

Linear Algebra

Vectors, Matrices and SVD

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Opening remarks

Elementary math introduces us to scalars, which are essentially useful for handling one-dimensional variables or data. Three aspects of analysis are usually familiar:

- ① **Elementary operations:** Addition, multiplication, etc.
- ② **Comparisons and strengths:** Equality, magnitude, etc.
- ③ **Functions of scalars:** Squares, cubic roots, etc.

Examples: mass, temperature, height, cost, salary, population

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However, scalars are highly insufficient for descriptions of several processes and many common mathematical tasks in data science, geometry, vision, etc.

Definition 1: Vector is a quantity (variable) that has a direction (angle) and magnitude

Definition 2: Vector is an array or a list of scalars (usually numbers)

Definition 3: Vector is a point in n -dimensional space

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Examples

- ① Wind velocity - horizontal or vertical component
- ② Displacement - has a magnitude and an angle
- ③ Height and weight of an individual in a single list
- ④ Attributes of a data set (max. value, no. of non-zero elements, etc.) in a single list
- ⑤ ...

Representations of Vectors

Vectors are usually written as an (row or column) array or as a point in the Cartesian space:

Examples: $\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 4.5 \\ -2.9 \end{bmatrix}$, $\underline{z} = [32 \quad 14.5 \quad -23.7]$, $\underline{y} = (4.5, -2.9)$

$$\underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} : \underline{\alpha v}$$

Vector space

A space comprising vectors (defined over a field \mathcal{F}) with the two operations of vector addition and scalar (in the field \mathcal{F}) multiplication, together with the eight axioms. is called a vector space \mathcal{V} .

Note: The phrase “vector space” can also comprise functions or any other elements that satisfy the definition

$$\underline{x + y} = \underline{y + x}, \quad \underline{x + 0} = \underline{x}$$

- ① The axioms include associativity and commutativity of addition, existence of additive identity and inverse elements, compatibility of scalar multiplication, existence of multiplicative identity and distributivity of multiplication w.r.t. addition.

Operations

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{column vector})$$

- ① **Addition:** Vectors (of the same dimension) are added element-wise: $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + y_1 \\ x_2 + y_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n + y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- ② **Scalar multiplication:** Multiplication of \mathbf{x} with $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ is denoted by $\alpha\mathbf{x} =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha x_1 \\ \alpha x_2 \\ \vdots \\ \alpha x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- ③ **Transpose:** A column (or a row) vector is transposed to a row (or a column) vector by interchanging the row and column dimensions. For instance, $\mathbf{x}^T = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \end{bmatrix}$

Vector Norm

Norms measure the property or size of a vector (e.g., length, distance, sparsity). They are highly useful in data science - e.g., “fitting” models, quantifying errors.

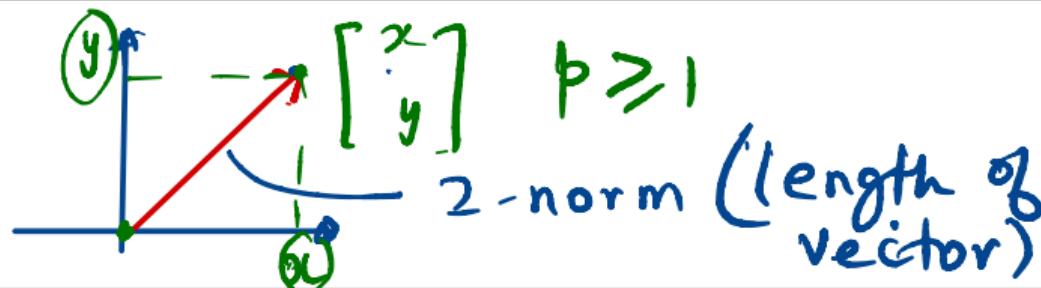
Definition

The p -norm (or the l_p -norm) of a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^N |x_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_N \end{bmatrix}$$

(1)



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$p > 1$ $p = 0.5$ $p = 2$ **2-norm** (1)

- ▶ Norms satisfy (i) $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 0 \iff \mathbf{x} = 0$, (ii) homogeneity, $\|\alpha\mathbf{x}\| = |\alpha|\|\mathbf{x}\|$ and (iii) triangular inequality, $\|\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}\| \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| + \|\mathbf{y}\|$.
- ▶ In fact, for any $0 \leq p < 1$, the function in (1) is not a proper norm (why?).
- ▶ All vectors that satisfy $\|\mathbf{x}\|_p = 1$ constitute what is known as a **unit ball**.

