

# Math Methods for Political Science

Lecture 6: Orthogonality and Least Squares

### **Outline**



- 1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality
- 2 Orthogonal sets
- 3 Orthogonal projections
- 4 Gram-Schmidt
- 5 Least-squares

## Inner product



Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

### **Definition 1 (Inner product)**

The inner product (or dot product) is  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}^{\top} \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} u_i v_i$ .

### **Example 1 (Inner product)**

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 1 \cdot 4 + 2 \cdot 5 + 3 \cdot 6 = 32.$ 

### Theorem 1 (Inner product)

Let  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

1. 
$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

3. 
$$(c\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} = c(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot (c\mathbf{v})$$

2. 
$$(\mathsf{u} + \mathsf{v}) \cdot \mathsf{w} = \mathsf{u} \cdot \mathsf{w} + \mathsf{v} \cdot \mathsf{w}$$

2. 
$$(\mathbf{u}+\mathbf{v})\cdot\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}\cdot\mathbf{w}+\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{w}$$
 4.  $\mathbf{u}\cdot\mathbf{u} \ge 0$  and  $\mathbf{u}\cdot\mathbf{u} = 0 \iff \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ 

Remark: 2. and 3. 
$$\implies (\sum_{i=1}^p c_i \mathbf{u}_i) \cdot \mathbf{v}_i = \sum_{i=1}^p c_i (\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i)$$

## Length



Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

### **Definition 2 (Length and unit vectors)**

- $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}}$  is the **length** (or **norm**) of  $\mathbf{v}$ .
- If  $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$ , then  $\mathbf{u}$  is a unit vector.



#### Theorem 2 (Length of scalar multiple and normalization)

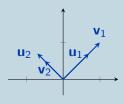
- $\|c\mathbf{v}\| = |c| \|\mathbf{v}\|$
- $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} / \|\mathbf{v}\|$  is a unit vector obtained by normalizing  $\mathbf{v}$ .

#### **Example 2 (Length and unit vectors)**

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$ 

$$\|\mathbf{v}_1\| = \sqrt{2}$$
 and  $\|\mathbf{v}_2\| = 1/\sqrt{2}$ 

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$ 



#### **Distance**



Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

#### **Definition 3 (Distance)**

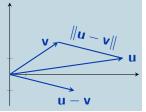
The **distance** between **u** and **v** is dist  $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|$ .

### Example 3 (Distance)

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ 

$$\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\implies \operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \sqrt{17}$$



## **Orthogonal vectors**



Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

#### **Definition 4 (Orthogonal vectors)**

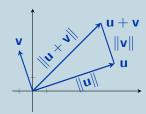
 $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are orthogonal if  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ .

Remark:  $\mathbf{0}$  is orthogonal to any  $\mathbf{u}$ .

### **Theorem 3 (The Pythagorean theorem)**

$$\mathbf{u}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v}$  are orthogonal

$$\left\| \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} \right\|^2 = \left\| \mathbf{u} \right\|^2 + \left\| \mathbf{v} \right\|^2$$



### **Outline**



- 1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality
- 2 Orthogonal sets
- 3 Orthogonal projections
- 4 Gram-Schmidt
- 5 Least-squares

## **Orthogonal complement**



Let W be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

#### **Definition 5 (Orthogonal complement)**

- **z**  $\in \mathbb{R}^n$  is orthogonal to **W** if  $\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \ \forall \mathbf{u} \in W$ .
- The orthogonal complement is  $W^{\perp} = \{ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \mathbf{z} \text{ is orthogonal to } W \}.$

#### Theorem 4 (Orthogonal complement)

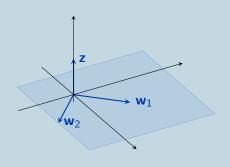
- Let  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  be s.t. Span  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\} = W$ , then  $\mathbf{z} \in W^{\perp} \iff \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i = 0 \ \forall i$ .
- $lackbox{W}^{\top}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- If A is an  $m \times n$  matrix, then  $(Row A)^{\perp} = Nul A$  and  $(Col A)^{\perp} = Nul A^{\top}$ .

