



B24 July 23 Lec 2 Notes

Definition:

A L.T. $U: X \rightarrow Y$ (X, Y are IPS) is called an **isometry** if

$$\|Ux\| = \|x\|, \quad \forall x \in X$$

In other words, it is called a **length-preserving** L.T.

e.g.

Rotations are isometries, as are reflections.

$T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is not an isometry
 $(x, y) \mapsto (2x, 2y) = 2(x, y)$

Theorem:

A L.T. is an isometry iff

$$\langle Ux, Uy \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle, \quad \forall x, y \in X$$

Proof (\Leftarrow):

$$\begin{aligned} \|Ux\| &= \sqrt{\langle Ux, Ux \rangle} \\ &= \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle} \quad \text{By assumption} \\ &= \|x\| \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Proof (\Rightarrow):

Recall the polarization identities.

Assume that X, Y are real IPS. Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Ux, Uy \rangle &= \frac{1}{4} (\|Ux + Uy\|^2 - \|Ux - Uy\|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (\|U(x+y)\|^2 - \|U(x-y)\|^2) \quad \text{linearity} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} (\|x+y\|^2 - \|x-y\|^2) \quad \text{def of isometry} \\ &= \langle x, y \rangle \quad \text{polarization identity} \end{aligned}$$

The case that X, Y are \mathbb{C} -IPS is similar using complex polarization identity.

□

Lemma:

A L.T. $U: X \rightarrow Y$ is an isometry iff

$$U^* U = \underbrace{I_X}_{\text{Identity transformation on } X}$$

Proof (\Leftarrow):

Assume $U^* U = I_X$.

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|^2 &= \langle x, x \rangle \\ &= \langle U^* U x, x \rangle \quad U^* U = I \\ &= \langle U x, U x \rangle \\ &= \|U x\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\forall x \in X$, so U is an isometry. \square

Proof (\Rightarrow):

Assume $U: X \rightarrow Y$ is an isometry.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle U^* U x, y \rangle &= \langle U x, U y \rangle \\ &= \langle x, y \rangle \quad \text{By previous theorem} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow U^* U x = x$$

$$\Rightarrow U^* U = I_X \quad \square$$

Definition:

An isometric $U: X \rightarrow Y$ is called **unitary** if U is invertible.

e.g. $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is an isometry since
 $(x, y) \mapsto (x, y, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \|(x, y, 0)\| &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + 0^2} \\ &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ &= \|(x, y)\| \end{aligned}$$

but not invertible ($\dim \mathbb{R}^3 \neq \dim \mathbb{R}^2$)

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } U^* U = I_2, \text{ but } U U^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq I_3$$

Proposition:

An isometry $U: X \rightarrow Y$ is unitary iff $\dim X = \dim Y$.

Proof (\Rightarrow):

If $U: X \rightarrow Y$ is unitary, then in particular, U is invertible, so $\dim X = \dim Y$.

Proof (\Leftarrow):

Assume $\dim X = \dim Y$. Since U is an isometry, by prev. lemma, $U^*U = I_X$. So $\ker(U) = \{0\}$, so U is invertible.

Proposition:

Let U be a $m \times n$ matrix. Then U is an isometry iff the columns of U form an orthonormal system in \mathbb{F}^m .

Proof (\Rightarrow):

Assume U is an isometry.

$Ue_i = i^{\text{th}}$ column of U .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \langle Ue_i, Ue_j \rangle &= \langle e_i, e_j \rangle && \text{Since } U \text{ is isometry} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

i.e. columns of U form an orthonormal system in \mathbb{F}^m . \square

Proof (\Leftarrow):

Assume the columns of U form an orthonormal system in \mathbb{F}^m .

Let U_i denote the i^{th} column of U .

Let $x \in \mathbb{F}^n$, and let $x = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i$.

$$\begin{aligned} \|Ux\|^2 &= \left\| U \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i \right) \right\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i U(e_i) \right\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i U_i \right\|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \|U_i\|^2 && \text{Recall from} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i e_i \right\|^2 = \|x\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $\|Ux\| = \|x\|$. \square

Lemma:
If $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$ are orthogonal, and $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathbb{F}$, then:
 $\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i v_i \right\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 \|v_i\|^2$

and U_1, \dots, U_n form an orthogonal system

e.g. rotation in \mathbb{R}^2 is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix}$$

and $\begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ -\sin \alpha \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sin \alpha \\ \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix}$ form an orthonormal system in \mathbb{R}^2 since

$$\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ -\sin \alpha \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sin \alpha \\ \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle = \cos \alpha \sin \alpha - \sin \alpha \cos \alpha = 0$$

$$\text{and } \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ -\sin \alpha \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = 1, \text{ and } \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \sin \alpha \\ \cos \alpha \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = 1$$

Proposition:

Let U be a unitary matrix. Then,

(i) $|\det U| = 1$

(ii) if λ is an eigenvalue of U , then $|\lambda| = 1$

Lemma:

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \bar{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{A}_{11} & \cdots & \bar{A}_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \bar{A}_{n1} & \cdots & \bar{A}_{nn} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } \det(\bar{A}) = \overline{\det(A)}.$$

Proof: Of lemma above.

