## 1.4. Inner product

**Inner product.** The inner product of *n*-vector x and y is denoted as  $x^Ty$ . In Python the inner product of x and y can be found using np.inner(x,y)

```
In []: import numpy as np
    x = np.array([-1,2,2])
    y = np.array([1,0,-3])
    print(np.inner(x,y))
```

Alternatively, you can use the @ operator to perform inner product on numpy arrays.

```
In []: import numpy as np
    x = np.array([-1,2,2])
    y = np.array([1,0,-3])
    x @ y
Out[]: -7
```

**Net present value.** As an example, the following code snippet finds the net present value (NPV) of a cash flow vector **c**, with per-period interest rate **r**.

```
In []: import numpy as np
    c = np.array([0.1,0.1,0.1,1.1]) #cash flow vector
    n = len(c)
    r = 0.05 #5% per-period interest rate
    d = np.array([(1+r)**-i for i in range(n)])
    NPV = c @ d
    print(NPV)
1.236162401468524
```

In the fifth line, to get the vector **d** we raise the scalar 1+r element-wise to the powers given in the range range(n) which expands to 0, 1,2, ..., n-1, using list comprehension.

**Total school-age population.** Suppose that the 100-vector x gives the age distribution of some population, with  $x_i$  the number of people of age i-1, for  $i=1,\ldots,100$ . The

total number of people with age between 5 and 18 (inclusive) is given by

```
x_6 + x_7 + \cdots + x_{18} + x_{19}
```

We can express this as  $s^T x$  where s is the vector with entries one for i = 6, ..., 19 and zero otherwise. In Python, this is expressed as

```
In [ ]: s = np.concatenate([np.zeros(5), np.ones(14), np.zeros(81)])
school_age_pop = s @ x
```

Several other expressions can be used to evaluate this quantity, for example, the expression sum(x[5:19]), using the Python function sum, which gives the sum of entries of vector.

## 1.5. Complexity of vector computations

**Floating point operations.** For any two numbers a and b, we have  $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2-b^2$ . When a computer calculates the left-hand and right-hand side, for specific numbers a and b, they need not be exactly the same, due to very small floating point round-off errors. But they should be very nearly the same. Let's see an example of this.

```
In []: import numpy as np
    a = np.random.random()
    b = np.random.random()
    lhs = (a+b) * (a-b)
    rhs = a**2 - b**2
    print(lhs - rhs)
4.336808689942018e-19
```

Here we see that the left-hand and right-hand sides are not exactly equal, but very very close.

**Complexity.** You can time a Python command using the time package. The timer is not very accurate for very small times, say, measured in microseconds ( $10^{-6}$  seconds). You should run the command more than once; it can be a lot faster on the second or subsequent runs.

```
In []: import numpy as np
  import time
  a = np.random.random(10**5)
```