2-norm, 1-norm and ∞ -norm

2-norm

The 2-norm of a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2} \quad (2)$$

and measures the vector length / distance of the point in \mathbb{R}^n from the origin.

1-norm

The 1-norm of a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_1 = |x_1| + |x_2| + \cdots + |x_n| \quad (3)$$

and measures the distance traversed from the origin as travelled by a taxi.

∞ -norm

The ∞ -norm of a vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_\infty = \max\{|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_n|\} \quad (4)$$

and measures the peak value of element in the vector

$$\underline{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_{100} \end{bmatrix} \quad ; \quad \hat{\underline{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \hat{y}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_{100} \end{bmatrix}$$

Observations

Predictions

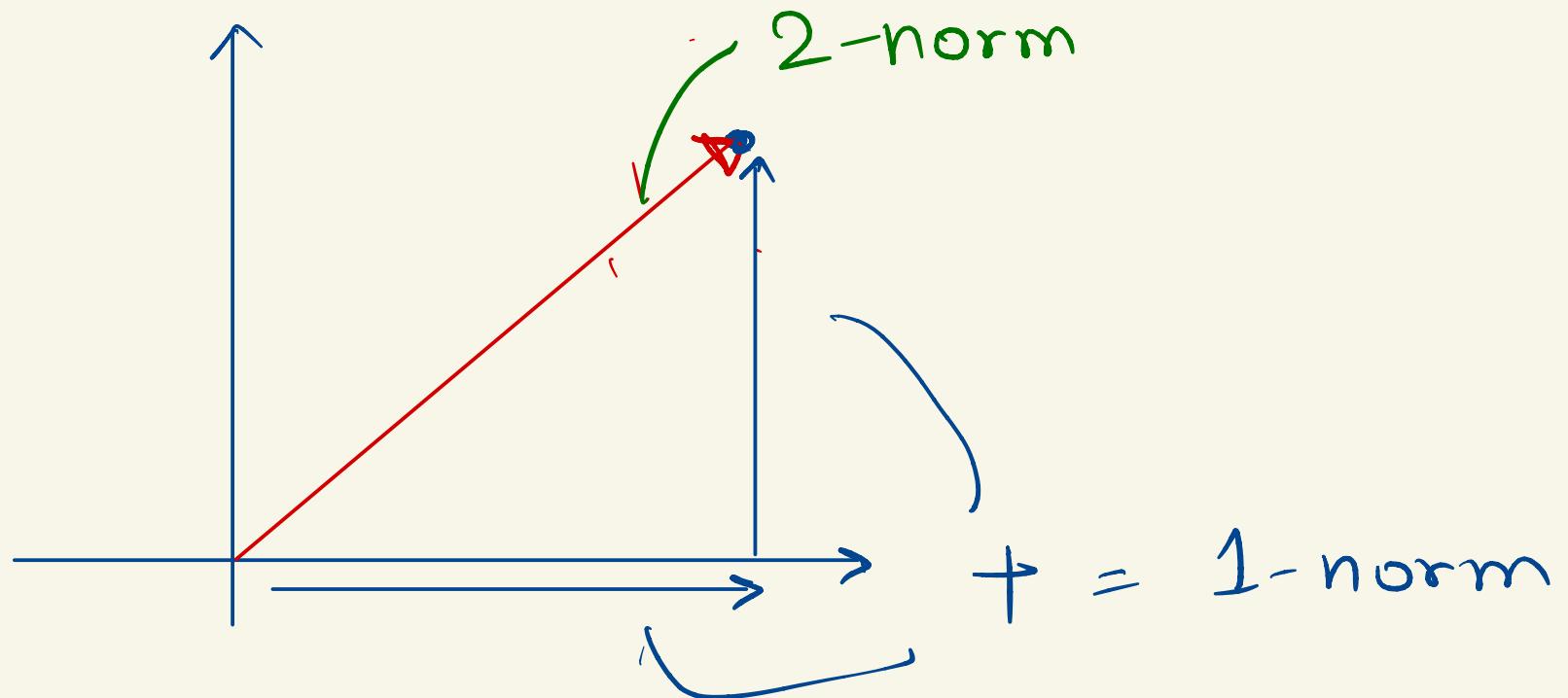
$$\underline{\epsilon} = \underline{y} - \hat{\underline{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ \vdots \\ e_{100} \end{bmatrix}$$

