

## 1 More on Orthogonal Complements

**Remark 1.1.** If  $x = w + z$  ( $w \in W$ ,  $z \in W^\perp$ ), then  $w$  is the **orthogonal projection of  $x$  on  $W$** . In fact, any orthogonal projection is a linear map.

### Corollary 1.2

If  $V$  is finite dimensional, then  $\dim V = \dim W + \dim W^\perp$  and  $(W^\perp)^\perp = W$ .

*Proof.* Since  $V = W \oplus W^\perp$ , then  $\dim V = \dim W + \dim W^\perp$ .

Moreover,  $\dim(W^\perp) = \dim V - \dim W = \dim W^\perp$ .

We prove now that  $W \subset (W^\perp)^\perp$ .

If  $x \in W$ , then  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$  for all  $y \in W^\perp$ . Therefore,  $x \in (W^\perp)^\perp$ .  $\square$

### Corollary 1.3

If  $x = w + z$  for  $w \in W$ ,  $z \in W^\perp$ , then  $w$  is the unique vector closest to  $x$  in  $W$ . Thus, for all  $u \in W$  such that  $u \neq w$ :

$$\|x - u\| > \|x - w\|$$

*Proof.* If  $a, b \in V$  and  $\langle a, b \rangle = 0$ , then  $\|a + b\|^2 = \|a\|^2 + \|b\|^2$ .

Therefore,  $\|(w - u) + z\|^2 = \|w - u\|^2 + \|z\|^2 \geq \|z\|^2$ .  $\square$

### Theorem 1.4

Let  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  be an orthonormal subset such that  $\dim V = n$ :

- a) Then  $S$  can be extended to an orthonormal basis of  $V$
- b) If  $W = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ , then  $W^\perp = \text{span}\{v_{k+1}, \dots, v_n\}$ .

*Proof.* a) First, extend  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ . Use the Gram-Schmidt procedure to make it orthonormal. Note that any orthonormal subset is linearly independent.

The first  $k$  elements of the new basis are unchanged. In this way,  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  is an orthonormal basis of  $V$  after normalisation.

- b) If  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ , then  $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$  for all  $x \in W$  and  $y \in V$ , which is logically equivalent to  $V \subset W^\perp$ . Since  $\dim W^\perp = n - k$ , then  $V = W^\perp$ .  $\square$

## 2 Adjoint

If  $V$  is a finite dimensional inner product space and  $T \in \text{Hom}(V, V)$ , then there exists a unique  $T^* \in \text{Hom}(V, V)$ , called an **adjoint** such that  $\langle T(x), y \rangle = \langle x, T^*(y) \rangle$  for all  $x, y \in V$ .

Note that  $[T^*]_\beta = ([T]_\beta)^*$ . To show this, note that if  $y \in V$ , the function  $f_y : V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  is linear.

**Theorem 2.1**

Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space. If  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  is linear, then there exists a unique  $y \in V$  such that  $f = f_y$ , i.e.  $f(x) = \langle x, y \rangle$  for all  $x \in V$ .

*Proof.* Pick an orthonormal basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ .

Suppose  $f = f_y$ .

Therefore,  $f(v_1) = \langle v_1, y \rangle$ . Hence,  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle y, v_i \rangle v_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{f(v_i)} v_i$ .

Define  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{f(v_i)} v_i$ .

To prove that  $y$  is unique, it's enough to show that  $f(v_i) = f_y(v_i)$ .

Observe that  $f_y(v_i) = \langle v_i, y \rangle = \langle v_i, \sum_{j=1}^n \overline{f(v_j)} v_j \rangle$ .

Therefore,  $f_y(v_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n f(v_j) \langle v_i, v_j \rangle = f(v_i)$ . □