## Linear Algebra I Summary of Lectures: Inner Product Spaces

and Bilinear and Sesquilinear Forms

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- 1. Definition 3.1: If V is a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , then an inner product on V is a map  $(\langle | \rangle)$  from  $V \times V$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  with the following properties:
  - (a) Symmetry:  $\langle v|w\rangle = \langle w|v\rangle \ \forall v, w \in V$ .
  - (b) Linearity:  $\langle u|\lambda v + \mu w \rangle = \lambda \langle u|v \rangle + \mu \langle u|w \rangle \ \forall u, v, w \in V \ \text{and} \ \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}.$
  - (c) Positive definiteness:
    - (i)  $\langle v|v\rangle \geq 0 \ \forall v \in V$ , and
    - (ii)  $\langle v|v\rangle = 0$  iff v = 0.

As the inner product is linear with respect to both variables it is sometimes called bilinear.

- 2. Definition 3.2: A finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  with an inner product defined is called a Euclidean space.
- 3. Definition 3.3: The norm (or length) of a vector v is written as ||v|| and defined by

$$||v|| = \sqrt{\langle v|v\rangle},$$

the positive square root of the inner product of v with itself. The distance between two vectors v and w is written as d(v, w) and is d(v, w) = ||v - w||.

- 4. Proposition 3.4:  $\forall v \in V$ , where V is a Euclidean space, and  $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  then  $||\lambda v|| = |\lambda| \cdot ||v||$ .
- 5. Proposition 3.5: The "Cauchy-Schwarz inequality" says that  $\forall v, w \in V$ , where V is a Euclidean space, then

$$|\langle v|w\rangle| \leq ||v|| \cdot ||w||$$
.

6. Proposition 3.6: The "triangle inequality" says that  $\forall v, w \in V$ , where V is a Euclidean space, then

$$||v+w|| \le ||v|| + ||w||$$
.

7. Definition 3.7: If V is a Euclidean space, and  $v, w \in V$ , then v and w are said to be orthogonal if  $\langle v|w\rangle=0$ . If both v and w are nonzero, then the angle between v and w is defined to be  $\theta,\,0\leq\theta\leq\pi$  and

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\langle v|w\rangle}{||v|| \cdot ||w||}.$$