

Honors Mathematics III

RC 1

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1. Concepts

- ▶ Homogeneous and inhomogeneous.
- ▶ Underdetermined and overdetermined.
- ▶ Trivial solution and non-trivial solutions.

2. Theorems & Lemmas

- ▶ Existence and uniqueness.
 - ▶ Fundamental lemma for homogeneous equations.

3. Applications

- ▶ Equivalence of linear systems.
- ▶ Gauss-Jordan algorithm (Lemma 1.1.8).

Linear System

A **linear system** of m (algebraic) equations in n unknowns $x_1, \dots, x_n \in V$ is a set of equations

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m$$

where $b_1, \dots, b_m \in V$ and $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}, i = 1, \dots, m, j = 1, \dots, n$.

- ▶ $b_1 = b_2 = \cdots = b_m = 0$ (**homogeneous**). Otherwise (**inhomogeneous**).
- ▶ $m < n$ (**underdetermined**). $m > n$ (**overdetermined**).
- ▶ $x_1 = x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ (**trivial solution**).

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Diagonal Form:

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & \diamond \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \diamond \end{array} \right|$$

Echelon Form:

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & * & * & * & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 1 & * & * & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \diamond \end{array} \right|$$

Upper Triangular Form:

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & * & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 1 & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \diamond \end{array} \right|$$

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & * & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 1 & * & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \diamond \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right|$$

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The **solution set** S is the set of all n -tuples of numbers x_1, \dots, x_n that satisfy the system of equations. Presented as a **set**:

$$S = \left\{ x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \text{ satisfies some constraints.} \right\}$$

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1.1.8 Lemma.

The Fundamental Lemma for Homogeneous Equations:

The homogeneous system

$$\begin{aligned}a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= 0 \\a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &= 0 \\&\vdots \\a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{mn}x_n &= 0\end{aligned}$$

of m equations in n real or complex unknowns x_1, \dots, x_n has a non-trivial solution if $n > m$.

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Proof.

Induction in m (with $n > m$):

1. $m = 1$, induction in n :

- ▶ $n = 2$. $a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = 0$ has a non-trivial solution.
- ▶ $n > 2$. The linear equation

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n = 0$$

has a non-trivial solution implies that the equation

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n + a_{1(n+1)}x_{n+1} = 0$$

has a non-trivial solution.

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Existence of Solutions

Proof (continued).

2. $m > 1$, extend a system with $n - 1$ unknowns and $m - 1$ equations (with $n > m$) to a system with n unknowns and m equations.

$$\begin{array}{cccc|cccc}
 \textcolor{red}{a}_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & 0 & \xrightarrow{\cdot(\frac{a_{21}}{a_{11}})} & \xrightarrow{\cdot(\frac{a_{31}}{a_{11}})} & \xrightarrow{\cdot(\frac{a_{m1}}{a_{11}})} \\
 a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} & 0 & \xleftarrow{+} & & \\
 a_{31} & a_{32} & \dots & a_{3n} & 0 & \xleftarrow{\quad} & \xleftarrow{+} & \\
 \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & & \\
 a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} & 0 & \xleftarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & \xleftarrow{\quad\quad\quad} & \xleftarrow{+}
 \end{array}$$

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Existence of Solutions

Proof (continued).

2. $m > 1$, extend a system with $n - 1$ unknowns and $m - 1$ equations (with $n > m$) to a system with n unknowns and m equations.

$$\sim \begin{array}{cccc|c} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} - \frac{a_{21}a_{12}}{a_{11}} & \dots & a_{22} - \frac{a_{21}a_{1n}}{a_{11}} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{32} - \frac{a_{31}a_{12}}{a_{11}} & \dots & a_{32} - \frac{a_{31}a_{1n}}{a_{11}} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{m2} - \frac{a_{m1}a_{12}}{a_{11}} & \dots & a_{m2} - \frac{a_{m1}a_{1n}}{a_{11}} & 0 \end{array}$$

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Uniqueness of Solutions

- ▶ A system of m equations with n unknowns will have a unique solution iff it is **diagonalizable**.
- ▶ Or equivalently, iff the system can be transformed into an **upper triangular form**. (Backward substitution always works.)

