

## Inner product:

An inner product on a vector space  $V$  is a function that, to each pair of vectors  $u$  and  $v$  in  $V$ , associates a real number  $\langle u, v \rangle$  and satisfies the following axioms for all  $u, v, w$  in  $V$  and all scalars  $c$ :

(i).  $\langle u, v \rangle = \langle v, u \rangle$

(ii)  $\langle u+v, w \rangle = \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$

(iii)  $\langle cu, v \rangle = c\langle u, v \rangle$

(iv)  $\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle u, u \rangle = 0$  iff  $u = 0$

A vector space with an inner product is called an inner product space.

ex 1 Fix any two positive numbers - say, 4 and 5 - and for vectors  $u = \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle$  and  $v = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , set

$\langle u, v \rangle = 4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2$ . - (1). Show that (1) defines an inner product.

Soln (i)  $\langle u, v \rangle = 4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2 = 4v_1u_1 + 5v_2u_2 = \langle v, u \rangle$

(ii)  $\langle u+v, w \rangle = 4(u_1+v_1)w_1 + 5(u_2+v_2)w_2$   
 $= 4u_1w_1 + 5u_2w_2 + 4v_1w_1 + 5v_2w_2$   
 $= \langle u, w \rangle + \langle v, w \rangle$

(iii)  $\langle cu, v \rangle = 4(cu_1)v_1 + 5(cu_2)v_2$   
 $= c(4u_1v_1 + 5u_2v_2)$   
 $= c\langle u, v \rangle$

(iv)  $\langle u, u \rangle = 4u_1^2 + 5u_2^2 \geq 0$

$\langle u, u \rangle = 0$  iff  $u = (0, 0)$ .

$\therefore$  (1) defines an inner product.

ex 2 Let  $V$  be  $\mathbb{P}_2$ , with the inner product defined

by  $\langle p, q \rangle = p(t_0)q(t_0) + p(t_1)q(t_1) + p(t_2)q(t_2)$ , where  $t_0=0$ ,  $t_1=1/2$ ,  $t_2=1$ . Let  $p(t)=12t^2$  and  $q(t)=2t-1$ .

Compute  $\langle p, q \rangle$  and  $\langle q, q \rangle$ .

sol:  $\langle p, q \rangle = p(0)q(0) + p(\frac{1}{2})q(\frac{1}{2}) + p(1)q(1)$   
 $= 0 \times (-1) + 3 \times 0 + 12 \times 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle q, q \rangle &= [q(0)]^2 + [q(\frac{1}{2})]^2 + [q(1)]^2 \\ &= (-1)^2 + 0^2 + 1^2 \\ &= 2\end{aligned}$$

### Lengths, Distances and Orthogonality

Let  $V$  be an inner product space, with the inner product denoted by  $\langle u, v \rangle$ . The length or norm of a vector  $v$  to be the scalar  $\|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}$ .

Equivalently,  $\|v\|^2 = \langle v, v \rangle$ .

A unit vector is one whose length is 1.

The distance between  $u$  and  $v$  is  $\|u - v\|$ .

Vectors  $u$  and  $v$  are orthogonal if  $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$ .

ex: Let  $\mathbb{P}_2$  have the inner product

$\langle p, q \rangle = p(t_0)q(t_0) + p(t_1)q(t_1) + p(t_2)q(t_2)$ , where  $t_0=0$ ,  $t_1=1/2$ ,  $t_2=1$ . Compute the lengths of the vectors

$p(t)=12t^2$  and  $q(t)=2t-1$ .

sol:  $\|p\|^2 = \langle p, p \rangle = [p(0)]^2 + [p(\frac{1}{2})]^2 + [p(1)]^2$   
 $= 0^2 + 3^2 + 12^2$   
 $= 153 \Rightarrow \|p\| = \sqrt{153}$

$$\|q\|^2 = \langle q, q \rangle = [q(0)]^2 + [q(\frac{1}{2})]^2 + [q(1)]^2 = (-1)^2 + 0^2 + 1^2 = 2 \therefore \|q\| = \sqrt{2}$$

## The Gram-Schmidt Process

Suppose  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p\}$  is a basis of an inner-product space  $W$ . Define  $v_1 = u_1$

$$v_2 = u_2 - \frac{\langle u_2, v_1 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1$$

$$v_3 = u_3 - \frac{\langle u_3, v_1 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1 - \frac{\langle u_3, v_2 \rangle}{\langle v_2, v_2 \rangle} v_2$$

$$\vdots$$
$$v_p = u_p - \frac{\langle u_p, v_1 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1 - \dots - \frac{\langle u_p, v_{p-1} \rangle}{\langle v_{p-1}, v_{p-1} \rangle} v_{p-1}$$

Then  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $W$ .  
The process of constructing an orthogonal basis is called Gram-Schmidt process.

