

# CX1104: Linear Algebra for Computing

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & a_{m3} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}}_{A \quad m \times n} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}}_{x \quad n \times 1} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}}_{b \quad m \times 1}$$

Chap. No : **6.2.4**

Lecture : **Orthogonality**

Topic : **Orthogonality**

Concept : **Orthonormal Sets & Orthogonal Matrices**

Instructor: **A/P Chng Eng Siong**

TAs: **Zhang Su, Vishal Choudhari**

# Orthonormal Set and Orthonormal basis

## Orthonormal Sets

A set  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  is an **orthonormal set** if it is an orthogonal set of unit vectors. If  $W$  is the subspace spanned by such a set, then  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  is an **orthonormal basis** for  $W$ , since the set is automatically linearly independent, by Theorem 4.

The simplest example of an orthonormal set is the standard basis  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Any nonempty subset of  $\{\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n\}$  is orthonormal, too. Here is a more complicated example.

**THEOREM 4** If  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$  is an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $S$  is linearly independent and hence is a basis for the subspace spanned by  $S$ .

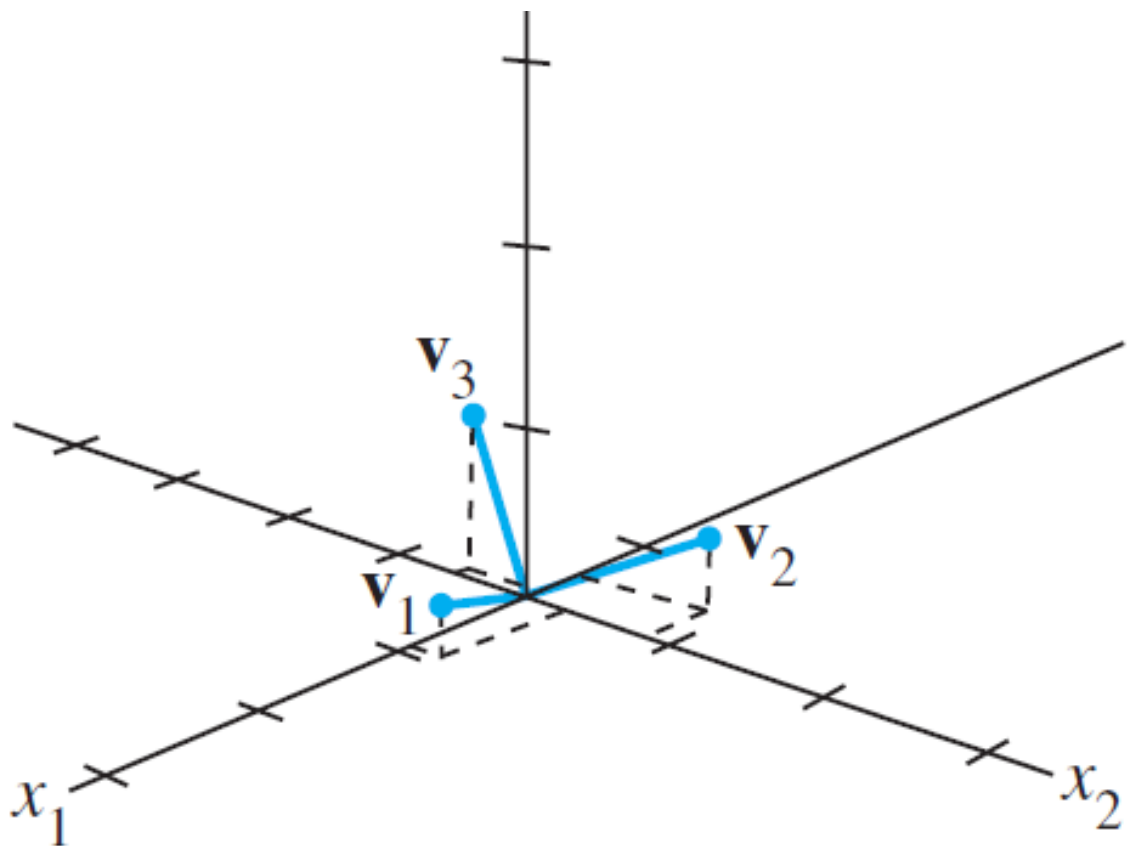


FIGURE 6

Ref: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJu26chXEiw>

Linear Algebra: Orthonormal Basis

61,234 views • Jun 28, 2014



Worldwide Center of Mathematics  
26.5K subscribers

**EXAMPLE 5** Show that  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , where

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{11} \\ 1/\sqrt{11} \\ 1/\sqrt{11} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{6} \\ 2/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{66} \\ -4/\sqrt{66} \\ 7/\sqrt{66} \end{bmatrix}$$

**SOLUTION** Compute

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = -3/\sqrt{66} + 2/\sqrt{66} + 1/\sqrt{66} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = -3/\sqrt{726} - 4/\sqrt{726} + 7/\sqrt{726} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = 1/\sqrt{396} - 8/\sqrt{396} + 7/\sqrt{396} = 0$$

Thus  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthogonal set. Also,

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1 = 9/11 + 1/11 + 1/11 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 1/6 + 4/6 + 1/6 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_3 = 1/66 + 16/66 + 49/66 = 1$$

which shows that  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_3$  are unit vectors. Thus  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  is an orthonormal set. Since the set is linearly independent, its three vectors form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . See Fig. 6. ■

