

Math 672 Lecture 19

Definition: Let V be an inner product space over \mathbb{R} . We say

that $u, v \in V$ are orthogonal iff $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$. We say that

$\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V$ is orthogonal iff $\langle u_i, u_j \rangle = 0$ for all $i, j = 1, \dots, n$, $i \neq j$.

Note: "Orthogonal" is a generalization of "perpendicular" for Euclidean vectors.

For $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^2$, the law of cosines shows that $x \cdot y = \|x\| \|y\| \cos \theta$, where θ is the angle between x and y . Thus $x \cdot y = 0$ iff $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} = 90^\circ$.

Lemma: Let V be an inner product space over \mathbb{R} . Then

0 is orthogonal to every $v \in V$, and if $u \in V$ is orthogonal to every $v \in V$, then $u = 0$.

Proof: We have

$$\langle v, 0 \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v \in V$$

and

$$\langle v, u \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v \in V \Rightarrow \langle u, u \rangle = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u = 0 \quad (\text{by definition of inner product}). //$$

Theorem: Let V be an inner product space over \mathbb{R} and let u, v be vectors in V . Then u and v are orthogonal iff

$$\|u+v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2.$$

(This is the Pythagorean theorem for inner product spaces.)

Proof: Note that

$$\|u+v\|^2 = \langle u+v, u+v \rangle = \|u\|^2 + 2\langle u, v \rangle + \|v\|^2,$$

so

$$\|u+v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 \iff \langle u, v \rangle = 0. //$$

The above result explains why we can regard orthogonality as a generalization of perpendicularity.

Example: Consider $V = C[0,1]$ under the L^2 inner product:

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{L^2} = \int_0^1 f(t)g(t)dt, \quad \|f\|_{L^2} = \sqrt{\int_0^1 |f(t)|^2 dt}.$$

Define $f_1, f_2 \in C[0,1]$ by

$$f_1(t) = \sin(\pi t), \quad f_2(t) = \sin(2\pi t).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle_{L^2} &= \int_0^1 \sin(\pi t) \sin(2\pi t) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 2 \sin^2(\pi t) \cos(\pi t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^0 2u^2 du \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

$u = \sin(\pi t)$
 $du = \pi \cos(\pi t) dt$
 $t=0 \iff u=0$
 $t=1 \iff u=0$

Thus f_1 and f_2 are orthogonal, and hence

$$\|f_1\|_{L^2}^2 + \|f_2\|_{L^2}^2 = \|f_1 + f_2\|_{L^2}^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_0^1 \sin^2(\pi t) dt + \int_0^1 \sin^2(2\pi t) dt = \int_0^1 (\sin(\pi t) + \sin(2\pi t))^2 dt.$$

Norms and inner products on complex vector spaces

Let V be a vector space over \mathbb{C} . The definition of "norm" is unchanged; in particular, a norm on V is still a real-valued function. However, the definition of inner product must change.

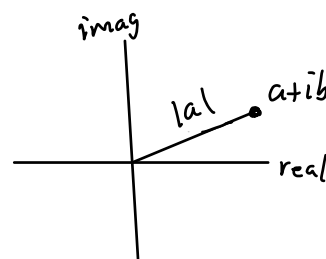
Definition: Let V be a complex vector space. An inner product on V is a function $(u, v) \mapsto \langle u, v \rangle$ mapping $U \times V$ into \mathbb{C} satisfying the following properties:

- $\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall u \in V$ and $\langle u, u \rangle = 0$ iff $u = 0$. (Note: $\langle u, u \rangle \in \mathbb{C}$ by assumption, but $\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0$ should be interpreted as " $\langle u, u \rangle$ is real and nonnegative.")
- $\langle \alpha u + \beta v, w \rangle = \alpha \langle u, w \rangle + \beta \langle v, w \rangle \quad \forall u, v, w \in V \quad \forall \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$.
- $\langle v, u \rangle = \overline{\langle u, v \rangle} \quad \forall u, v \in V$ (where \bar{a} is the complex conjugate of $a \in \mathbb{C}$).

Recall that if $a = \alpha + i\beta \in \mathbb{C}$, then $\bar{a} = \alpha - i\beta$.

We have

- $a\bar{a} = \alpha^2 + \beta^2 = |a|^2 \quad \forall a = \alpha + i\beta \in \mathbb{C}$
- $\overline{ab} = \bar{a}\bar{b} \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{C}$
- $\overline{a+b} = \bar{a} + \bar{b} \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{C}$



Note that the second and third properties of a complex inner product implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle w, \alpha u + \beta v \rangle &= \overline{\langle \alpha u + \beta v, w \rangle} = \overline{\alpha \langle u, w \rangle + \beta \langle v, w \rangle} \\ &= \overline{\alpha} \overline{\langle u, w \rangle} + \overline{\beta} \overline{\langle v, w \rangle} \\ &= \overline{\alpha} \langle w, u \rangle + \overline{\beta} \langle w, v \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is linear in the first argument and conjugate linear in the second. For this reason, a complex inner product is sometimes called Sesquilinear ("sesqui" means "one-and-a-half").

