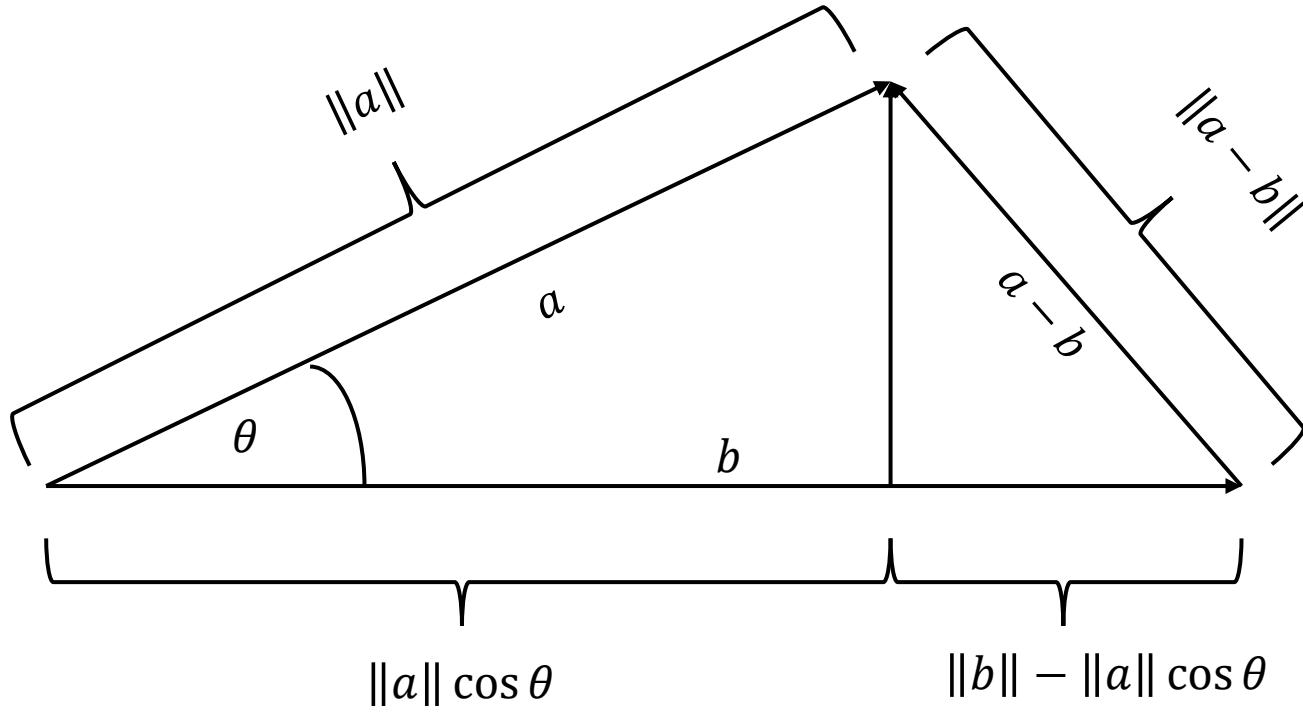


Cosine similarity



- We want to prove that $\cos \theta = \frac{a \cdot b}{\|a\| \|b\|}$

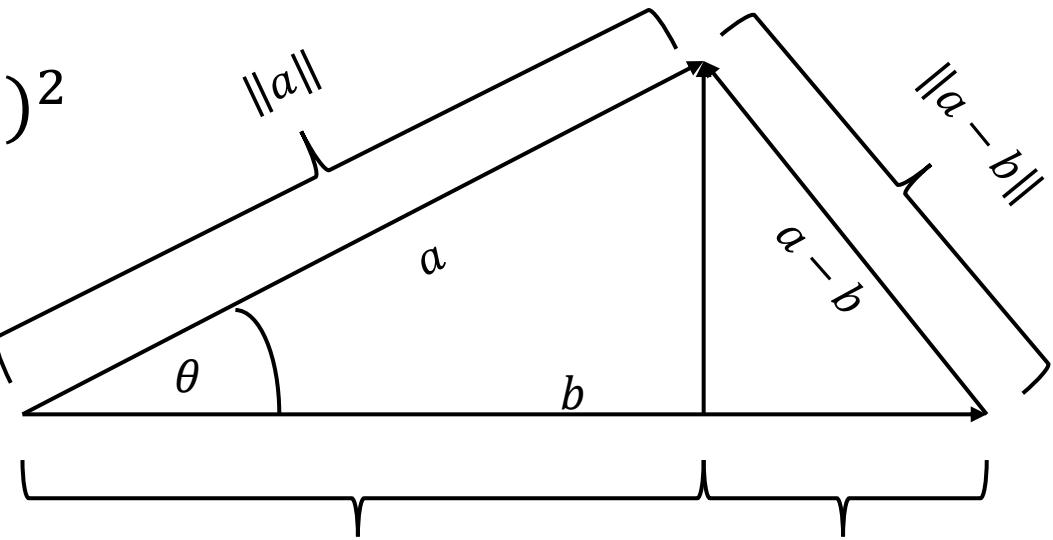
$$\|a - b\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i - b_i)^2$$