e to be "small"

Squared Euclidean
distance

① 2-norm of \underline{e} be low $\|\underline{e}\|_2 = \sqrt{e_1^2 + e_2^2 + \dots + e_{100}^2}$

Least square $\xrightarrow{\text{minimize}}$
 Taxi-driver's distance $\| \mathbf{e} \|_1 = |e_1| + |e_2| + \dots + |e_{100}|$
 Least absolute distance



Zero “norm”

$$\hat{y}[k] = \sum_{l=1}^{100} \theta_l x_i[k] \min \left(\sum_{k=1}^{100} e[k] \right)$$

$$|x_i|^1, |x_i|^0.1, |x_i|^{0.001}, |x_i|^{0.00001}, \|x\|_0$$

Definition

The function $\|\mathbf{x}\|_0$, referred to as l_0 -norm of \mathbf{x} , is defined as

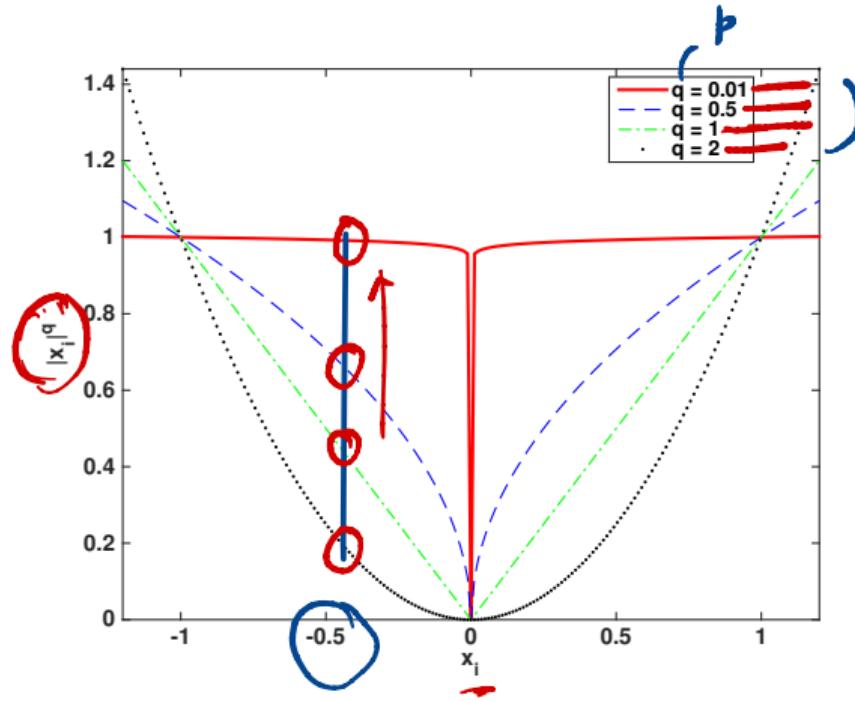
$$\|\mathbf{x}\|_0 = \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \|\mathbf{x}\|_p^p \quad (5)$$

$$= \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^N |x_i|^p = \sum_{i=1}^N \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} |x_i|^p \quad (6)$$

For every x_i , when $p \rightarrow 0$, $|x_i|^p \rightarrow I(x_i)$, the indicator function.