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Solutions of Homogeneous Systems

A homogeneous system of equations has

- ▶ a unique solution:

$$2x_1 + x_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad x_1 - x_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ no solution:

$$x_1 + x_2 = 1, \quad x_1 + x_2 = 2$$

- ▶ infinite number of solutions:

$$x_1 + x_2 = 1, \quad x_1 + x_2 = 1$$

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Gauss-Jordan Algorithm

Example.

Find the solution set of the linear system of equations

$$2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = -2$$

$$x_1 - x_2 = 3$$

for x_1, x_2, x_3 using Gauss-Jordan algorithm.

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Solution.

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{array} \sim \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 3 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \cdot (-2) \\ \leftarrow + \\ \leftarrow + \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \cdot (-1) \\ \\ \end{array}$$

$$\sim \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & -3 & -1 & 5 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \\ | : (-3) \\ \leftarrow + \end{array} \cdot 3$$

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Solution (continued).

$$\sim \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/3 & -5/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow + \\ \leftarrow \cdot (-2) \end{array}$$

$$\sim \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1/3 & 4/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/3 & -5/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

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Solution (concluded).

This gives

$$x_1 = -\frac{1}{3}\lambda + \frac{4}{3}, \quad x_2 = -\frac{1}{3}\lambda - \frac{5}{3}, \quad x_3 = \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

Therefore, the solution set is given by

$$\left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1/3 \\ -1/3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 \\ -5/3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

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Vector Spaces — Summary

1. Concepts

- ▶ Linear independence.
- ▶ Linear combination and span.
- ▶ Basis (ordered and unordered).
 - ▶ Coordinates.
 - ▶ Standard (canonical) basis.
- ▶ Dimension.
- ▶ Maximal subsets.
- ▶ Sums of vector spaces.
 - ▶ Direct sums.

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2. Theorems and Lemmas

- ▶ Linear independence.
 - ▶ Linear independence and spans (Lemma 1.2.6).
 - ▶ Dependence and linear combination (Lemma 1.2.17).
- ▶ Basis.
 - ▶ Characterization of bases (Theorem 1.2.10).
 - ▶ Length of a basis (Theorem 1.2.13).
 - ▶ Maximal subsets (Theorem 1.2.20).
 - ▶ **Basis extension theorem** (Theorem 1.2.21).
 - ▶ Independent set with proper length \Rightarrow basis (Corollary 1.2.22).
 - ▶ Length of an independent set (Corollary 1.2.23).
- ▶ Direct sums.
 - ▶ Unique representation (Lemma 1.2.27).
 - ▶ Dimension (Theorem 1.2.28).

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► **Linear independence:**

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k v_k = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \cdots = \lambda_n = 0$$

► **Independent set:** a set with independent elements.

► **Span (linear hull):** — is a vector space

$$\text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\} = \left\{ y \in V : y = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k v_k, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \right\}$$

► **Basis:** unique representation $v = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i b_i \in V$.

► **Dimension:**

- $V = \{0\} : \dim V = 0$.
- $V \neq \{0\} : \dim V = n$ (basis length).

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► **Maximal subset F of A :**

- $F \subset A$ independent.
- $\forall x \in A$, x is a linear combination of elements in F . (A finite: $\text{span } F = \text{span } A$.)

► **Sum of U and W :**

- **Sum:**

$$U + W = \left\{ v \in V : \exists_{u \in U} \exists_{w \in W} v = u + w \right\}$$

- **Direct sum $U \oplus W$:** $U \cap W = \{0\}$.

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Linear Independence

Lemma 1.2.6.

Vectors $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ are independent iff none of them is contained in the span of all the others.

Proof.

$$v_k \in \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 v_1 + \dots + \lambda_{k-1} v_{k-1} - \lambda_k v_k + \lambda_{k+1} v_{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n v_n = 0$$

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Lemma 1.2.17.

If a_1, \dots, a_n are independent and a_1, \dots, a_{n+1} are dependent then a_{n+1} is a linear combination of a_1, \dots, a_n .

