

Lecture # 17: Orthogonality & Inner Products

Date: Tue. 11/20/18

Def If $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$

their inner product or dot product is

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1 v_1 + \dots + u_n v_n \quad (\text{a scalar})$$

This can also be written as

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{u}^T \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & \dots & u_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Ex. 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = (1)(-1) + (3)(2) + (0)(3) = 5$$

Properties of inner products

$$(i) \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$$

$$(ii) (k\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{v} = k(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})$$

$$(iii) (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}$$

$$(iv) \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} \geq 0; \quad \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad \vec{u} = \vec{0}$$

Consequence:

$$(c_1 \vec{u}_1 + c_2 \vec{u}_2 + \dots + c_p \vec{u}_p) \cdot \vec{v} = c_1(\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{v}) + \dots + c_p(\vec{u}_p \cdot \vec{v})$$

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Def The norm (or length) of $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ (from the origin) is

$$\|\vec{u}\| = \sqrt{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} = \sqrt{u_1^2 + \dots + u_n^2}$$

When $n=2$

$$\|\vec{u}\| = \sqrt{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} = \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2}$$

= Euclidean distance btwn \vec{u} & $\vec{0}$
(a.k.a. Pythagorean distance)

Properties of Euclidean norm

$$(i) \|\vec{u}\| \geq 0; \|\vec{u}\| = 0 \text{ iff } \vec{u} = \vec{0}$$

$$(ii) \|c\vec{u}\| = |c| \|\vec{u}\|, \text{ any } c \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(iii) \|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\| \quad (\text{Triangle ineq.})$$

Remark: given nonzero \vec{v} in \mathbb{R}^n , can construct a unit length vector in same direction

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v} \quad \text{i.e. } \|\vec{u}\| = 1$$

Ex. 2 Find a unit vector in direction of $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$
Find $\|\vec{v}\|$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{v}\| &= (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2 + v_4^2)^{1/2} \\ &= (1^2 + 0^2 + 2^2 + (-1)^2)^{1/2} = \sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$

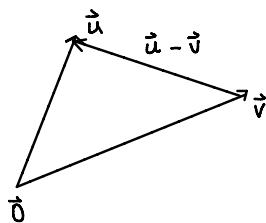
unit vec in direction of \vec{v} :

$$\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} [1, 0, 2, -1]^T = \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, 0, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right]^T$$

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use length to calculate distance btwn 2 points

$$\text{distance btwn } \vec{u} \text{ \& } \vec{v} = \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|$$



We can express $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$ in terms of lengths

$$\text{Thm } \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \frac{1}{4} \|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 - \frac{1}{4} \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2$$

Pf.

$$\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + 2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + \|\vec{v}\|^2$$

$$\|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 = (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u}\|^2 - 2\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + \|\vec{v}\|^2$$

subtracting these & solving for $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$ gives the desired result. ▣

Def $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are orthogonal if $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$
(i.e. perpendicular)

$$\text{Ex. 3] } \vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

are mutually orthogonal:

$$\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{e}_j = 0 \quad \text{if } i \neq j$$

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Ex. 4] $\vec{0}$ is the only vector orthogonal to every vector in \mathbb{R}^n

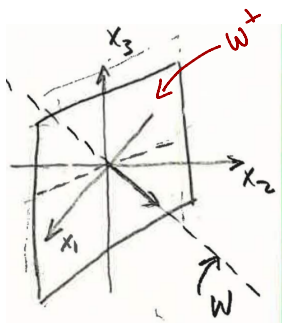
Orthogonal Complements

Def Let W be a subset of \mathbb{R}^n . The orthogonal complement of W is

$$W^\perp = \{ \vec{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \vec{z} \cdot \vec{w} = 0 \quad \forall \vec{w} \in W \}$$

↑ "in"
↑ "such that"
↑ "for all"
orthog. to everything in W

Ex. 5] Let $W = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$,



This is a line in \mathbb{R}^3 thru $\vec{0}$

$$W^\perp = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

this is a plane thru $\vec{0}$

Thm. Let $W = \text{span} \{ \vec{w}_1, \dots, \vec{w}_p \}$, subspace of \mathbb{R}^n

(a) $\vec{x} \in W^\perp$ iff $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{w}_1 = \dots = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{w}_p = 0$

(b) W^\perp is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .