

# Vv256 Lecture 26

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## Definition

A vector  $\mathbf{y}$  in an inner vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  is said to be **orthogonal to a subspace**  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$  if  $\mathbf{y}$  is orthogonal to all vectors in the subspace  $\mathcal{H}$ , meaning that

$$\langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for all vectors } \mathbf{w} \text{ in } \mathcal{H}.$$

- If  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ , then  $\mathbf{y}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathcal{H}$   
**if and only if**  $\mathbf{y}$  is orthogonal to **all** the vectors in the basis  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Q: Why the above must be true?

## Theorem

For a vector  $\mathbf{y}$  in an inner space  $\mathcal{V}$  and a subspace  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $\mathcal{V}$ , we can write

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{z}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{p} \text{ is some vector in } \mathcal{H} \text{ and } \mathbf{z} \text{ is orthogonal to } \mathcal{H}.$$

Moreover, this representation or decomposition is **unique**.

## Proof

- We need to show such a decomposition exists and it is unique. Suppose

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$$

is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{H}$ , and consider a vector  $\mathbf{p}$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\mathbf{p} = \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n$$

- The decomposition will exist if for every  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  there exists  $\mathbf{p}$  such that

the vector  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathcal{H}$ .

- Consider the inner product for arbitrary  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{z} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} - \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 - \alpha_2 \mathbf{u}_2 - \dots - \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle - \alpha_1 \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}_1 \rangle - \alpha_2 \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}_2 \rangle - \dots - \alpha_n \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}_n \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle - \alpha_i \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle - \alpha_i\end{aligned}$$

## Proof

- $\mathbf{z}$  is orthogonal to the subspace  $\mathcal{H}$  if  $\mathbf{z}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}_i$  for all  $i$ , that is,

$$\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{z} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle - \alpha_i = 0, \quad \text{for all } i.$$

- This is achieved if and only if

$$\alpha_i = \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle, \quad \text{for all } i.$$

- Therefore if we let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p} &= \alpha_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + \alpha_n \mathbf{u}_n \\ &= \langle \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_1 + \langle \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + \langle \mathbf{u}_n, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_n, \end{aligned}$$

then  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathcal{H}$ .

- Since there is only one set of  $\alpha_i$  for a given  $\mathbf{y}$ , the decomposition is unique.



## Definition

If  $\mathcal{H}$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{V}$  with an orthonormal basis  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$ , then the vector  $\mathbf{p}$

$$\mathbf{p} = \langle \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_1 + \langle \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_2 + \cdots + \langle \mathbf{u}_n, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{u}_n, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \text{ in } \mathcal{V},$$

is the vector such that

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{z}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{p} \text{ is in } \mathcal{H} \text{ and } \mathbf{z} \text{ is orthogonal to } \mathcal{H}.$$

$\mathbf{p}$  is known as the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{y}$  onto the subspace  $\mathcal{H}$ , denoted by

$$\mathbf{p} = \text{proj}_{\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{y}$$

## Exercise

Given  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ , where  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , find

$$\text{proj}_{\mathcal{H}}(\mathbf{y})$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  generated by the set  $\mathcal{S}$ .

## Solution

- Assume the usual addition, scalar multiplication and inner product for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Notice that

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 1 - 1 + 0 = 0$$

which means  $\mathcal{Q} = \left\{ \frac{\mathbf{v}_1}{|\mathbf{v}_1|}, \frac{\mathbf{v}_2}{|\mathbf{v}_2|} \right\}$  forms an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H} = \text{span}(\mathcal{S})$ .

- Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proj}_{\mathcal{H}} &= \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{v}_1}{|\mathbf{v}_1|}, \mathbf{y} \right\rangle \frac{\mathbf{v}_1}{|\mathbf{v}_1|} + \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{v}_2}{|\mathbf{v}_2|}, \mathbf{y} \right\rangle \frac{\mathbf{v}_2}{|\mathbf{v}_2|} \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}_1|^2} \langle \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}_2|^2} \langle \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{y} \rangle \mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{y} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_1 \rangle} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{y} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle} \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &= \frac{5}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{-2}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

## Exercise

For function space  $\mathcal{C}[0, 1]$  with the inner product

$$\langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{g} \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x)g(x) dx$$

Find  $\text{proj}_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{v})$  for  $\mathbf{v} = e^x$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  is the subspace of  $\mathcal{C}[0, 1]$  spanned by  $\{1, x\}$ .

## Solution

- We need an orthonormal basis, but  $\mathcal{S}$  is orthogonal since

$$\int_0^1 1 \cdot x dx = \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{2} \neq 0$$

