

Vv255 Lecture 2

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Definition

If \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 , then the product

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2$$

is called the **dot product** of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} . If \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , then

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + u_3v_3$$

is the corresponding dot product in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Properties of the Dot product

Let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} be vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 , and let α be a scalar in \mathbb{R} .

1. $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$
2. $(\mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w} \pm \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{v})$
3. $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} \geq 0$
4. $(\alpha\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} = \alpha(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot (\alpha\mathbf{v})$

Q: Since a dot product is scalar, what does a dot product measure?

- If the dot product is with the vector \mathbf{v} itself, say $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$, then we have

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} = v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2$$

- Recall the length of \mathbf{v} is

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$$

- Thus, the dot product of a vector \mathbf{v} with itself is an indicator of its length

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{v}|^2$$

- A vector whose **length is one** is called a **unit vector**, and the process of dividing a nonzero vector \mathbf{v} by its length is known as **normalizing**

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}}}$$

- The followings are three important results involving the dot product/length.

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

For any vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , both in \mathbb{R}^2 or both in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$|\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}| \leq |\mathbf{u}| |\mathbf{v}|$$

Triangle Inequality

For any vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , both in \mathbb{R}^2 or both in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}| \leq |\mathbf{u}| + |\mathbf{v}|$$

Parallelogram Law

For any vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , both in \mathbb{R}^2 or both in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}|^2 + |\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}|^2 = 2(|\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\mathbf{v}|^2).$$

Q: What is the geometric implication of Cauchy-Schwarz inequality?

Geometric formula for the dot product

If θ is the angle between the vector \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in \mathbb{R}^3 or \mathbb{R}^2 , then

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{u}| |\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta$$

Proof

Consider the following three vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$\mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{v} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$$

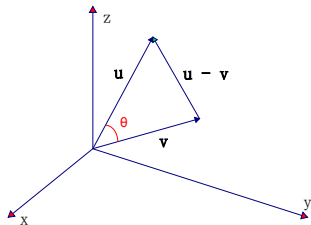
the three vectors form a triangle. Applying the Law of Cosines, we have

$$|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}|^2 = |\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\mathbf{v}|^2 - 2|\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta$$

$$(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} - 2|\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta$$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} - 2\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} - 2|\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta$$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta \quad \square$$



Exercise

Find the dot product of $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$. What does it tell you?

- By the geometric formula for the dot product,

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{u}| |\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta$$

it is clear that the dot product of two nonzero vectors is only zero if

$$\cos \theta = 0$$

- Thus the dot product of two vectors tells whether two vectors form

“a right angle triangle” in \mathbb{R}^3

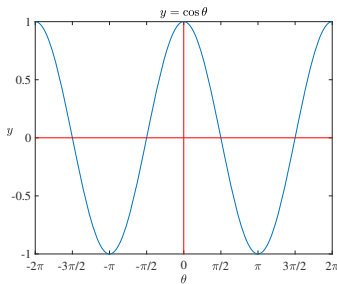
Definition

Two nonzero vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are **orthogonal** if and only if

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

They are said to be **orthonormal** if they are also unit vector.

Q: For what values of θ is $\cos \theta$ positive?



$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{u}| |\mathbf{v}| \cos \theta \implies \hat{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{v}} = \cos \theta$$

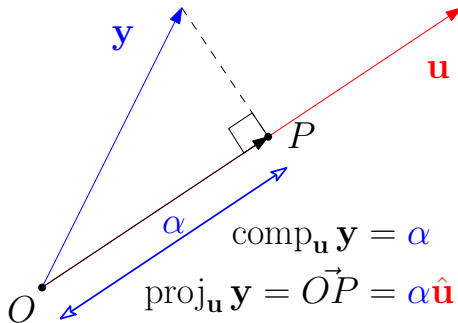
- Hence the dot product of two vectors measures the extent to which the two vectors point in the same general direction.

- The dot product of two vectors is directly related to **projections**, consider

$$\begin{aligned}\text{comp}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y} &= \alpha \\ &= |\mathbf{y}| \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y} = \alpha \hat{\mathbf{u}} \quad \text{for some } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \alpha \frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \\ &= |\mathbf{y}| \cos \theta \frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \\ &= |\mathbf{y}| \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{y}| |\mathbf{u}|} \frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}| |\mathbf{u}|} \mathbf{u} \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \mathbf{u}\end{aligned}$$



Definition

Scalar projection of \mathbf{y} onto \mathbf{u} ,

$$\text{comp}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y} = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{|\mathbf{u}|} = |\mathbf{y}| \cos \theta$$

where θ is the angle between vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{y} .

- It also known as the **scalar component** of \mathbf{y} along \mathbf{u} .

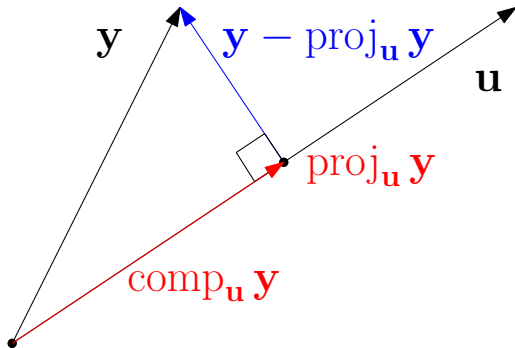
Definition

Vector projection of \mathbf{y} onto \mathbf{u}

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y} = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \text{comp}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y} = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \left(\frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{|\mathbf{u}|} \right) = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \mathbf{u}$$

- It is also called the **vector component** of \mathbf{y} along \mathbf{u} .

- We often want to decompose a vector \mathbf{y} into two vector components, parallel and perpendicular to a vector \mathbf{u} .



