

# COSC6464

## Lecture 4 Projection

NLA Chapter 6

# Orthogonality

- In this lecture and the next few, we are going to study the QR factorization and related orthogonal transformation and its use in least square problem.
- This is kind of unusual approach (usually LU factorization comes first) but I'm convinced that QR factorization (and orthogonality) is the more important and should be taught first.
- In this lecture we are focusing on a specific class of linear transformations (represented by a matrix) called projectors
- Projector can be either *orthogonal* or *oblique (non-orthogonal)*; for now orthogonal projection is more important.

# Projector (projection matrix)

Definition: a projector is square matrix that satisfies:

$$P^2 = P$$

Geometrically, a projector  $P$  maps a vector  $v$  to  $Pv$  in  $\text{range}(P)$ .

What if  $v$  is already in  $\text{range}(P)$ ?

Then  $P$  maps  $v$  to  $v$ . Why?

Since  $v \in \text{range}(P)$ , there exists  $x$  such that  $v = Px$ . So the map of  $v$  is

$$Pv = P^2x = Px = v$$

# Projector Geometry

- If you were to shine a light at the “right” direction (which is  $Pv - v$ ) then  $Pv$  is the shadow of  $v$ .

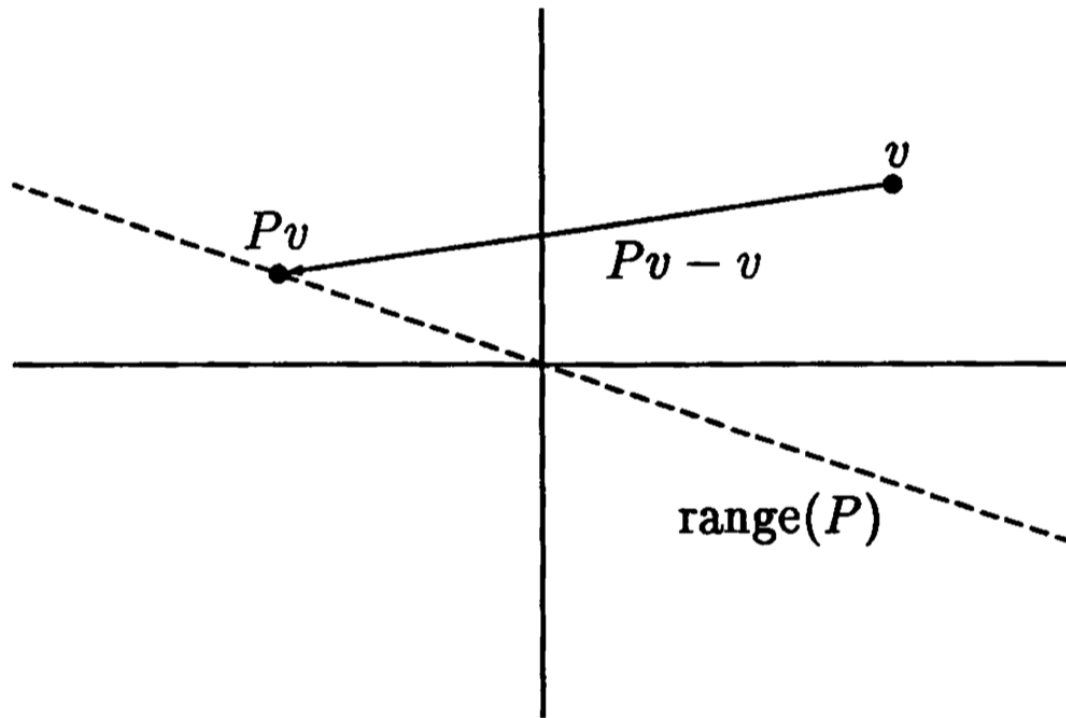


Figure 6.1. *An oblique projection.*

- The “right” direction **depends** on  $v$ .
- The “right” direction is a vector  $Pv - v = (P - I)v$
- What is the image of this direction under  $P$ ?  
 $P(Pv - v) = P^2v - Pv = 0$
- The direction is within the null space of  $P$ !  
 $Pv - v \in \text{null}(P)$
- Take-away: the direction of light is different for different  $v$ , but it's always described by a vector in  $\text{null}(P)$ .

# Complementary Projector

- If  $P$  is a projector,  $(I-P)$  is also a projector. Why?

$$(I - P)^2 = I - 2P + P^2 = I - P$$

- $I - P$  is called the complementary projector

- Now, what does this complementary projector project to ( $\text{range}(I-P)$ )?

- It's exactly the  $\text{null}(P)$ !!  
 $\text{range}(I - P) = \text{null}(P)$

We have seen in previous slide that

$$(I - P)v = -(Pv - v) \in \text{null}(P)$$

So  $\text{range}(I - P) \subseteq \text{null}(P)$

The reverse is also true:

$$\text{null}(P) \subseteq \text{range}(I - P)$$

Why?

If  $v \in \text{null}(P)$ , then  $Pv = 0$ , so

$$(I - P)v = v - Pv = v$$

Thus  $v \in \text{range}(I - P)$ .

# Complementary Projector (cont'd)

Following last slide,

$$\text{range}(I - P) = \text{null}(P)$$

By some magic (how?) we claim

$$\text{range}(P) = \text{null}(I - P)$$

Now, what's the relationship between  $\text{range}(I-P)$  and  $\text{range}(P)$

Or, the relationship between range of projector and its complementary?