## Orthogonal complement cont'd



### **Example 4 (Orthogonal complement)**

Let 
$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\mathbf{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then if  $L = \operatorname{Span} \{\mathbf{z}\}$  and  $W = \operatorname{Span} \{\mathbf{z}\}$ , we have  $L = W^{\perp}$  and  $W = L^{\perp}$ .



## Orthogonal set and basis



Let  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $S = {\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p}$ .

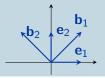
### **Definition 6 (Orthogonal set and basis)**

- S is an **orthogonal set** if  $\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_j = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .
- An orthogonal basis is a basis that is also an orthogonal set.

#### Example 5 (Orthogonal set and basis)

■ The standard basis is orthogonal.

■ 
$$\mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is another orthogonal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ 



#### **Theorem 5 (Orthogonal set)**

If  $v_i \neq \mathbf{0} \ \forall i$ , then S is linearly independent.

#### Corollary 1 (Orthogonal basis)

If  $v_i \neq \mathbf{0} \ \forall i$ , then S is an orthogonal basis for Span S.

## Orthogonal set and basis



#### Theorem 6 (Coordinates in an orthogonal basis)

Let  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  be an orthogonal basis of  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\forall \mathbf{y} \in W$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^p c_i \mathbf{v}_i \iff c_i = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i}{\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i} \forall i$ .

#### **Example 6 (Coordinates in an orthogonal basis)**

Let 
$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ -2 \\ 7/2 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 1 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$ .

 $\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = 0 \implies \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthogonal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

$$\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_1 = 11 \qquad \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = -12 \qquad \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = -33$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1 = 11 \qquad \mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 6 \qquad \mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = 33/2$$

$$\implies \mathbf{y} = \frac{11}{11} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{-12}{6} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{-33}{33/2} \mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1 - 2\mathbf{v}_2 - 2\mathbf{v}_3.$$

#### Orthonormal set and basis



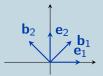
Let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $S = {\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p}$ .

#### **Definition 7 (Orthonormal set and basis)**

- S is an orthonormal set if is orthogonal and  $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| = 1 \ \forall i$ .
- An **orthonormal basis** is a basis that is also orthonormal.

#### Example 7 (Orthonormal set and basis)

- The standard basis is orthonormal.
- **•**  $\mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$  is another orthogonal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$



#### Theorem 7 (Coordinates in an orthonormal basis)

Let  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\forall \mathbf{y} \in W$ ,

$$\mathbf{y} \in W$$
,  $\mathbf{y} = \sum_{i=1}^{p} c_i \mathbf{u}_i \iff c_i = \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i \ \forall i$ .

## **Orthogonal matrices**



Let U be an  $m \times n$  matrix.

### Theorem 8 (Orthonormal columns)

- 1. U has orthonormal columns  $\iff U^{\top}U = I$ .
- 2. If U has orthonormal columns and  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then

a) 
$$||Ux|| = ||x||$$
,

b) 
$$(U\mathbf{x}) \cdot (U\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$$
.

Let U be an  $n \times n$  matrix.

#### **Definition 8 (Orthogonal matrix)**

U is **orthogonal** if  $U^{-1} = U^{\top}$ .

### Theorem 9 (Orthogonal matrix)

The following statements are equivalents:

- 1. U is an orthogonal matrix.
- 2. U has orthonormal columns.
- 3. U has orthonormal rows.

### **Outline**



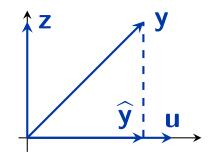
- 1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality
- 2 Orthogonal sets
- 3 Orthogonal projections
- 4 Gram-Schmidt
- 5 Least-squares

### The general idea



Let  $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and assume that we want

$$\mathbf{y} = \widehat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}, \text{ with } \begin{cases} \widehat{\mathbf{y}} = \alpha \mathbf{u} \text{ for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$
.



