

# Isometry, Unitary and Orthogonal

Zexi Sun

August 2021

## 1 Introduction

Isometry: iff preserves IP iff  $U^*U = I$

- Norm-preserving

Unitary( $U : X \rightarrow Y$ ):

- $\dim X = \dim Y$
- $U^*U = I$
- Invertible

## 2 Isometry

An operator  $U : X \rightarrow Y$  is an isometry, if it preserves the norm  $\|Ux\| = \|x\|$ ,  $\forall x \in X$ .

## 3 Thm 6.1

An operator  $U$  is an isometry iff it preserves the inner product

$$(x, y) = (Ux, Uy), \forall x, y \in X$$

This is proved from the polarization identity, using the def of isometry

## 4 Lem 6.2

An operator  $U : X \rightarrow Y$  is an isometry iff  $U^*U = I$ .

$$(x, x) = (U^*Ux, x) = (Ux, Ux), \forall x \in X$$

. Therefore  $\|x\| = \|Ux\|$ , and so  $U$  is an isometry.

**This lemma implies that an isometry is always left invertible ( $U^*$  being a left inverse).** Also note that a left invertible square matrix is invertible.

## 5 Unitary operator

An isometry  $U : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a unitary operator if it is invertible.

## 6 Prep 6.3

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

## 7 Unitary matrix

A square matrix  $U$  is unitary if  $U^*U = I$

i.e., a unitary matrix is a matrix of a unitary operator acting in  $F^n$ .

## 8 Orthogonal matrix

A unitary matrix with real entries is called an orthogonal matrix.

## 9 Properties of unitary operators

1.  $U^{-1} = U^*$
2. If  $U$  unitary,  $U^* = U^{-1}$  also unitary
3. If  $U$  is an isometry, and  $v_i$  is an orthonormal basis, then  $Uv_i$  is an orthonormal system. Moreover, if  $U$  is unitary,  $Uv_i$  is an orthonormal basis. ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ).
4. A product of unitary operators is a unitary operator as well.
5.  $|\det U| = 1$ . In particular, for an orthogonal matrix  $\det U = \pm 1$
6. If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $U$ , then  $|\lambda| = 1$ .

## 10 Unitarily equivalent

Operators  $A$  and  $b$  are unitarily equivalent if there exists a unitary operator  $U$  st  $A = UBU^*$ .

Funce for a unitary  $U$  we have  $U^{-1} = U^*$ , any two unitary equivalent matrices are similar as well.

## 11 Prep 6.5

A matrix  $A$  is unitarily equivalent to a diagonal one iff it has an orthogonal (orthonormal) basis of eigenvectors.