0-norm: No. of non-zero elements

Zero “norm”



Plot of $|x_i|^q$ vs. x_i for different q .

Dot product

The “dot product” (or the scalar product) of two **real-valued** $N \times 1$ vectors \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} is defined as

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = \sum_{n=1}^N v_i w_i = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{w} \quad (7)$$

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- ▶ The dot product is a special case of **inner product**.
- ▶ The length of a vector, denoted by $\|\cdot\|$, is the square root of $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$: $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}}$
- ▶ Dot product is also the squared 2-norm of \mathbf{v} , denoted by $\|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$ (or sometimes simply $\|\mathbf{v}\|^2$).

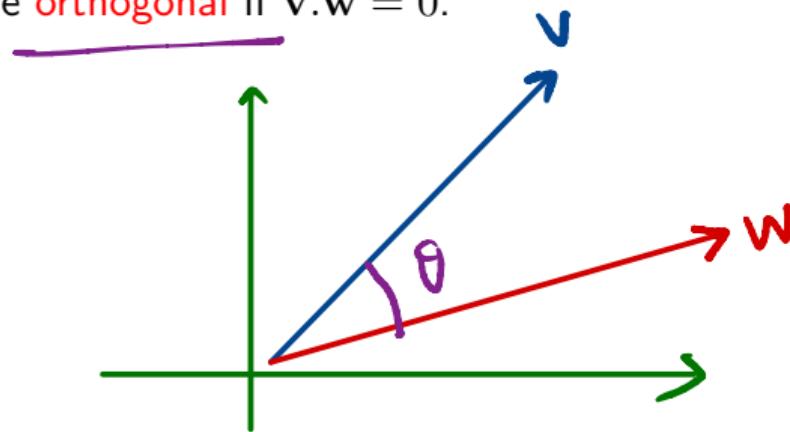
MATLAB: `dot`

- **Geometrical relation:** If v and w are at an angle θ w.r.t. each other, then

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}}{\|\mathbf{v}\| \|\mathbf{w}\|}$$

(8)

Thus, two vectors are **orthogonal** if $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = 0$.



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- **Schwartz inequality:** $|\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}| \leq \|\mathbf{v}\| \|\mathbf{w}\|$ (also satisfied by inner products)
- **For complex-valued vectors**, the order of operation matters, i.e. $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}^H \mathbf{w} \neq \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{v}$, where H indicates complex conjugate transpose. Thus,

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\operatorname{Re}(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w})}{\|\mathbf{v}\| \|\mathbf{w}\|} \quad (9)$$

Inner product

The inner product between two vectors, denoted by, $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle$ is a product that satisfies:

- ① **Conjugate symmetry:** $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \rangle^*$ ($*$ denotes complex conjugate).
- ② **Positive-definiteness:** $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \geq 0$, and $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0 \implies \mathbf{v} = 0$
- ③ **Linearity in the first argument:** $\langle \alpha \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \alpha \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w} \rangle$

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- ▶ It is easy to verify that the dot product satisfies all the above properties
- ▶ Example of an inner product in the \mathbb{R}^2 space that is NOT a dot product:

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = v_1 w_1 - v_1 w_2 - v_2 w_1 + 4 v_2 w_2 \quad \xleftarrow{\text{IP}} \quad \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} = v_1 w_1 + v_2 w_2 \quad \xleftarrow{\text{DP}}$$

The inner (dot) product between two **functions** $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ in the Hilbert space is given by

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)g^*(t) dt \quad (10)$$

Note: We shall use the terms “dot product” and “inner product” interchangeably, unless specified otherwise.

Linear independence

$$y = \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2$$

Does there

OR

$$\begin{cases} y - \alpha_1 x_1 - \alpha_2 x_2 = 0 \\ c_1 y + c_2 x_1 + c_3 x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

} exist a relation bet
y, x_1 , & x_2 ?

