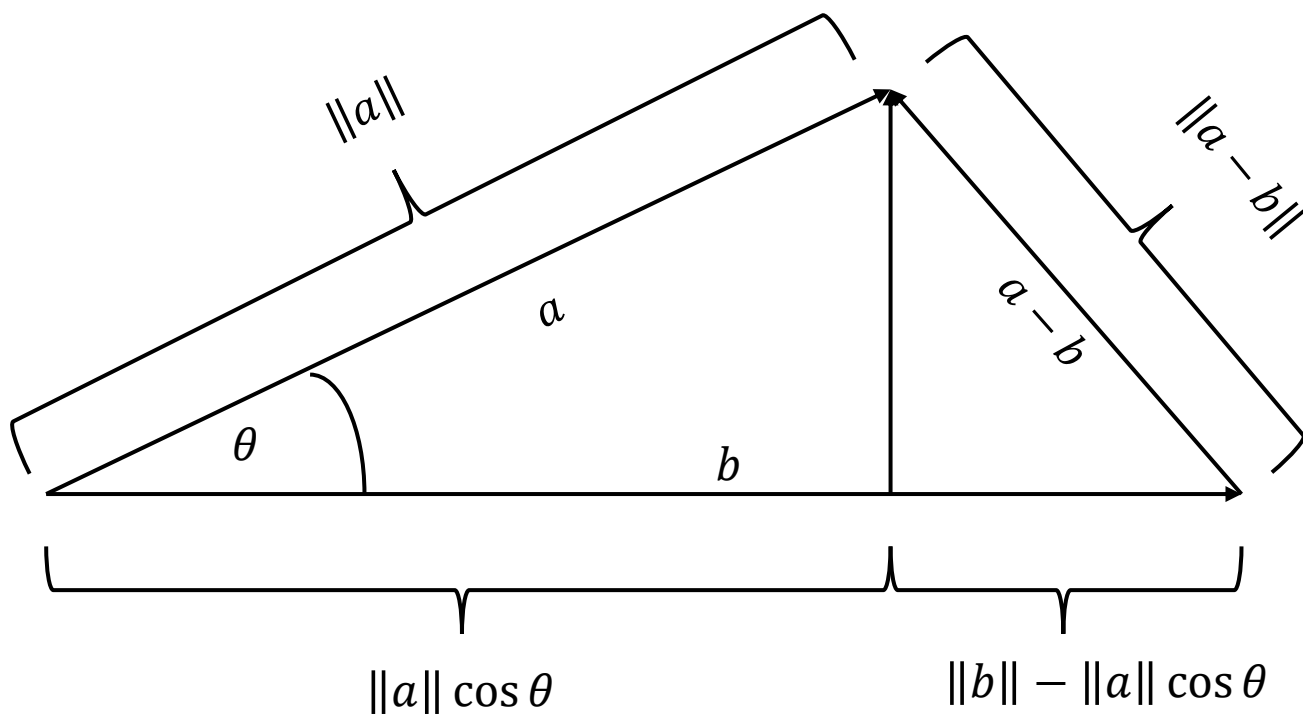


Cosine similarity



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

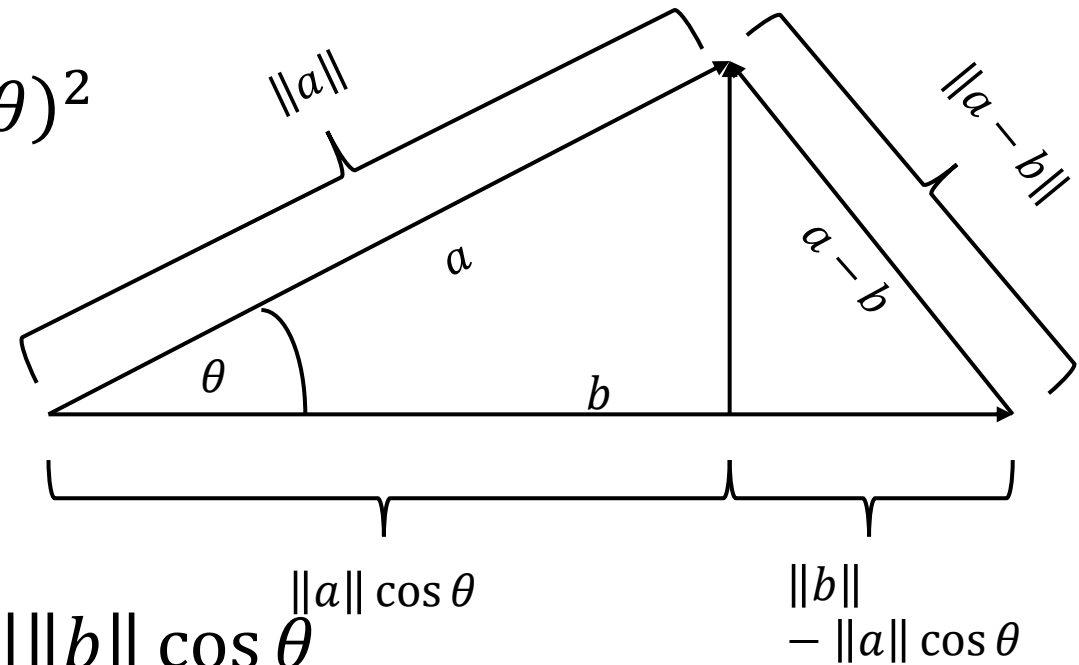
$$\|a - b\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m (a_i - b_i)^2$$

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- $\hat{\sigma} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} Z^T Z = \frac{\|Z\|^2}{n-1}$
- 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.

 **unusual_whales** 
@unusual_whales Subscribe  

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 nothign to do with Greenland.



REAL AMERICA'S VOICE **SCOTT BESSENT** 
★ 7:08 AM PT ★ **United States Secretary of the Treasury**
HOPEFULS SEEK SUPPORT, BLAST PRITZKER AT IL GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE FORN... TEXAS REPUB...

0:16 / 0:35    

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.