Proof.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i a_i + \lambda_{n+1} a_{n+1} = 0$$

- ▶ $\lambda_{n+1} \neq 0$.
- ▶ $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ not all 0.

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Theorem 1.2.10.

$\mathcal{B} = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in V^n$ is a basis iff

- ▶ b_1, \dots, b_n are linearly independent.
- ▶ $V = \text{span } \mathcal{B}$.

Theorem 1.2.13.

Bases have the same length.

Proof. ($m > n$).

$$b_j = \sum_{i=1}^n c_{ij} a_i \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j b_j = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\sum_{j=1}^m c_{ij} \lambda_j \right) a_i$$

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Theorem 1.2.20.

Independent sets $A' \subset A$ are contained in some maximal subset $F \subset A$. (**Finite.**)

Proof. Repeatedly adding elements from A that is not in the span of F (initially set to A').

Basis Extension Theorem

There exists a basis of a finite-dimensional vector space containing an independent set A' in it.

Proof. Choose a basis \mathcal{A} and set $A = \mathcal{A} \cup A'$. Find a maximal subset F of A containing A' .

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Lemma 1.2.27

$U + W$ is direct iff the representation $x = u + w, x \neq 0, u \in U, w \in W$ is unique.

Proof.

- ▶ (\Rightarrow) contraposition: $x = u + w = u' + w'$ implies $u - u' = w - w' \neq 0$ ($u \neq u', w \neq w'$), then $U \cap W \neq \{0\}$.
- ▶ (\Leftarrow) contraposition: $x = x + 0 = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}x$.

Direct Sum

Theorem 1.2.28

Let V be a vector space and $U, W \subset V$ be finite-dimensional subspaces of V . Then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W$$

Proof. Suppose $\{t_1, \dots, t_r\}$ is a basis of $U \cap W$, then by basis extension theorem, we can extend this basis to find a basis of U as $\{t_1, \dots, t_r, a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ and W as $\{t_1, \dots, t_r, b_1, \dots, b_m\}$. Therefore, we have

$$\dim(U \cap W) = r, \quad \dim U = r + n, \quad \dim W = r + m$$

Direct Sum

Theorem 1.2.28

Let V be a vector space and $U, W \subset V$ be finite-dimensional subspaces of V . Then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W$$

Proof (continued). Then we can show that

$$\mathcal{B} := \{t_1, \dots, t_r, a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_m\}$$

is a basis of $U + W$. To do this, we show the following:

- ▶ $\text{span } \mathcal{B} = U + W$. For $\forall v \in U + W, v = u + w, u \in U, w \in W$.
- ▶ \mathcal{B} is independent. Namely,

$$\sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i t_i + \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_j a_j + \sum_{k=1}^m \eta_k b_k = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i = \mu_j = \eta_k = 0$$

Direct Sum

Theorem 1.2.28

Let V be a vector space and $U, W \subset V$ be finite-dimensional subspaces of V . Then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W$$

Proof (continued). Transforming the equation,

$$\sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i t_i + \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_j a_j = - \sum_{k=1}^m \eta_k b_k \in U \cap W$$

with the observation that the lhs of the equation is a linear combination of a basis in U and similarly for the rhs. Hence,

$$\exists \lambda'_i \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } - \sum_{k=1}^m \eta_k b_k = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda'_i t_i \Rightarrow \eta_k = \lambda'_i = 0$$

and similarly for η_j .

Theorem 1.2.28

Let V be a vector space and $U, W \subset V$ be finite-dimensional subspaces of V . Then

$$\dim(U + W) + \dim(U \cap W) = \dim U + \dim W$$

Proof (concluded). Then the remaining term becomes

$$\sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i t_i = 0$$

which immediately implies that $\lambda_i = 0$ because $\{t_1, \dots, t_r\}$ is a basis of $U \cap W$. Therefore, it can be shown that $\lambda_i = \mu_j = \eta_k = 0$ for $1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n, 1 \leq k \leq m$, namely, $\{t_1, \dots, t_r, a_1, \dots, a_n, b_1, \dots, b_m\}$ is independent. Thus we have $\dim(U + W) = r + m + n = \dim U + \dim W$.