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality still holds for a complex inner product.

Theorem: Let V be a complex inner product space. Then

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \langle u, u \rangle^{1/2} \langle v, v \rangle^{1/2} \quad \forall u, v \in V$$

and equality holds iff one of u, v is a multiple of the other.

Proof: If $v=0$, then the inequality holds, as an equation, because both sides are zero. Also, $v=0 \cdot u$ in this case.

Suppose $v \neq 0$ and define

$$\lambda = \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\langle v, v \rangle}.$$

Then

$$\langle u - \lambda v, u - \lambda v \rangle \geq 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u - \lambda v, u - \lambda v \rangle &= \langle u, u - \lambda v \rangle - \lambda \langle v, u - \lambda v \rangle \quad (\text{linearity in the first argument}) \\ &= \langle u, u \rangle - \bar{\lambda} \langle u, v \rangle - \lambda \langle v, u \rangle + \bar{\lambda} \lambda \langle v, v \rangle \quad (\text{conjugate linearity in the second}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \langle u, u \rangle - \frac{\overline{\langle u, v \rangle}}{\langle v, v \rangle} \langle u, v \rangle - \frac{\langle u, v \rangle}{\langle v, v \rangle} \overline{\langle u, v \rangle} \\ &\quad + \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\langle v, v \rangle^2} \langle v, v \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$= \langle u, u \rangle - 2 \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\langle v, v \rangle} + \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\langle v, v \rangle}$$

$$= \langle u, u \rangle - \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\langle v, v \rangle}.$$

Thus

$$\langle u, u \rangle - \frac{|\langle u, v \rangle|^2}{\langle v, v \rangle} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow |\langle u, v \rangle|^2 \leq \langle u, u \rangle \langle v, v \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow |\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \langle u, u \rangle^{1/2} \langle v, v \rangle^{1/2}.$$

Moreover, equality holds iff $u - \lambda v = 0$, that is, iff

$$u = \lambda v. //$$

It then follows, just as in the real case, that

$$\|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle} \quad \forall v \in V$$

defines a norm on V .

The Pythagorean theorem still holds, but only in one direction.

Theorem: Let V be a complex inner product space. If $u, v \in V$ are orthogonal, then

$$\|u+v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2.$$

Proof: Note that $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ iff $\langle v, u \rangle = 0$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \|u+v\|^2 &= \langle u+v, u+v \rangle = \langle u, u \rangle + \cancel{\langle u, v \rangle}^0 + \cancel{\langle v, u \rangle}^0 + \langle v, v \rangle \\ &= \langle u, u \rangle + \langle v, v \rangle \\ &= \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2. // \end{aligned}$$

If $u, v \in V$ and $\|u+v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2$, then we can only say that

$$\langle u, v \rangle + \langle v, u \rangle = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle u, v \rangle + \overline{\langle u, v \rangle} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle) = 0$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u, iv \rangle + \langle iv, u \rangle &= -i\langle u, v \rangle + i\langle v, u \rangle \\ &= -i\langle u, v \rangle + i\overline{\langle u, v \rangle} \\ &= -i(\langle u, v \rangle - \overline{\langle u, v \rangle}) \\ &= -i \cdot 2i \operatorname{Im}(\langle u, v \rangle) \\ &= 2 \operatorname{Im}(\langle u, v \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

(If $a = \alpha + i\beta$, then the real part of a is $\operatorname{Re}(a) = \alpha$ and the imaginary part of a is $\operatorname{Im}(a) = \beta$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} a + \bar{a} &= \alpha + i\beta + \alpha - i\beta = 2\alpha = 2\operatorname{Re}(a), \\ a - \bar{a} &= \alpha + i\beta - (\alpha - i\beta) = 2i\beta = 2i\operatorname{Im}(a). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if we have both

$$\|u+v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 \text{ and } \|u+iv\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|iv\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2,$$

then we obtain

$$\operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle) = 0 \text{ and } \operatorname{Im}(\operatorname{Re}(\langle u, v \rangle)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle u, v \rangle = 0$$

The following theorem is unchanged in the complex case.

Theorem: Let V be a complex normed vector space. Then the norm $\|\cdot\|$ of V is defined by an inner product iff the parallelogram law holds:

$$\|u+v\|^2 + \|u-v\|^2 = 2(\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2) \quad \forall u, v \in V.$$

Proof: If $\|\cdot\|$ is defined by an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$, then, for $u, v \in V$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|u+v\|^2 + \|u-v\|^2 &= \langle u+v, u+v \rangle + \langle u-v, u-v \rangle \\ &= \langle u, u \rangle + \cancel{\langle u, v \rangle} + \cancel{\langle v, u \rangle} + \langle v, v \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle u, u \rangle - \cancel{\langle u, v \rangle} - \cancel{\langle v, u \rangle} + \langle v, v \rangle \\ &= 2\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

The proof of the converse is even trickier than in the real case, and will be omitted. //