$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \widehat{\mathbf{y}} \implies \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \iff \alpha = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \text{ and } \widehat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}} \mathbf{u}$$

## **Orthogonal projection**



Let  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $W \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  a subspace,  $\mathcal{B} = {\mathbf{v}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{v}_p}$  a basis for W.

### **Definition 9 (Orthogonal projection)**

The **orthogonal projection**  $\operatorname{proj}_{W} \mathbf{y}$  is s.t.  $\mathbf{y} = \operatorname{proj}_{W} \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z}$  with

1. 
$$\operatorname{proj}_{W} \mathbf{y} \in W$$

2. 
$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \operatorname{proj}_{W} \mathbf{y} \in W^{\perp}$$

Remark: we often use  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  to denote  $\operatorname{proj}_W \mathbf{y}$ .

#### Theorem 10 (Orthogonal projection)

- 1.  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  is unique.
- 2.  $\|\mathbf{y} \widehat{\mathbf{y}}\| < \|\mathbf{y} \mathbf{v}\| \ \forall \mathbf{v} \in W^{\perp}, \mathbf{v} \neq \widehat{\mathbf{y}}$  (best approximation),
- 3.  $\mathcal{B}$  orthogonal  $\Longrightarrow \widehat{\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \frac{(\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i)}{(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i)} \mathbf{v}_i$ ,
- 4.  $\mathcal{B}$  orthonormal  $\Longrightarrow \widehat{\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{i=1}^{p} (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i) \mathbf{v}_i$ .

Remark: for 3. and 4., we sometimes write  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{i}$ .

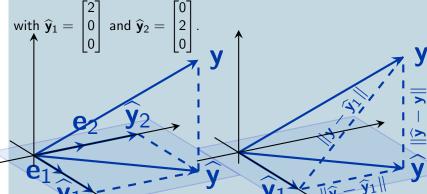
Remark: for 4., we can rewrite  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = UU^{\top}\mathbf{y}$  for  $U = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{v}_p \end{bmatrix}$ .

## Orthogonal projection cont'd





Let 
$$W = \text{Span } \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2\}$$
 and  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}_1 + \hat{\mathbf{y}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 



### **Outline**



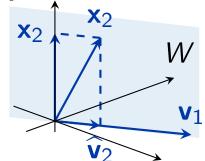
- 1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality
- 2 Orthogonal sets
- 3 Orthogonal projections
- 4 Gram-Schmidt
- 5 Least-squares

### The general idea



Let 
$$W = \operatorname{Span} \{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2\}$$
 where  $\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- 1.  $v_1 = x_1$
- 2.  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 \underbrace{\operatorname{proj}_{\mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{x}_2}_{\widehat{\mathbf{v}}_2} = \mathbf{x}_2 \underbrace{\frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}}_{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$
- 3.  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is lin. ind. and dim  $W = 2 \Longrightarrow$ orthogonal basis



### The Gram-Schmidt process



#### Theorem 11 (Gram-Schmidt)

Given  $\{\mathbf x_1,\cdots,\mathbf x_p\}$  a basis of a nonzero subspace  $W\subseteq\mathbb R^n$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_1 &= \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 &= \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_3 &= \mathbf{x}_3 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{v}_p} = \mathbf{x}_p - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2 - \dots - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}}{\mathbf{v}_{p-1} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}} \mathbf{v}_{p-1}.$$

Then  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$  is an orthogonal basis of W and  $W_k = Span \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\} = Span \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k\} \ \forall k$ .

Remark:  $\mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{x}_k - \operatorname{proj}_{W_k} \mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{x}_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \frac{\mathbf{x}_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_i}{\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i} \mathbf{v}_i$ . Remark: an orthonormal basis is obtained with  $\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{v}_k / \|\mathbf{v}_k\|$ .

