

Some matrix operations in R

```
A <- matrix(c(4,1,-2,3,-1,0,2,2,-1), nrow=3)      # creates 3-by-3 matrix column-wise
B <- matrix(c(4,1,-2,3,-1,0,2,2,-1), nrow=3, byrow=TRUE)  # creates 3-by-3 matrix row-wise
t(A)        # takes the transpose of matrix A
solve(A)     # numerically computes inverse of A; A^(-1) DOES NOT WORK!
A %*% B      # computes matrix product of A (left-hand factor) and B (right-hand factor)
A %*% c(3,-1,2)  # computes matrix-vector product; note conversion of vector to 3-by-1

u = c(3,-1,1)
v = c(2,2,8)
dot(u, v)    # takes dot product of u and v
u %*% v      # also takes dot product of u and v
length(u)    # tells how many components are in u
vlength(u)   # computes the magnitude of u, i.e., sqrt(dot(u,u))
```

Projections

Recall, from either MATH 231 or MATH 255, that

- The **span** of a collection S of vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ is the set of all possible sums of rescalings—all **linear combinations**—of those vectors. That is,

$$V = \text{span}(S) := \{c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k\mathbf{v}_k \mid c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

In relation to V , the set S is called a **spanning set**. A linear combination

$$c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_k\mathbf{v}_k$$

can be thought of as a trek through \mathbb{R}^n , appending tail-to-head the rescaled vectors $c_j\mathbf{v}_j$ one by one until a destination is reached. V consists of all destinations reachable this way.

S is hardly the only spanning set for V ; you can easily make another from the first:

- a superset of S : $S \cup \{\mathbf{v}\} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k, \mathbf{v}\}$, where $\mathbf{v} \in V \setminus S$.
- a set the size of S : $\{\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$,
- A collection $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_\ell\}$ is said to be **linearly independent** if the only way a linear combination

$$c_1\mathbf{u}_1 + c_2\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + c_\ell\mathbf{u}_\ell$$

produces the destination $\mathbf{0}$ is by taking each $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_\ell = 0$.

- A basis of a vector space V is a linearly independent spanning set for V . There are generally many bases of V , but all consist of the same number of vectors, a number known as the **dimension** of V .
- \mathbb{R}^n is an n -dimensional vector space.

- For any collection $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $\text{span}(S)$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n , a vector space in its own right living inside \mathbb{R}^n .
- There are vector subspaces of all dimensions $d = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ in \mathbb{R}^n . The (only) 0-dimensional subspace consists of the single point at the origin, $\{0\}$. The one-dimensional subspaces consist of rescalings $\{c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \mid c_1 \in \mathbb{R}\}$ of a single nonzero vector $\mathbf{v}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, lines through the origin. The two-dimensional subspaces have the form $\{c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \mid c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}$ and consist of linear combinations of two linearly independent vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, planes through the origin. And so it goes, right up until you reach \mathbb{R}^n itself, the only n -dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^n . This description comprises all subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n .
- Vectors have magnitude (length) and direction. We denote the magnitude of \mathbf{v} by $|\mathbf{v}|$, and compute it as the square root

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}}.$$

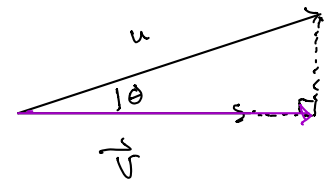
The **direction** of a nonzero \mathbf{v} is a vector of length 1 obtained by rescaling \mathbf{v} :

$$\frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}|} \mathbf{v}.$$

- Given a subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n and a vector $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists a single vector in W closest to \mathbf{u} . We call this vector the **projection of \mathbf{u} onto W** , or $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$. This vector can and will be \mathbf{u} itself if \mathbf{u} comes from W in the first place. The more interesting case, where $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus W$, is the focus for the rest of these notes.

When W is a line through the origin, we let \mathbf{v} be a basis vector. Then, $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$, or $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \mathbf{v})$, is given by

$$\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}) = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|^2} \mathbf{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2} \cdot \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$$



Complications arise when the dimension of W reaches two or more.

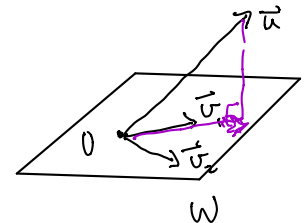
Example 1: plane in \mathbb{R}^3

Let $W = \text{span}(\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\})$, and $\mathbf{u} = \langle 3, 1, -2 \rangle$.

- (a) Find $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \langle 3, 4, 0 \rangle)$ and $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \langle 2, -2, 1 \rangle)$. These are projections onto 1-dimensional spaces (lines).

$$\text{proj}(\vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}_1) = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}_1}{|\vec{v}_1|^2} \vec{v}_1 = \frac{13}{25} \langle 3, 4, 0 \rangle = \langle \frac{39}{25}, \frac{52}{25}, 0 \rangle$$

$$\text{proj}(\vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}_2) = \langle \frac{2}{9}, -\frac{4}{9}, \frac{2}{9} \rangle$$



(b) Show that $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$ is *not* what one gets by adding $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \langle 3, 4, 1 \rangle) + \text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow \langle 2, -2, 1 \rangle)$.

$$\text{proj}(\vec{u} \rightarrow W) \stackrel{?}{=} \text{proj}(\vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}_1) + \text{proj}(\vec{u} \rightarrow \vec{v}_2)$$

$$\vec{z} = \langle 2.004, 1.636, 0.222 \rangle$$

If so, $\vec{u} - \vec{z}$ should be orthogonal to \vec{z}

They are not in this case, and usually won't be!

Prescription for finding $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$:

- Find a basis of W : $\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \dots, \mathbf{w}_k$ We have (\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2) already
- Form a matrix \mathbf{A} from the \mathbf{w}_j . Make \mathbf{w}_1 the first column of \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{w}_2 the second column, etc.
- Compute one or both of the following, as desired

$$- \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u}$$

The vector \mathbf{x} will have k components, specifying weights x_1, \dots, x_k such that the linear combination

$$x_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + \dots + x_k \mathbf{w}_k$$

is $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$, the closest vector in W to \mathbf{u} .

$$- \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u}$$

The vector \mathbf{w} is $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$, the closest vector in W to \mathbf{u} .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 2:

Let $W = \text{span}(\{\langle 3, 4, 0 \rangle, \langle 2, -2, 1 \rangle\})$, and $\mathbf{u} = \langle 3, 1, -2 \rangle$. Find $\text{proj}(\mathbf{u} \rightarrow W)$.

```
A = matrix( c(3,4,0,2,-2,1), nrow=3 )
u = c(3, 1, -2)
w = A %*% solve( t(A) %*% A ) %*% t(A) %*% u
w
```

```
      [,1]
[1,] 2.3303167
[2,] 1.5022624
[3,] 0.3438914
```

To see that, indeed, $\mathbf{w} = \langle 2.330, 1.502, 1.344 \rangle$ is a vector in W :

```
v1 <- c(3,4,0)
v2 <- c(2,-2,1)
x <- solve( t(A) %*% A ) %*% t(A) %*% u      # weights for linear comb
x[1] * v1 + x[2] * v2                        # linear combination of v1 and v2 yields w
```

```
[1] 2.3303167 1.5022624 0.3438914
```

To see that \mathbf{w} is as close as possible, we show that \mathbf{w} and $(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w})$ are orthogonal. Their dot product is

```
dot(u-w, w)
```

```
[1] 9.992007e-16
```

which, numerically speaking, is zero. ■