

Module 2

## Inner products (definition) Part 2

In this section we will be looking at generalization of dot product in order to compute ~~ago~~ angles, lengths and ~~dist~~ distances

Sometimes it is necessary to compute or measure geometric properties

And the inner product allows us to do exactly this kind of thing.

The inner product is a generalization of dot product, but with the same idea in mind we want to express geometric properties, such as lengths and angles between vectors.

Let's define what an inner product actually is

Definition: We looking at two vectors, for any vectors  $x$  and  $y$ , in vector space  $V$ .

(Inner product)

$$x, y \in V$$

The inner product is defined as a symmetric, positive definite bilinear mapping.

What does that mean?

(Interpretation)

We take a mapping that takes two inputs, out of this vector space, mapping from  $V$  times  $V$  to real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

We say this function is symmetric

- symmetric
- positive definite
- bilinear

Let's unpack it.



Lets start with bilinearity...

Bilinear means that for vectors  $x, y$  and  $z$  in vector space  $V$ , and real numbers  $\lambda$  (lambda), we get that  $\lambda$  times  $x$  plus  $z$ , and  $y$ , can be written as  $\lambda$  times inner product between  $x$  and  $y$  plus inner product between  $z$  and  $y$ .

Bilinear:

$$x, y, z \in V, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\langle \lambda x + z, y \rangle = \lambda \langle x, y \rangle + \langle z, y \rangle$$

linearity ✓

So this is linearity only in the first <sup>argument</sup> part of the function — and we require linearity in second <sup>argument</sup> ✓ of this function.

Similarly, we will then require that inner product between  $x$  and  $\lambda y$  plus  $z$  is  $\lambda$  times inner product between  $x$  and  $y$ , plus inner product between  $x$  and  $z$ .

$$\langle x, \lambda y + z \rangle = \lambda \langle x, y \rangle + \langle x, z \rangle$$

This means linearity also in second argument

Bilinear  $\Rightarrow$  linearity in both arguments.  
of this function.

Positive Definite means...

That inner product of  $x$  with itself is greater or equal to 0 and equality holds if and only if  $x$  is zero vector.

$$\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0, \langle x, x \rangle = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$$

And last component that we need is symmetry:

Symmetric:

Means that the inner product of  $x$  and  $y$  is the

Same as inner product of  $y$  and  $x$

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \langle y, x \rangle$$

The order does not matter.



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Let's look at an example in  $\mathbb{R}^2$

If we define our inner product to be  $x$  transpose times identity matrix times  $y$ , then we get exactly the dot product that we familiar with

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x^T I y \leftarrow \text{dot product}$$

Now let's have a look at different example, where we define our inner product to be  $x$  transpose times  $A$  times  $y$ , where  $A$  is matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Then we can also write the inner product to be

$$2x_1y_1 + x_2y_1 + x_1y_2 + 2x_2y_2$$

and this inner product is different from dot product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x^T A y$$

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

$$\rightarrow 2x_1y_1 + x_2y_1 + x_1y_2 + 2x_2y_2$$

Any Symmetric, positive definite matrix in the equation,  
defines a valid inner product.

In this session we introduced the concept of  
inner product, which we will use in next  
session to discuss geometric properties of vectors  
such as length and angles.