$$\|a - b\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i^2 + b_i^2 - 2a_i b_i)$$

$$\|a - b\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m b_i^2 - 2 \sum_{i=1}^m a_i b_i$$

$$\|a - b\|^2 = \|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2 - 2a \cdot b$$

- $\|a - b\|^2 = (\|a\| \sin \theta)^2 + (\|b\| - \|a\| \cos \theta)^2$



- $= \|a\|^2 \sin^2 \theta + \|b\|^2 + \|a\|^2 \cos^2 \theta - 2\|a\|\|b\| \cos \theta$

- $= \|a\|^2(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) + \|b\|^2 - 2\|a\|\|b\| \cos \theta$

- $= \|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2 - 2\|a\|\|b\| \cos \theta$

- $\|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2 - 2a \cdot b = \|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2 - 2\|a\|\|b\| \cos \theta$

- $2a \cdot b = 2\|a\|\|b\| \cos \theta$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{a \cdot b}{\|a\|\|b\|}$$

Geometric interpretation of covariance and correlation

- Remember we treated each observation of the dataset as an element in d-dimensional vector space where you have d attributes.
- However, you could do this for the attributes as well. Suppose you have n observations then attribute X could be thought of as a vector in n dimensional space.

$$\bullet D = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}, X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- However, you could do this for the attributes as well. Suppose you have n observations then attribute X could be thought of as a vector in n dimensional space.

- $D = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}, X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$

- Further, let

- $Z = X - 1 \cdot \hat{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \hat{\mu} \\ x_2 - \hat{\mu} \\ x_3 - \hat{\mu} \\ \vdots \\ x_n - \hat{\mu} \end{pmatrix}$ This is the mean subtracted attribute vector.

Estimated variance

- $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} Z^T Z = \frac{\|Z\|^2}{n-1}$
- Estimated variance is the dot product of the centered attribute vector with itself divided by n-1

Estimated Covariance and correlation

- $\hat{\sigma}_{12} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{1i} - \hat{\mu}_1)(x_{2i} - \hat{\mu}_2)$
- $\hat{\rho}_{12} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{1i} - \hat{\mu}_1)(x_{2i} - \hat{\mu}_2)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{1i} - \hat{\mu}_1)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{2i} - \hat{\mu}_2)^2}}$
- $\hat{\sigma}_{12} = \frac{1}{n-1} Z_1^T \cdot Z_2$ (the dot product between the two centered attribute vectors, divided by n-1)
- $\hat{\rho}_{12} = \frac{Z_1^T \cdot Z_2}{\|Z_1\| \|Z_2\|}$
- What is $\hat{\rho}_{12}$?
- It is the cosine of the angle between the centered attribute vectors of attributes 1,2.

Interesting post that I saw on twitter.

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Bessent: Markets are going down because Japan's bond market just suffered a six-standard-deviation move in ten-year bonds over the past two days... This has nothing to do with Greenland.



REAL AMERICA'S VOICE

SCOTT BESENT

United States Secretary of the Treasury

HOPEFULS SEEK SUPPORT, BLAST PRITZKER AT IL GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE

7:08 AM PT 0:16 / 0:35 WAR ROOM

TEXAS REPUBLICAN

2:31 PM · Jan 20, 2026 · 1.3M Views

- If the 10-year Japanese bond yield data follows a normal distribution, then observing a data point that is 6 sigma's away has roughly 1 in 507 million chance.
- However, in practice these financial data does not follow a normal distribution rather they have fat tailed distribution where extreme values are more frequent.
- But it is still rare.