```
S3 = [ 3/sqrt(11)  -1/sqrt(6)  -1/sqrt(66);  
      1/sqrt(11)  2/sqrt(6)   -4/sqrt(66);  
      1/sqrt(11)  1/sqrt(6)   7/sqrt(66)];
```

```
S3  
checkOrthogonality = S3'*S3
```

```
S3 =  
  
    0.9045    -0.4082    -0.1231  
    0.3015     0.8165    -0.4924  
    0.3015     0.4082     0.8616
```

```
checkOrthogonality =  
  
    1.0000    0.0000    0.0000  
    0.0000    1.0000    0.0000  
    0.0000    0.0000    1.0000
```

**NOTE:** The 0's correspond to dot products of orthogonal vectors. See next slide for explanation of result!

# Orthonormal Sets and $U^T U$

## THEOREM 6

An  $m \times n$  matrix  $U$  has orthonormal columns if and only if  $U^T U = I$ .

**PROOF** To simplify notation, we suppose that  $U$  has only three columns, each a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . The proof of the general case is essentially the same. Let  $U = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \mathbf{u}_3]$  and compute

$$U^T U = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \\ \mathbf{u}_3^T \end{bmatrix} [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \mathbf{u}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_2 & \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_3 \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 & \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_3 \\ \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_2 & \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_3 \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

The entries in the matrix at the right are inner products, using transpose notation. The columns of  $U$  are orthogonal if and only if

$$\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 0, \quad \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_3 = \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 0, \quad \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_3 = \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_2 = 0 \tag{5}$$

The columns of  $U$  all have unit length if and only if

$$\mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 = 1, \quad \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{u}_2 = 1, \quad \mathbf{u}_3^T \mathbf{u}_3 = 1 \tag{6}$$

The theorem follows immediately from (4)–(6). ■

Matlab Example: When  $U$  is square (3x3)

```
>> U = [3/sqrt(11) -1/sqrt(6) -1/sqrt(66);
1/sqrt(11) 2/sqrt(6) -4/sqrt(66);
1/sqrt(11) 1/sqrt(6) 7/sqrt(66)]

U =

    0.9045   -0.4082   -0.1231
    0.3015    0.8165   -0.4924
    0.3015    0.4082    0.8616

>> U'*U

ans =

    1.0000    0.0000    0.0000
    0.0000    1.0000    0.0000
    0.0000    0.0000    1.0000

>> U*U'

ans =

    1.0000   -0.0000    0.0000
   -0.0000    1.0000    0.0000
    0.0000    0.0000    1.0000
```