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- ▶ An n -dimensional vector space cannot have independent sets with more than n elements.
- ▶ An **independent** set with n elements in an n -dimensional vector space is a basis.
- ▶ A set of n vectors **spanning** the whole n -dimensional vector space is a basis.

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Example.

Suppose $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ is a basis of V . $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ is a set of vectors in V . If each a_i can be expressed as a linear combination of b_1, \dots, b_n , then $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ is also a basis of V .

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Proof. (Independence) Suppose for contradiction that $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ are not independent, then there exists k such that

$$b_k = \lambda_1 b_1 + \dots + \lambda_{k-1} b_{k-1} + \lambda_{k+1} b_{k+1} + \dots + \lambda_n b_n$$

Then the dimension of V $\dim V \leq n - 1$, resulting in contradiction ($\dim V = n$). Therefore, $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$ are independent.

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- ▶ Inner product spaces.
- ▶ The Induced norm and angle.
- ▶ Orthogonality and orthogonal complement.
- ▶ Orthonormal systems.
 - ▶ Orthonormal basis.
 - ▶ Projection

2. Theorems and Lemmas

- ▶ Cauchy-Schwarz inequality (1.3.6).
- ▶ Pythagoras's theorem (1.3.13).
- ▶ Orthonormal systems are independent (Lemma 1.3.16).
- ▶ Basis representation (Theorem 1.3.18).
- ▶ Parseval's theorem (1.3.20).
- ▶ Projection theorem (1.3.21).
- ▶ Dimensions of orthogonal complement (Corollary 1.3.24).
- ▶ Bessel inequality (1.3.25).

3. Practical Methods

- ▶ Gram-Schmidt Orthonormalization.

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1.3.1. Definition.

Let V be a real or complex vector space. Then a map $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \mapsto \mathbb{F}$ is called a **scalar product** or **inner product** if for all $u, v, w \in V$ and all $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}$,

- ▶ $\langle v, v \rangle \geq 0$ and $\langle v, v \rangle = 0$ if and only if $v = 0$,
- ▶ $\langle u, v + w \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle + \langle u, w \rangle$,
- ▶ $\langle u, \lambda v \rangle = \lambda \langle u, v \rangle$,
- ▶ $\langle u, \lambda v \rangle = \overline{\langle v, \lambda u \rangle}$.

The pair $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ is called an inner product space.

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The Induced Norm and Angle

► **Induced norm:** $\|\cdot\| : V \mapsto \mathbb{R}, \quad \|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}.$

► In \mathbb{R}^n and \mathbb{C}^n :

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2} = \|x\|_2$$

► On $C([a, b])$:

$$\|f\| = \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle} = \sqrt{\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx} = \|f\|_2$$

► **Angle** $\alpha(u, v) \in [0, \pi]$: $\cos \alpha(u, v) = \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\|u\| \|v\|}$

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- **Orthogonal (perpendicular):** $u \perp v \Leftrightarrow \langle u, v \rangle = 0$.
- **Orthogonal complement of $M \subset V$:**

$$M^\perp := \left\{ v \in V : \forall_{m \in M} \langle m, v \rangle = 0 \right\}$$

- **Orthonormal system:** a tuple of vectors (v_1, \dots, v_r) such that

$$\langle v_j, v_k \rangle = \delta_{jk} := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } j = k \\ 0 & \text{for } j \neq k \end{cases}$$

for $j, k = 1, \dots, r$.

- **Orthonormal projection:** $\pi_U v := \sum_{i=1}^r \langle e_i, v \rangle e_i$.

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The Induced Norm

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality 1.3.6.

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \|u\| \cdot \|v\|, \quad \forall u, v \in V.$$

Proof.

$$|\langle u, v \rangle|^2 = \|v\|^2 \cdot \left| \left\langle u, \frac{v}{\|v\|} \right\rangle \right|^2 \leq \|u\|^2 \cdot \|v\|^2$$

Lemma 1.3.12.

The orthogonal complement M^\perp is a subspace of V .