- To construct an orthogonal set, we use theorem on 2 on  $\mathbf{y} = x$ ,

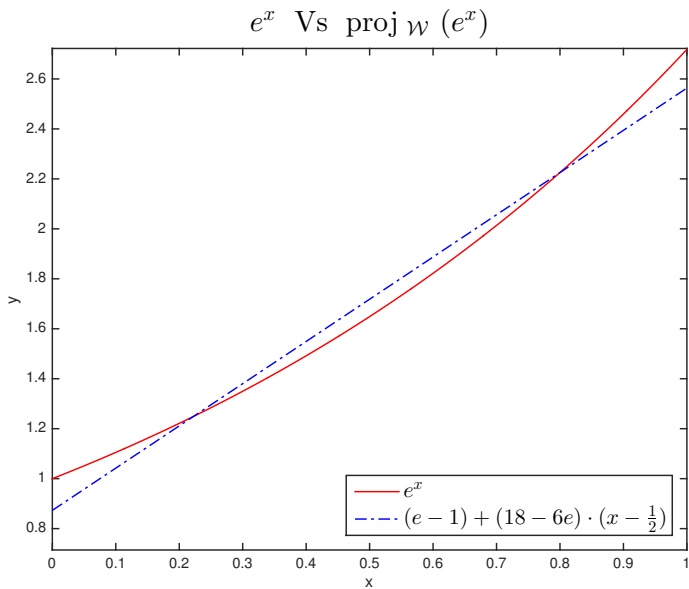
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{z} &\implies \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p} \implies \mathbf{z} = x - \text{proj}_{\mathcal{H}} x, \quad \text{where } \mathcal{H} = \text{span}(1) \\ &= x - \langle 1, x \rangle 1 = x - \left( \int_0^1 x dx \right) 1 = x - \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

## Solution

- Thus  $\mathcal{Q} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle 1, 1 \rangle}}, \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\sqrt{\langle x - \frac{1}{2}, x - \frac{1}{2} \rangle}} \right\}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\text{span}(\mathcal{S})$ .
- Use the definition of a orthogonal projection of a vector onto a subspace,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{proj}_{\mathcal{W}}(\mathbf{v}) &= \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle 1, 1 \rangle}}, e^x \right\rangle \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle 1, 1 \rangle}} \\ &\quad + \left\langle \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\sqrt{\langle x - \frac{1}{2}, x - \frac{1}{2} \rangle}}, e^x \right\rangle \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\sqrt{\langle x - \frac{1}{2}, x - \frac{1}{2} \rangle}} \\ &= \frac{\langle 1, e^x \rangle}{\langle 1, 1 \rangle} 1 + \frac{\langle x - \frac{1}{2}, e^x \rangle}{\langle x - \frac{1}{2}, x - \frac{1}{2} \rangle} (x - \frac{1}{2}) \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 e^x dx}{\int_0^1 1 dx} + \frac{\int_0^1 (x - \frac{1}{2}) e^x dx}{\int_0^1 (x - \frac{1}{2})^2 dx} (x - \frac{1}{2}) = e - 1 + (18 - 6e)(x - \frac{1}{2})\end{aligned}$$





## Definition

For a subspace  $\mathcal{H}$  of an inner product space  $\mathcal{V}$ , the **orthogonal complement**  $\mathcal{H}^\perp$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  is the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  that are orthogonal to  $\mathcal{H}$  :

$$\mathcal{H}^\perp = \{\mathbf{y} \text{ in } \mathcal{V} : \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = 0, \text{ for all } \mathbf{v} \text{ in } \mathcal{H}\}$$

- Clearly, combine this notion with previous theorems, we have the following,

## Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  is a subspace of an inner product space  $\mathcal{V}$ , if  $\mathbf{p}$  is the orthogonal projection of any vector  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  onto  $\mathcal{H}$ , then

$$\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y} \text{ is in the orthogonal complement } \mathcal{H}^\perp$$

Moreover,  $\mathbf{p}$  is the vector in  $\mathcal{H}$  that is closest to  $\mathbf{y}$ , that is,

$$|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}| > |\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y}|$$

for any other vector  $\mathbf{w}$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  that is distinct from  $\mathbf{p}$ .

## Proof

- Since  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  are both in  $\mathcal{H}$ , then

$$\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{H}$$

and by theorem on page 2,

$$\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{H}^\perp$$

- Thus the Pythagoras' theorem states,

$$|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}|^2 = |\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{p}|^2 + |\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y}|^2$$

- Since  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  are distinct, it must be true that  $|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{p}|^2 > 0$

$$|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{y}|^2 > |\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{y}|^2$$

- Hence  $\mathbf{p}$  is the closest vector to  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

- The last theorem provided a way of solving the following problem

### Minimum distance problem for functions

Suppose that  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$  has the integral inner product,

$$\langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{g} \rangle = \int_a^b f(x)g(x) dx$$

Given a subspace  $\mathcal{H}$  of  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$  and a function  $f$  that is continuous on the interval  $[a, b]$ , find a function  $\hat{f}$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  that is closest to  $f$  in the sense that

$$|\hat{f} - f| < |g - f|$$

for every function  $g$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  that is distinct from  $\hat{f}$ .

- Such a function  $\hat{f}$  is known as a **best approximation** to  $f$  from  $\mathcal{H}$ .

## Theorem

If  $\mathcal{H}$  is a finite-dimensional subspace of  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$ , and if

$$\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$$

is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ , then

each function  $f$  in  $\mathcal{C}[a, b]$  has a unique best approximation  $\hat{f}$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ ,

and that approximation is given by

$$\hat{f} = \langle f, f_1 \rangle f_1 + \langle f, f_2 \rangle f_2 + \dots + \langle f, f_n \rangle f_n, \quad \text{where } \langle f, f_k \rangle = \int_a^b f(x) f_k(x) dx.$$

- We have an orthonormal basis for the subspace  $\mathcal{T}_n$ ,

$$\mathcal{S} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{\cos x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\cos 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \dots, \frac{\cos nx}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\sin x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\sin 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \dots, \frac{\sin nx}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right\}$$

- Therefore we can easily compute the best approximation to some  $f$  from  $\mathcal{T}_n$ .