vs  $U$  is rectangle (3x2)

```
>> U2=[U(:,1) U(:,2)]

U2 =

    0.9045   -0.4082
    0.3015    0.8165
    0.3015    0.4082

>> U2'*U2

ans =

    1.0000    0.0000
    0.0000    1.0000

>> U2*U2'

ans =

    0.9848   -0.0606    0.1061
   -0.0606    0.7576    0.4242
    0.1061    0.4242    0.2576

>> P=U2*U2'

P =

    0.9848   -0.0606    0.1061
   -0.0606    0.7576    0.4242
    0.1061    0.4242    0.2576

>> P*P

ans =

    0.9848   -0.0606    0.1061
   -0.0606    0.7576    0.4242
    0.1061    0.4242    0.2576

>> rank(P*P)

ans =

     2
```

Question: If  $U$  (a  $m \times 2$  matrix) ONLY has 2 **orthonormal** columns, ( $m > 2$ ), what is the characteristics of matrixes:  $U^T U$  and  $U U^T$ ?

Ans:  $U^T U$  = identity (2x2) matrix  
 $P = U U^T$  = ( $m \times m$ ) matrix but not identity (only rank 2)  
It spans the column space of  $U$ , let's call it  $W$ .  
(later we show) it is a projection matrix  $P$   
 $P$  can be used to projecting a given vector  $y$  onto  $W$  by  
 $\hat{y} = U U^T y = P y$  (see Ch 6.2.5, pg 7 Theorem 10)



# Orthonormal Sets and Orthogonal matrix

## THEOREM 7

Let  $U$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with orthonormal columns, and let  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  be in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

- a.  $\|U\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\|$
- b.  $(U\mathbf{x}) \cdot (U\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$
- c.  $(U\mathbf{x}) \cdot (U\mathbf{y}) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = 0$

Properties (a) and (c) say that the linear mapping  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto U\mathbf{x}$  preserves lengths and orthogonality. These properties are crucial for many computer algorithms.

**EXAMPLE 6** Let  $U = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 2/3 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Notice that  $U$  has orthonormal columns and

$$U^T U = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 2/3 & -2/3 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 2/3 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Verify that  $\|U\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\|$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$U\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 2/3 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|U\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{9 + 1 + 1} = \sqrt{11}$$

$$\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{2 + 9} = \sqrt{11}$$

Theorems 6 and 7 are particularly useful when applied to *square* matrices. An **orthogonal matrix** is a square invertible matrix  $U$  such that  $U^{-1} = U^T$ . By Theorem 6, such a matrix has orthonormal columns.<sup>1</sup> It is easy to see that any *square* matrix with orthonormal columns is an orthogonal matrix. Surprisingly, such a matrix must have orthonormal *rows*, too.

# Orthogonal Matrix definitions

Ref: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orthogonal\\_matrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orthogonal_matrix) Important!

In linear algebra, an **orthogonal matrix**, or **orthonormal matrix**, is a real square matrix whose columns and rows are orthonormal vectors.

One way to express this is

$$Q^T Q = Q Q^T = I,$$

where  $Q^T$  is the transpose of  $Q$  and  $I$  is the identity matrix.

This leads to the equivalent characterization: a matrix  $Q$  is orthogonal if its transpose is equal to its inverse:

$$Q^T = Q^{-1},$$

where  $Q^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $Q$ .

Orthogonal Matrix  
MUST be SQUARE!

Note: confusion

If you have a  $m \times n$  matrix called  $U$  with its column orthonormal, and  $m > n$  (tall matrix)

- 1) IT IS NOT an orthogonal matrix since it satisfies ONLY  $U^T U = I$  ( $n \times n$ )
- 2) its  $U U^T$  is  $m \times m$  matrix BUT it is not equal to  $I$ . Instead  $U U^T$  is a projection matrix and has rank  $n$ .

Note: There is no standard name for “rectangular matrix with orthonormal columns”