Pythagoras's Theorem 1.3.13.

$$z = x + y, x \in M, y \in M^\perp, M \subset V \Rightarrow \|z\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2.$$

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Orthonormal System

Lemma 1.3.16.

The elements in an orthonormal system are linearly independent.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^r \lambda_i v_i = 0 &\Rightarrow 0 = \langle v_i, 0 \rangle \\ &= \langle v_i, \sum_{i=0}^r \lambda_i v_i \rangle \\ &= \lambda_i\end{aligned}$$

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Orthonormal System

Theorem 1.3.18.

Basis representation $v = \sum_{j=1}^n \langle e_j, v \rangle e_j$.

Parseval's Theorem 1.3.21.

$$\|v\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\langle v, e_i \rangle|^2.$$

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Projection Theorem 1.3.22.

Let $(V, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be a **possibly infinite-dimensional** inner product vector space and $(e_1, \dots, e_r), r \in \mathbb{N}$ be an orthonormal system in V . $U := \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_r\}$. Then there exists a unique representation

$$v = u + w \quad \text{where } u \in U \text{ and } w \in U^\perp$$

and $u = \sum_{i=1}^r \langle e_i, v \rangle e_i$, $w := v - u$.

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Proof.

Uniqueness: $0 = \|u - u' + (w - w')\|^2 = \|u - u'\|^2 + \|w - w'\|^2$.

Existence: $u = \sum_{i=1}^r \langle e_i, v \rangle e_i$, $w = v - u$ and

$$\|u\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^r \|\langle e_i, v \rangle\|^2 \Rightarrow \langle v - u, u \rangle = 0$$

verifying that $w \perp u$.

Corollary 1.3.24

$V = U \oplus U^\perp$ (V possibly infinite-dimensional). If V is finite-dimensional, then $\dim V = \dim U + \dim U^\perp$.

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Bessel Inequality 1.3.25.

For a **possibly infinite-dimensional** inner product space V and an orthonormal system (e_1, \dots, e_n) ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^r |\langle e_k, v \rangle|^2 \leq \|v\|^2$$

for all $v \in V$.

Proof. It follows from:

- ▶ $\|v - u\|^2 = \|v\|^2 - \|u\|^2 \geq 0.$
- ▶ $\|u\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^r |\langle e_i, v \rangle|^2.$

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To orthonormalize a system of vectors (v_1, \dots, v_n) to obtain an orthonormal system (w_1, \dots, w_m) , we have

$$w_1 := \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|}$$

$$w_2 := \frac{v_2 - \langle w_1, v_2 \rangle w_1}{\|v_2 - \langle w_1, v_2 \rangle w_1\|}$$

$$w_3 := \frac{v_3 - \langle w_2, v_3 \rangle w_2 - \langle w_1, v_3 \rangle w_1}{\|v_3 - \langle w_2, v_3 \rangle w_2 - \langle w_1, v_3 \rangle w_1\|}$$

...

$$w_k := \frac{v_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \langle w_j, v_k \rangle w_j}{\|v_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \langle w_j, v_k \rangle w_j\|}$$

(Repeatedly searching for the orthogonal complement of the vector space spanned by the previous orthonormal system that has been constructed.)

Gram-Schmidt Orthonormalization

Example 1.

Suppose $v_1 = (2, 1, 1)^T$, $v_2 = (1, 2, -1)^T$, $v_3 = (1, 1, 0)^T$. Find an orthonormal basis for the vector space $\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$.

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Solution.

Define

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + 1^2}} u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$u_2 - \langle w_1, u_2 \rangle w_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{3}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3/2 \\ -3/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Solution (continued).

Then we calculate

$$w_2 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3/2 \\ -3/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We then attempt to calculate w_3 and notice that

$$u_3 - \langle w_1, u_3 \rangle w_1 - \langle w_2, u_3 \rangle w_2 = 0$$

$\text{span}\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is actually 2-dimensional and its orthonormal basis can be given by (w_1, w_2) .

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Some statements and proofs in the slides above are not mathematically rigorous at all. I am merely trying to give you a general idea about what is going on. Please refer to the course slides if you want to check the details!

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Thanks for your attention!