Let  $V$  be  $P_4$  with the inner product defined by  $\langle p, q \rangle = p(t_0)q(t_0) + p(t_1)q(t_1) + p(t_2)q(t_2) + p(t_3)q(t_3) + p(t_4)q(t_4)$  where  $t_0 = -2, t_1 = -1, t_2 = 0, t_3 = 1, t_4 = 2$ , and  $P_2$  be a subspace of  $V$ . Produce an orthogonal basis for  $P_2$  by applying Gram-Schmidt process to the polynomials  $1, t, t^2$ .

Sol The polynomials  $1, t, t^2$  evaluated at  $-2, -1, 0, 1, 2$  are given as below

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The polynomial vector  $t$  is orthogonal to the polynomial vector  $1$ . Therefore let  $p_0(t) = 1, p_1(t) = t$ .

$$\text{Now, } p_2(t) = t^2 - \frac{\langle t^2, p_0 \rangle}{\langle p_0, p_0 \rangle} p_0(t) - \frac{\langle t^2, p_1 \rangle}{\langle p_1, p_1 \rangle} p_1(t)$$

$$= t^2 - \frac{10}{5} \times 1 - \frac{0}{10} \times t$$
$$p_2(t) = t^2 - 2$$

$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  is the orthogonal basis of  $P_2$  of  $V$

## Best approximation in Inner Product Spaces

Suppose a function  $f$  in  $V$  has to be approximated by a function  $g$  from a specified subspace  $W$  of  $V$ . The closeness of the approximation of  $f$  depends on the way  $\|f - g\|$  is defined. We will consider only the case in which the distance between  $f$  and  $g$  is determined by an inner product. In this case, the best approximation to  $f$  by functions in  $W$  is the orthogonal projection of  $f$  onto the subspace  $W$ .

ex let  $V$  be  $P_4$  with the inner product  $\langle p, q \rangle = p(t_0)q(t_0) + p(t_1)q(t_1) + p(t_2)q(t_2) + p(t_3)q(t_3) + p(t_4)q(t_4)$ , where  $t_0 = -2, t_1 = -1, t_2 = 0, t_3 = 1, t_4 = 2$ . Let  $p_0, p_1$  and  $p_2$  be the orthogonal basis, where  $p_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, p_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  for the subspace  $P_2$ .

Find the best approximation to  $p(t) = 5 - \frac{1}{2}t^4$  by polynomials in  $P_2$ .

Sol:  $p(t) = 5 - \frac{1}{2}t^4$  evaluated at  $-2, -1, 0, 1, 2$  is  $p = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 9/2 \\ 5 \\ 9/2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$

The best approximation in  $V$  to  $p$  by polynomials in  $P_2$  is

$$\hat{p} = \text{proj}_{P_2} p = \frac{\langle p, p_0 \rangle}{\langle p_0, p_0 \rangle} p_0 + \frac{\langle p, p_1 \rangle}{\langle p_1, p_1 \rangle} p_1 + \frac{\langle p, p_2 \rangle}{\langle p_2, p_2 \rangle} p_2$$
$$= \frac{8}{5} \times 1 + \frac{(-31)}{14} \times (t^2 - 2)$$

$\hat{p}_{\text{ao}} = \frac{211}{35} - \frac{31t^2}{14}$  is the polynomial closest to  $p$  to all polynomials in  $P_2$ .

## An inner product for $C[a, b]$

$C[a, b]$  the set of all continuous functions on an interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  is a vector space.

For  $f, g$  in  $C[a, b]$ ,  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_a^b f(t)g(t)dt$

defines an inner-product on  $C[a, b]$ , since

$$(i) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_a^b f(t)g(t)dt = \int_a^b g(t)f(t)dt = \langle g, f \rangle$$

$$(ii) \langle f+g, h \rangle = \int_a^b (f(t)+g(t))h(t)dt = \int_a^b f(t)h(t)dt + \int_a^b g(t)h(t)dt = \langle f, h \rangle + \langle g, h \rangle$$

$$(iii) \langle cf, g \rangle = \int_a^b (cf(t))g(t)dt = c \int_a^b f(t)g(t)dt = c \langle f, g \rangle$$

$$(iv) \langle f, f \rangle = \int_a^b f(t)f(t)dt = \int_a^b [f(t)]^2 dt \geq 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [f(t)]^2 \text{ is} \\ \text{continuous and} \\ \text{non-negative on } [a, b] \end{array} \right.$$

$\nmid \langle f, f \rangle = 0$  then  $\int_a^b [f(t)]^2 dt = 0 \Rightarrow f(t)$  is a zero function.

if  $f(t)$  is a zero function, then  $\int_a^b [f(t)]^2 dt = 0 \Rightarrow \langle f, f \rangle = 0$ .

ex. Let  $V$  be the space  $C[0, 1]$  with the inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(t)g(t)dt$ , and let  $W$  be the subspace spanned by the polynomials  $p_1(t)=1$ ,  $p_2(t)=2t-1$ ,  $p_3(t)=12t^2$ . Use the Gram-Schmidt process to find an orthogonal basis for  $W$ .