Linear Independence

The set of vectors v_1, \dots, v_p is said to be **linearly independent** if and only if their linear combination yields zero under trivial conditions, i.e.,

$$\sum_{n=1}^p c_i v_i = 0 \iff c_i = 0, \forall i = 1, \dots, p \quad (11)$$

- Linear dependence implies one or more of the vectors can be expressed as a linear combination of the others.

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 = 0 \quad \text{→}$$

$$v_3 = \alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2$$

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{12} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \underline{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} v_{21} \\ v_{22} \end{bmatrix};$$

Suppose $\underline{v}_3 = 2\underline{v}_1 + \underline{v}_2$

Then $\{\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \underline{v}_3\}$ are not linearly independent

$$v_2 = \underline{v}_3 - 2\underline{v}_1$$

$$\underline{v}_1 = \frac{1}{2}\underline{v}_3 - \frac{1}{2}\underline{v}_2$$

Span and Basis

The **span** of vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$ is the linear combination of those vectors. Any vector \mathbf{w} in the spanned space W can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i \quad (12)$$

v_1 : Daily salary

v_2 : No. of working hours

v_3 : Sales of (product)

v_4 : Profit (daily)

$\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$

365×1

1. Are these vectors linearly related?

2. How many of these can be treated as "dependent"?

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Basis

A set of vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p$ is said to be the basis for a vector space W if

- ① The vectors are linearly independent (not too many vectors)
- ② They span the space W (not too few vectors)

The number of vectors in the basis set for a vector space W is said to be its **dimension**.

$$\textcircled{1} \quad v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- i. Are they linearly indep.? ✓
- ii. Do they span \mathbb{R}^2 ?

(can a linear combination of $v_1 \in v_2$
produce any 2-D real vector?)

$$\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2$$

Basis for \mathbb{R}^2

$$\textcircled{2} \quad v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear dependence.

③ $\underline{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}; \underline{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$: Do \underline{v}_1 & \underline{v}_2 qualify as basis for \mathbb{R}^3 ?

- i. Linear dependence? ✓
- ii. Do \underline{v}_1 & \underline{v}_2 span \mathbb{R}^3 ?

Basis vectors } Neither more nor less.
 (for some space)

Projections

$$v = \alpha w \times$$

Idealistic

$$v = \alpha w + e$$

Reality

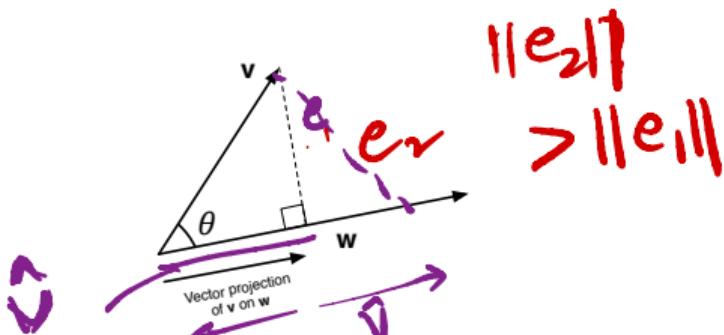
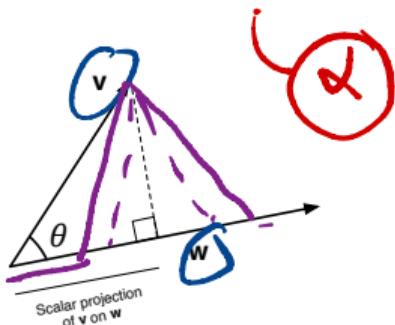
Orthogonal projection

The **scalar** and **vector** **orthogonal projection** of a vector v onto another vector w are, respectively:

"prediction"

$$P_w v = \frac{v \cdot w}{\|w\|},$$

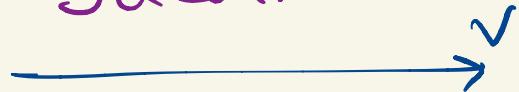
$$\underline{P}_w v = \left(\frac{v \cdot w}{\|w\|} \right) \frac{w}{\|w\|} \quad (13)$$



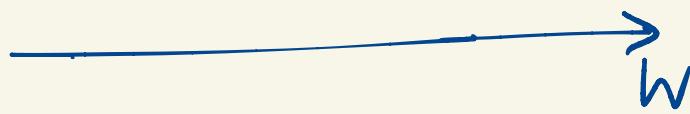
The **orthogonal** projection is unique and **optimal** in the squared 2-norm sense.

