

Let V be an n -vector space and $\langle, \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ an inner product on V .

Let $u, v \in V$. The vectors u and v are orthogonal if $\langle u, v \rangle = 0$.

A matrix A is orthogonal if $AA^T = I$.

An orthogonal sequence in V is a sequence $(b_1, \dots, b_k)$ in V such that if

if $i \neq j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ and $i \neq j$ then $\langle b_i, b_j \rangle = 0$.

An orthonormal sequence is an orthogonal sequence $(b_1, \dots, b_k)$ such that

if $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ then $\langle b_i, b_i \rangle = 1$.

An orthonormal basis is an orthonormal sequence that is a basis of V .

Orthonormal bases are really good for computing coordinate vectors and projections.

Example 13 (Gram-Schmidt orthogonalisation)

Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ with the standard inner product.

Let

$$S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\} \text{ with } \begin{aligned} v_1 &= (1, 1, 1) \\ v_2 &= (0, 1, 1) \\ v_3 &= (0, 0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

Convert S into an orthonormal basis B

Step 1 Make v_1 into a unit vector.

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{\|v_1\|} v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1, 1, 1) = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$$

and let $S = \{b_1, v_2, v_3\}$.

Step 2 Make v_2 orthogonal to b_1 .

$$\begin{aligned} u_2 &= v_2 - \langle v_2, b_1 \rangle b_1 \\ &= (0, 1, 1) - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

and let $S_2 = \{b_1, u_2, v_3\}$.

Step 3. Make u_2 into a unit vector.

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{\|u_2\|} u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6/3}} \left\langle -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle = \left\langle -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right\rangle$$

and let $S_3 = \{b_1, b_2, v_3\}$.

Example IP 9 and 10 and 11

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Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ on $\mathbb{R}^3$ be given by

$$\langle (u_1, u_2, u_3), (v_1, v_2, v_3) \rangle = u_1 v_1 + 2u_2 v_2 + u_3 v_3.$$

Let $S = \{ (1, 1, 1), (1, -1, 1), (1, 0, -1) \}$. Then

$$\langle (1, 1, 1), (1, -1, 1) \rangle = 1 - 2 + 1 = 0,$$

$$\langle (1, 1, 1), (1, 0, -1) \rangle = 1 + 0 - 1 = 0,$$

$$\langle (1, -1, 1), (1, 0, -1) \rangle = 1 + 0 - 1 = 0.$$

So S is an orthogonal sequence in $\mathbb{R}^3$ with respect to $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } b_1 &= \frac{1}{\|u_1\|} u_1 & \text{where } u_1 &= (1, 1, 1) \\ b_2 &= \frac{1}{\|u_2\|} u_2 & \text{where } u_2 &= (1, -1, 1) \\ b_3 &= \frac{1}{\|u_3\|} u_3 & \text{where } u_3 &= (1, 0, -1) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1, 1, 1) \quad \text{since } \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle = 1 + 2 + 1 = 4$$

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1, -1, 1) \quad \text{since } \langle u_2, u_2 \rangle = 1 + 2 + 1 = 4$$

$$b_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1, 0, -1) \quad \text{since } \langle u_3, u_3 \rangle = 1 + 0 + 1 = 2.$$

Then

$\{b_1, b_2, b_3\}$ is an orthonormal sequence in $\mathbb{R}^3$ with respect to $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.

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Let $x = (1, 1, -1)$. Then

$$\langle x, b_1 \rangle = \langle (1, 1, -1), \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 1$$

$$\langle x, b_2 \rangle = \langle (1, 1, -1), \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = -1$$

$$\langle x, b_3 \rangle = \langle (1, 1, -1), \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x, b_1 \rangle b_1 + \langle x, b_2 \rangle b_2 + \langle x, b_3 \rangle b_3 \\ &= 1 \cdot b_1 + (-1) \cdot b_2 + \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} b_3 \\ &= 1 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 1, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - 1\right) = (1, 1, -1) = x. \end{aligned}$$

Example 1P12 Let $V = \mathbb{R}^3$ and

$$W = \{ (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x + y + z = 0 \}$$

then

$$B = \{ b_1, b_2 \} \text{ with } b_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0\right)$$

$$b_2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}\right)$$

is an orthonormal basis of W with respect to the standard inner product on $\mathbb{R}^3$.

Let $x = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$. Then

$$\text{proj}_W(x) = \langle x | b_1 \rangle b_1 + \langle x | b_2 \rangle b_2$$

$$= \langle 1, 2, 3 | \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0 \rangle \cdot \langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0 \rangle$$

$$+ \langle 1, 2, 3 | \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \rangle \cdot \langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \rangle$$

$$= (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}) \cdot \langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0 \rangle$$

$$+ (\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} - \frac{6}{\sqrt{6}}) \cdot \langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \rangle$$

$$= \langle \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 0 \rangle + \langle \frac{-3}{6}, \frac{-3}{6}, \frac{6}{6} \rangle$$

$$= \langle -1, 0, 1 \rangle.$$

The shortest distance from x to W is

$$\|x - \text{proj}_W(x)\| = \|\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle - \langle -1, 0, 1 \rangle\|$$

$$= \|\langle 2, 2, 2 \rangle\| = \sqrt{4+4+4} = 2\sqrt{3}.$$