- The vector $\mathbf{y} - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{u}} \mathbf{y}$ is called the **vector component** of \mathbf{y} orthogonal to \mathbf{u} .

Definition

Given three vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 ,

$$\mathbf{a}, \quad \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{c}$$

if there exist three **unique** scalars

$$\alpha, \quad \beta, \quad \gamma$$

such that

$$\mathbf{v} = \alpha \mathbf{a} + \beta \mathbf{b} + \gamma \mathbf{c}$$

for **any** arbitrary vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$, then we say that \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , and \mathbf{c} form a **basis** for \mathbb{R}^3 .

The scalars

$$\alpha, \quad \beta, \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma$$

are called the **components/coordinates** of \mathbf{v} with respect to the basis \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , and \mathbf{c} .

- Because every vector in \mathbb{R}^3 can be represented as a linear combination of

$$\mathbf{e}_x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{e}_y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{e}_z = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

they form a basis for \mathbb{R}^3 .

- The set

$$\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{e}_x, \mathbf{e}_y, \mathbf{e}_z\}$$

is known as the **standard basis** for \mathbb{R}^3 .

- Note vectors in \mathcal{S} are orthogonal to each other and of unit length. Such a set is known as an **orthonormal basis**, however, a basis need not be orthonormal.

Q: Can you think of another basis for \mathbb{R}^3 ? How many bases are there for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear Independence

The vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} are **linearly independent** if the **only way** to satisfy

$$\alpha\mathbf{a} + \beta\mathbf{b} + \gamma\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$$

is for all the scalars α , β and γ to be simultaneously zero,

$$\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0.$$

Dimension

The dimension of a space \mathbb{R}^n is the largest number of **linearly independent** vectors

n

in that space. For example, the dimension of \mathbb{R}^3 is 3.

- A basis for that space consists of **n** linearly independent vectors.
- A vector \mathbf{v} in that space has **n** components (some of them possibly zero) with respect to any basis in that space.

- Q: Given an arbitrary vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbb{R}^3 , and a **basis** for this space. How to determine the **components** of \mathbf{v} with respect to the basis?
- Q: Given an arbitrary vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbb{R}^3 , and a **orthogonal basis** for this space. How to determine the **components** of \mathbf{v} with respect to the basis?
- Finding those components is much simpler if the basis is **orthogonal**, i.e.

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a} = 0.$$

- In that case, take the dot product of both sides of the equation earlier

$$\mathbf{v} = \alpha \mathbf{a} + \beta \mathbf{b} + \gamma \mathbf{c}$$

with each of the 3 basis vectors and show that

$$\alpha = \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a}}, \quad \beta = \frac{\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b}}, \quad \gamma = \frac{\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{c}}.$$

- Q: Given an arbitrary vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbb{R}^3 , and a **orthonormal basis** for this space. How to determine the **components** of \mathbf{v} with respect to the basis?

Exercise

If two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are defined in terms of an orthonormal basis $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}\}$,

$$\mathbf{u} = \alpha_u \mathbf{a} + \beta_u \mathbf{b} + \gamma_u \mathbf{c}, \quad \mathbf{v} = \alpha_v \mathbf{a} + \beta_v \mathbf{b} + \gamma_v \mathbf{c}$$

Find the dot product of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} . What can you conclude from your answer?

Q: Is there another orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

Matlab

```
>> a = [ 1; 1; 1]; b = [-1/3; 2/3; -1/3]; c = [ -2; 0; 2];  
>> a = a/sqrt(3); b = b*sqrt(3/2); c = c/sqrt(8);  
>> norm(a), norm(b), norm(c) %magnitude of a vector  
ans = 1  
ans = 1  
ans = 1  
>> dot(a,b), dot(a,c), dot(b,c)  
ans = 0  
ans = 0  
ans = 0
```

Dictionary

“**Transpose** cause (two or more things) to change places with each other .”

Definition

We obtain the **transpose** of a matrix,

$$\mathbf{A}^T$$

by writing its rows as columns or vice versa.

- For instance,

$$\text{Suppose } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 8 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{then } \mathbf{A}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 8 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Q: What will the transpose of a column vector \mathbf{u} be ?

- If \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are **column vectors**, then the dot product is equivalent to

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{u}$$

the later two are matrix products.

Properties of Transpose

Let \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} be matrices, and let α be a scalar.

1. $(\mathbf{A}^T)^T = \mathbf{A}$

2. $(\alpha \mathbf{A})^T = \alpha \mathbf{A}^T$

3. $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^T = \mathbf{A}^T + \mathbf{B}^T$

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

Properties of the Dot product

- Let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} be column vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 , and let α be a scalar in \mathbb{R} .

1. $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{u}$

2. $(\mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{v})^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{w} \pm \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w}^T (\mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{v})$

3. $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} \geq 0$

4. $(\alpha \mathbf{u})^T \mathbf{v} = \alpha (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u}^T (\alpha \mathbf{v})$

- Dot product is a scalar quantity, not a matrix.

$$\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{uv}^T = (\mathbf{vu}^T)^T$$

- The product in blue is known as the tensor product, the resulting square matrix is actually a tensor. Commonly, it is also denoted as

$$\mathbf{uv}^T = \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}$$

Properties of Tensor product

- Let \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} be column vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$1. \mathbf{uv}^T = (\mathbf{vu}^T)^T$$

$$2. (\mathbf{uv}^T) \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} (\mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{w})$$

$$3. \mathbf{u} (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})^T = \mathbf{uv}^T + \mathbf{uw}^T$$

$$4. \mathbf{u}^T (\mathbf{vw}^T) = (\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{w}^T$$