①

Idealism

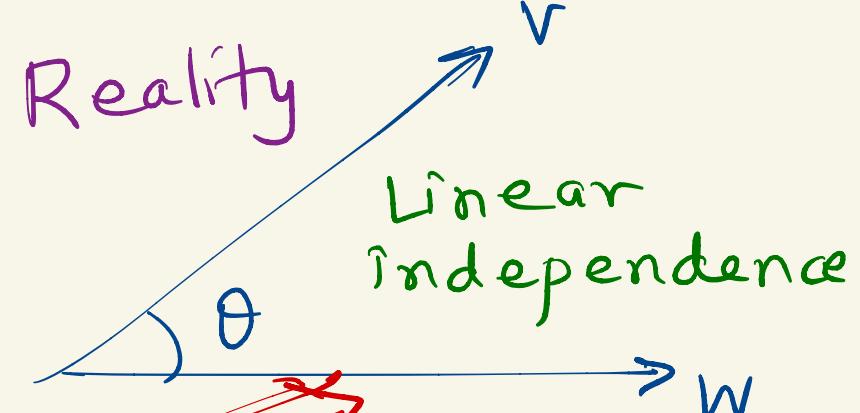


Linear dependence



②

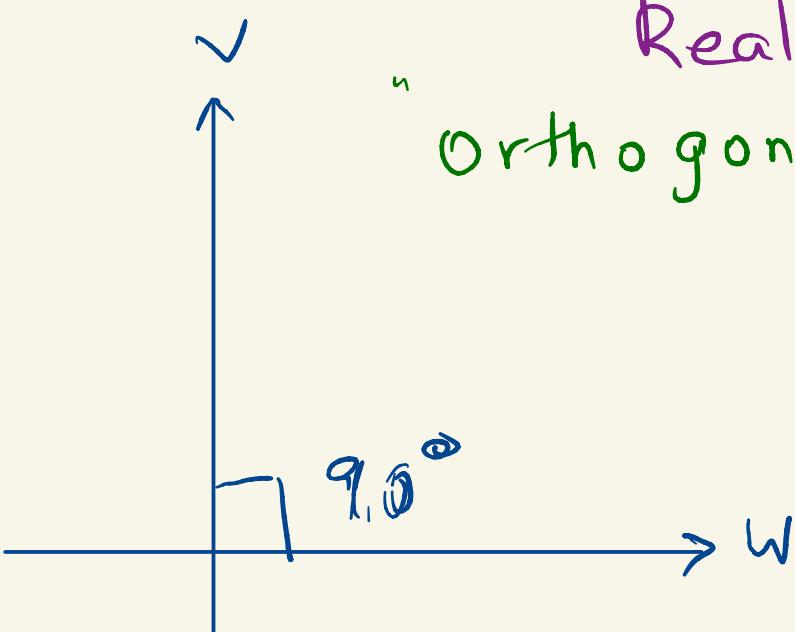
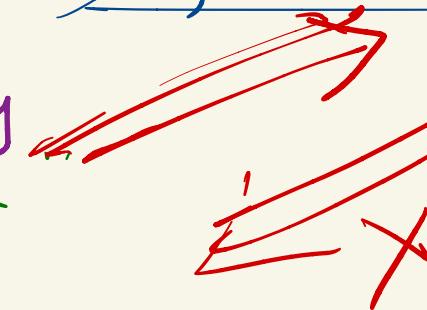
Reality



③

Reality

"Orthogonal"



$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 \\ w_1 \end{bmatrix} ; \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} h_2 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

OR

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \\ h_3 \end{bmatrix} ; \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