Sol<sup>n</sup> let  $q_1 = p_1$ ,

$$q_2 = p_2 - \frac{\langle p_2, q_1 \rangle}{\langle q_1, q_1 \rangle} q_1 = 2t-1 - \frac{\int_0^1 (2t-1) \cdot 1 dt}{\int_0^1 1 \cdot 1 dt} = 2t-1 - \frac{(t^2-t)_0^1}{t_0^1} = 2t-1$$

$$q_3 = p_3 - \frac{\langle p_3, q_1 \rangle}{\langle q_1, q_1 \rangle} q_1 - \frac{\langle p_3, q_2 \rangle}{\langle q_2, q_2 \rangle} q_2 = 12t^2 - \frac{\int_0^1 12t^2 dt}{\int_0^1 1 dt} (1) - \frac{\int_0^1 (4t^3 - 12t^2) dt}{\int_0^1 (4t^2 - 4t + 1) dt} (2t-1) = 12t^2 - 12t + 2$$

# Applications of inner product spaces + 0

## Fourier Series

Continuous functions are often approximated by linear combinations of sine and cosine functions.

Consider functions on  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .

Any function in  $C[0, 2\pi]$  can be approximated as closely as desired by a function of the form

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + a_1 \cos t + \dots + a_n \cos nt + b_1 \sin t + \dots + b_n \sin nt \quad (1)$$

for a sufficiently large value of  $n$ .

The function (1) is called a trigonometric polynomial. If  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  are not both zero, the polynomial is said to be of order  $n$ .

The set  $[1, \cos t, \cos 2t, \dots, \cos nt, \sin t, \sin 2t, \dots, \sin nt]$  (2) is orthogonal with respect to the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^{2\pi} f(t)g(t)dt \quad (3)$$

Let  $W$  be the subspace of  $C[0, 2\pi]$  spanned by the functions in (2). Given  $f$  in  $C[0, 2\pi]$ , the best approximation to  $f$  by functions in  $W$  is called the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order Fourier approximation to  $f$  on  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Since the functions in (2) are orthogonal, the best approximation is given by the orthogonal projection onto  $W$ . In this case, the coefficients  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  in (1) are called the Fourier Coefficients of  $f$ . The standard formula for an orthogonal projection shows that

$$a_k = \frac{\langle f, \cos kt \rangle}{\langle \cos kt, \cos kt \rangle}, \quad b_k = \frac{\langle f, \sin kt \rangle}{\langle \sin kt, \sin kt \rangle}, \quad k \geq 1$$

And since  $\langle \cos kt, \cos kt \rangle = \pi$ , and  $\langle \sin kt, \sin kt \rangle = \pi$

$$a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \cos kt \, dt, \quad b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \sin kt \, dt,$$

$$\frac{a_0}{2} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \cdot 1 \, dt \quad \text{as} \quad \frac{a_0}{2} = \frac{\langle f, 1 \rangle}{\langle 1, 1 \rangle} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(t) \cdot 1 \, dt$$

Find the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Fourier approximation to the function  $f(t) = t$  on the interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

$$\text{Sol}^n \quad \frac{a_0}{2} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} t \, dt = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{t^2}{2} \right]_0^{2\pi} = \pi$$

$$\text{for } k > 0, \quad a_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} t \cos kt \, dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ t \frac{\sin kt}{k} + \frac{\cos kt}{k^2} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( 2\pi \times \frac{0}{k} + \frac{1}{k^2} \right) - \left( 0 + \frac{1}{k^2} \right) \right] = 0$$

$$b_k = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} t \sin kt \, dt = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ t \left( -\frac{\cos kt}{k} \right) + \frac{\sin kt}{k^2} \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \left( -\frac{2\pi \cos 2\pi}{k} + \frac{\sin 2\pi}{k^2} \right) - \left( -0 + 0 \right) \right]$$

$$= -\frac{2}{k}$$

$\therefore$  the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Fourier approximation of  $f(t) = t$  is

$$t = \pi - 2\sin t - \sin 2t - \frac{2}{3}\sin 3t - \dots - \frac{2}{n}\sin nt.$$

\* The expression  $f(t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (a_m \cos mt + b_m \sin mt)$

is called the Fourier series for  $f$  on  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

The term  $a_m \cos mt$  is the projection of  $f$  onto the one-dimensional subspace spanned by  $\cos mt$ .

The term  $b_m \sin mt$  is the projection of  $f$  onto the one-dimensional subspace spanned by  $\sin mt$ .