

Projection

(1) What is the projection of $\vec{u} = (5, 2, 10)^\top$ onto the plane H characterized by $2x + y + 3z = 0$?

Procedure:

1. Find a vector in the plane. Choose x, y arbitrarily, then calculate z . Call this vector v_1 .
2. Find another vector in the plane and make sure it is linearly independent of v_1 . Call it v_2 . Now you have a basis for H .
3. You know the following about u_H . Use it to find the coordinates of u_H by forming a system of linear equations.
 - (a) u_H is in the plane
 - (b) $u - u_H \perp v_1$
 - (c) $u - u_H \perp v_2$

(2) Let u and v be some linearly independent vectors. Then the formula for u_H , where H is the hyperplane spanned by the basis $\{v\}$, is

$$u_H = \left(\frac{u \cdot v}{v \cdot v} \right) v \quad (1)$$

This only works for one-dimensional H ! Show that it is true by writing $u_H = av$ for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and isolating a in

$$(u - av) \perp v \quad (2)$$

(3) Let $H = \text{span}(\{v\})$ with $v = (-2, 3)^\top$. Find u_H for $u = (7, 5)^\top$.

(4) Let's try this again with a different strategy: What is the projection of $\vec{u} = (5, 2, 10)^\top$ onto the plane H characterized by $2x + y + 3z = 0$?

Procedure:

1. Find an orthogonal basis for H . (In the above procedure, find v_2 such that $v_2 \perp v_1$.)
2. Note that the following is true (but only for a basis where the basis vectors v_i are pairwise orthogonal!): $u_H = u_{v_1} + \dots + u_{v_n}$. Show that it is true for $n = 2$, i.e.

- (a) $(u_{v_1} + u_{v_2}) \in H$ (trivial)
 - (b) $(u - (u_{v_1} + u_{v_2})) \perp v_1$ (use the fact that $v_1 \perp v_2$)
 - (c) $(u - (u_{v_1} + u_{v_2})) \perp v_2$ (same idea)
3. Use formula (1) to calculate u_{v_1} and u_{v_2} .
 4. Use $u_{v_1} + u_{v_2} = u_H$ to find u_H .