Let's denote:

$$S_1 = \text{range}(P), S_2 = \text{range}(I - P)$$

Then

$$S_1 + S_2 = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$S_1 \cap S_2 = \{0\}$$

Basically subspace  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are complementary subspaces.

I.e., for any vector  $v$  we can uniquely write it as a sum of two vectors from these two complementary subspaces:

$$v = \underbrace{Pv}_{\in S_1} + \underbrace{(I - P)v}_{\in S_2}$$

# Complementary Projector (cont'd)

We say that

$P$  is the projector *onto*  $S_1$  *along*  $S_2$ .

Quiz:

- 1)  $a, b$  is a vector. When is the matrix  $P = ab^T$  a projector?
- 2) If  $a = [1; 2], b = [-3; 2]$ , what is  $\text{range}(P)$  and  $\text{range}(I - P)$ ?
- 3)  $P$  is an orthogonal projection iff  $S_1 \perp S_2$ . Is the above projector orthogonal?

# Orthogonal projector

As we said earlier, a projector  $P$  is orthogonal iff  $S_1 \perp S_2$ ; i.e.

$$\text{range}(P) \perp \text{range}(I - P)$$

Or, i.e. “the light direction” is always perpendicular to the range of  $P$ .

Algebraically, orthogonal projector is defined as a project that

$$P^T = P$$

The two definitions are equivalent. Why? (hint: SVD for the rescue)

Warning: orthogonal projector is NOT orthogonal matrix!



# Orthogonal Projector, $P^T = P$

Prove: If a projector  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ , is orthogonal ( $S_1 \perp S_2$ ), then it's symmetric  $P^T = P$ .

Say  $S_1$  has dimension  $n (< m)$ , and  $\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $S_1$ , and  $\{q_{n+1}, \dots, q_m\}$  are the orthogonal basis for  $S_2$ . (Why can we do this?)

Denote  $Q = [q_1, \dots, q_n, \dots, q_m]$ . Then  $PQ = [Pq_1, \dots, Pq_n, \dots, Pq_m] = [q_1, \dots, q_n, 0, \dots, 0]$ . Therefore,  $Q^T PQ = \text{diag}\{1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0\}$ . We get a SVD (also a EVD) of  $P$ :

$$P = Q\Sigma Q^T$$

It follows that  $P^T = P$

# Projection with Orthogonal Basis

From last slide, we see that

$$P = Q \operatorname{diag}\{1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0\} Q^T$$

*(Handwritten blue annotations: 'n' over the first '1' and 'm-n' over the first '0')\**

We can drop the “silent”  $m - n$  columns of  $Q$  and get the skinny hat  $Q$ :  
 $\hat{Q} = [q_1, \dots, q_n]$ .

$$P = \hat{Q} \hat{Q}^T$$

Where columns of  $\hat{Q}$  are orthonormal. This formula is very important!  
In fact the  $\hat{Q}$  does not have to come from SVD.

For **any** orthonormal vectors  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $P = Q Q^T$   
is an orthogonal projector onto  $\operatorname{range}(Q)$ . (Why?)

The complement,  $I - Q Q^T$  is also an orthogonal projector (onto  $\operatorname{range}(Q)^\perp$ ).

# Example: rank-1 orthogonal projector

What does this matrix

$$P_v = vv^T$$

Do? Is it a projector? If so, what's  $\text{range}(P_v)$ ?

$$P_v^2 = v(v^T v)v^T = (v^T v)vv^T$$

So  $P_v^2 = P_v$  if and only if  $v^T v = 1$  ( $v$  is unit vector). And it maps any vector  $x$  to  $P_v x = vv^T x = (v^T x)v \parallel v$ . Thus,

$$\text{range}(P_v) = \langle v \rangle$$

If a vector  $a$  is not a unit vector, normalizing it gives us orthogonal matrix

$$P_a = \frac{aa^T}{a^T a}$$

Quiz: what does the complement project  $P_{a^\perp} = I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a}$  do?

# Orthogonal Projection From Arbitrary Basis

If we want the orthogonal projector onto a subspace spanned by an orthogonal basis  $Q = [q_1, \dots, q_n]$  it's easy; just construct:

$$P = QQ^T$$

What if we have a subspace spanned by (non-orthonormal) arbitrary basis  $A = [a_1, \dots, a_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ? What's the orthogonal projector  $P$  onto  $\text{range}(A)$ ?

For a given vector  $v$ , denote the image of  $v$  as  $y = Pv \in \text{range}(A)$ . So there exist  $x$  s.t.  $y = Pv = Ax$ .

As the projector  $P$  is orthogonal, we must have  $y - v \perp [a_1, \dots, a_n]$ , or i.e.  $A^T(y - v) = 0$

Therefore  $A^T(Ax - v) = 0$ ,  $x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T v$ , thus

$$y = Ax = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T v = Pv$$

So the orthogonal projector we seek is  $P = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  (does it look familiar?)

# Questions

In 2d space, can we have an example of oblique (non-orthogonal projector)?

An example of orthogonal projector?

What are the eigenvalues/eigenvectors of a projector?

How about singular values/vectors of a projector?