Cofactor expansion.

Proof: (i)

Since U is unitary, $U^* U = I$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \det(U^*) \det(U) &= 1 \\ &= \det(\overline{U^T}) = \overline{\det(U^T)} = \overline{\det(U)} \end{aligned}$$

↑
By lemma

So

$$\overline{\det(U)} \cdot \det(U) = |\det(U)|^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |\det(U)| = 1$$

□

Proof: (ii)

Assume λ is an eigenvalue of U , with eigenvector v .

Then

$$\|v\| = \|Uv\| \quad U \text{ is an isometry.}$$

$$= \|\lambda v\|$$

$$= |\lambda| \|v\|$$

$v \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow |\lambda| = 1$$

□

Definition:

Linear transformations A, B are called **unitarily equivalent** if there exists a unitary L.T. U s.t.

$$A = U B U^*$$

Remark:

In particular, unitarily equivalent \Rightarrow similar

Proposition:

A $n \times n$ matrix A is **unitarily equivalent** to a **diagonal** matrix iff there is an **orthonormal** basis for \mathbb{F}^n consisting of eigenvectors of A .

Proof (\Rightarrow):

Assume A is unitarily equivalent to a diagonal matrix, i.e.

$$A = U D U^*$$

Let $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ be the eigenvalues (i.e. diagonal entries) of D . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} A U e_i &= U D U^* U e_i \\ &= U D e_i \\ &= U \lambda_i e_i \\ &= \lambda_i (U e_i) \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $U e_1, \dots, U e_n$ are eigenvectors of A with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$, and since U is invertible $U e_1, \dots, U e_n$ forms a basis for \mathbb{F}^n .

And $\|U e_i\| = \|e_i\| = 1$ and

Proof (continued...):

$$\langle u_{e_i}, u_{e_j} \rangle = \langle e_i, e_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow u_{e_1}, \dots, u_{e_n}$ forms an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{F}^n . \square

Proof (\Leftarrow):

Assume there is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{F}^n consisting of eigenvectors of A .

Let u_1, \dots, u_n be an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of A with corresponding e.v. $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$.

$$\text{Let } D = [A]_{u_1, \dots, u_n}^{u_1, \dots, u_n} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

By the change of basis formula,

$$\begin{aligned} A &= [A]_{e_1, \dots, e_n}^{e_1, \dots, e_n} \\ &= \underbrace{[I]_{u_1, \dots, u_n}^{e_1, \dots, e_n}}_{\text{isometry}} \underbrace{[A]_{u_1, \dots, u_n}^{u_1, \dots, u_n}}_{D \text{ diagonal}} \underbrace{[I]_{e_1, \dots, e_n}^{u_1, \dots, u_n}}_{\text{isometry}} \end{aligned}$$

is isometry since the columns of

$[I]_{e_1, \dots, e_n}^{u_1, \dots, u_n}$ are exactly u_1, \dots, u_n

which we assumed form an orthogonal system and hence unitary.

$$\text{i.e. } A = U D U^* \quad \square$$

Definition:

We call a function $f: V \rightarrow V$ (where V is an IPS) a **rigid motion** if

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| = \|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in V$$

Remark:

We are not assuming f above is a L.T.

Ex 1:

If $U: V \rightarrow V$ is unitary, then

$$\|U(x) - U(y)\| = \|U(x - y)\| = \|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in V$$

i.e. U is rigid motion

Ex 2:

If $a \in V$ and $f_a: V \rightarrow V$ is defined by $f_a(v) := v + a$, then f_a is a rigid motion, since

$$\begin{aligned}\|f_a(x) - f_a(y)\| &= \|x + a - (y + a)\| \\ &= \|x - y\|\end{aligned}$$

But f_a is not a L.T. since $f_a(0) = a \neq 0$.

Theorem:

Let X be a real IPS, and $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a rigid motion, and define $T(x) := f(x) - f(0)$.

Then T is unitary (in particular, T is linear).