### The Gram-Schmidt process



### Example 9 (Gram-Schmidt)

Let 
$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
,  $\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $\{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3\}$  lin. ind.

 $\implies W = \operatorname{Span} \{\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3\}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

1. 
$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1 \text{ and } W_1 = \text{Span } \{\mathbf{v}_1\}.$$

1. 
$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$$
 and  $W_1 = \operatorname{Span} \{\mathbf{v}_1\}$ .  
2a.  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \operatorname{proj}_{W_1} \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -3/4 \\ 1/4 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$ .  
2b. (optional scaling)  $\mathbf{v}_2' = 4\mathbf{v}_2$ .

2b. (optional scaling) 
$$\mathbf{v}_2' = 4\mathbf{v}_2$$
.

3. 
$$W_2 = \text{Span } \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2'\}.$$

3. 
$$W_2 = \text{Span } \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2'\}.$$
  
4.  $\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \text{proj}_{W_2} \mathbf{x}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2'}{\mathbf{v}_2' \cdot \mathbf{v}_2'} \mathbf{v}_2' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2/3 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}.$ 

5. 
$$\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2', \mathbf{v}_3\}$$
 is an orthogonal basis of  $W$ .

### **Outline**



- 1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality
- 2 Orthogonal sets
- 3 Orthogonal projections
- 4 Gram-Schmidt
- 5 Least-squares

### **Least-squares**



Let A be an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

#### **Definition 10 (Least-squares solution)**

A least-squares solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.

$$\|\mathbf{b} - A\widehat{\mathbf{x}}\| \le \|\mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}\| \ \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Let 
$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} = A\hat{\mathbf{x}} \in \text{Col } A$$
, then

Thm  $10 \implies \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \text{proj}_{\text{Col } A} \mathbf{b}$ 
 $\implies A\mathbf{x} = \hat{\mathbf{b}} \text{ consistent}$ 

with  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  the solution

 $\mathbb{R}^n$ 

### **Normal equations**



Let A be an  $m \times n$  matrix with columns  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n \& \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , then

$$\widehat{\mathbf{b}} = A\widehat{\mathbf{x}} = \operatorname{proj}_{\mathsf{Col}\,A}\mathbf{b} \iff \mathbf{b} - \widehat{\mathbf{b}} \in (\mathsf{Col}\,A)^{\perp} \iff \mathbf{a}_j \cdot (\mathbf{b} - A\widehat{\mathbf{x}}) \,\forall j$$
$$\iff A^{\top}(\mathbf{b} - A\widehat{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathbf{0} \iff A^{\top}A\widehat{\mathbf{x}} = A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$$

#### **Definition 11 (Normal equations)**

The **normal equations** for  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  are  $A^{\top}A\mathbf{x} = A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$ .

### Theorem 12 (Normal equations)

The set of least-squares solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is equal to the (nonempty) set of solutions of  $A^{\top}A\mathbf{x} = A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$ .

Furthermore, the following statements are equivalent:

- 1.  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a unique least-squares solution  $\forall \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .
- 2. The columns of A are linearly independent.
- 3.  $A^{\top}A$  is invertible.

Remark: 1.-2.-3.  $\implies \hat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^{\top}A)^{-1}A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$ .

### Normal equations cont'd



#### Example 10 (Normal equations I)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \implies A^{\top}A = \begin{bmatrix} 17 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } A^{\top}\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $A^{\top}A\mathbf{x} = A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$  becomes  $\begin{bmatrix} 17 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$ . Since  $A^{\top}A$  is invertible, we have

$$\widehat{\mathbf{x}} = (A^{\top}A)^{-1}A^{\top}\mathbf{b}$$

$$= \frac{1}{84} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -1 \\ -1 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Normal equations cont'd



### Example 11 (Normal equations II)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \implies A^{\top}A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and

$$A^{\top}\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}. \text{Then } \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies \widehat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$