y_i can be done separately with:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^m &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ n_i(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} &\mapsto \frac{x_i}{\|\mathbf{x}\|}. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

However, as you pointed out, a singularity may appear and a reformulation of n_i is suitable. In a set-membership context, if $0 \notin [x_i]$, then n_i is equivalent to:

$$n_i^*([x]) = \frac{\text{sign}([x_i])}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} [x_j]^2}{[x_i]^2}}}. \tag{2}$$

If $0 \in [x_i]$, then we can use the following generic formula:

$$n_i([x]) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} [x_j]^2}{([x_i] \cap [0, \infty])^2}}} \cup \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} [x_j]^2}{([x_i] \cap [-\infty, 0])^2}}} & \begin{aligned} &\text{if } [x_i] = 0, \\ &\text{otherwise.} \end{aligned} \end{cases} \tag{3}$$