

LECTURE 23: ORTHOGONALITY-AWESOMENESS

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Today: What makes orthogonality so awesome? There will be **MANY** miracles!

I- ORTHOGONAL SETS

Definition: \mathcal{B} is **orthogonal** if for any two different vectors u and v in \mathcal{B} , we have $u \cdot v = 0$

Example: Is $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}_u, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}_v \right\}$ orthogonal?

$$u \cdot v = 2(-3) + 3(2) = 0, \text{ so YES}$$

(**Note:** No need to check $v \cdot u$ because $v \cdot u = u \cdot v = 0$
No need to check $u \cdot u$ because need different vectors)

Example:

(a) Is $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_u, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_v, \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}}_w \right\}$ orthogonal?

(Seems like there's a million different things to check, but really only need to check 3 things)

$$u \cdot v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -1 + 0 + 1 = 0$$

$$u \cdot w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = 2 + 0 - 2 = 0$$

$$v \cdot w = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = -2 + 4 - 2 = 0$$

(b) Is \mathcal{B} linearly independent?

Neat Fact: Any orthogonal set without the $\mathbf{0}$ vector is linearly independent!

So YES

Why? Suppose $a u + b v + c w = \mathbf{0}$ (show $a = b = c = 0$)

Dot with u : $(a u + b v + c w) \cdot u = \mathbf{0} \cdot u = 0$

$$a u \cdot u + b \overset{0}{v \cdot u} + c \overset{0}{w \cdot u} = 0$$

(by orthogonality)

$$a \underbrace{(u \cdot u)}_{\neq 0} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0 \quad (\text{since } u \neq \mathbf{0})$$

Similarly, dot with v to get $b = 0$ and dot with w to get $c = 0$

Note: In particular, here \mathcal{B} is a LI set in \mathbb{R}^3 with 3 vectors, hence it's

a Basis for \mathbb{R}^3 !

Moral: Orthogonality is NICE, it simplifies a lot of things that we had trouble with before

(c) Express $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ as a linear combo of u, v, w

Find a, b, c such that $\mathbf{x} = a\mathbf{u} + b\mathbf{v} + c\mathbf{w}$

(Usually a pain to do because it required row-reduction, but here none of that stuff!)

Trick: Dot with u :

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u} = (a\mathbf{u} + b\mathbf{v} + c\mathbf{w}) \cdot \mathbf{u} = a\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} + \cancel{b\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}} + \cancel{c\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{u}} = a\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

$$a\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

$$a = \frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}}$$

Here:

$$a = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{6}{2} = 3$$

Similarly: Dot with v

$$b = \frac{x \cdot v}{v \cdot v}$$

$$b = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{2}{18} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$c = \frac{x \cdot w}{w \cdot w}$$

$$c = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{-4}{9}$$

Says:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{-4}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = a u + b v + c w$$

(Again, imagine doing this with row-reduction, here we get a direct formula!)

Summary: If $\mathcal{B} = \{u, v, w\}$ is orthogonal and $x = au + bv + cw$, then

$$a = \frac{x \cdot u}{u \cdot u} \quad b = \frac{x \cdot v}{v \cdot v} \quad c = \frac{x \cdot w}{w \cdot w}$$

Make sure to know this formula, we'll use it over and over again!

Hugging analogy: Suppose x is walking down the street and just wants to hug everyone. First, x hugs u ($= x \cdot u$) and then u is so happy it hugs itself ($= u \cdot u$), then x hugs v ($= x \cdot v$) and v hugs itself ($= v \cdot v$), and finally x hugs w ($= x \cdot w$) and w hugs itself ($= w \cdot w$)

II- ORTHONORMAL SETS

Let's power up and define *orthonormal sets* ($=$ super orthogonal sets), which are even nicer than orthogonal sets

Example:

(a) Is $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ orthogonal?
 $u \quad v$

$$u \cdot v = 3(-4) + 4(3) = 0, \text{ so yes}$$

(b) Is \mathcal{B} orthonormal?

Definition: Orthonormal = Orthogonal + Each vector has length 1

Here: $\|u\| = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5 \neq 1$, so NO

(c) Normalize \mathcal{B} (= make each vector length 1)

$$u' = \frac{u}{\|u\|} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}}{5} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 4/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v' = \frac{v}{\|v\|} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}{5} = \begin{bmatrix} -4/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) Is $\mathcal{B}' = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 4/5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ orthonormal?

YES (Orthogonal + Length 1)

(e) Is \mathcal{B}' a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 ?

YES, since \mathcal{B}' is in particular orthogonal (\Rightarrow LI) and has 2 vectors

(f) Express $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ as a linear combo of $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 4/5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$
 $u' \quad v'$

$$x = a u' + b v'$$

$$a = \frac{x \cdot u'}{u' \cdot u'} = x \cdot u' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 4/5 \end{bmatrix} = 7/5$$

$$b = \frac{x \cdot v'}{v' \cdot v'} = x \cdot v' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -4/5 \\ 3/5 \end{bmatrix} = -1/5$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3/5 \\ 4/5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -4/5 \\ 3/5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{WOW})$$

Summary: If $\mathcal{B} = \{u, v, w\}$ is orthonormal and $x = au + bv + cw$, then

$$a = x \cdot u \quad b = x \cdot v \quad c = x \cdot w \quad (\text{Even simpler!})$$

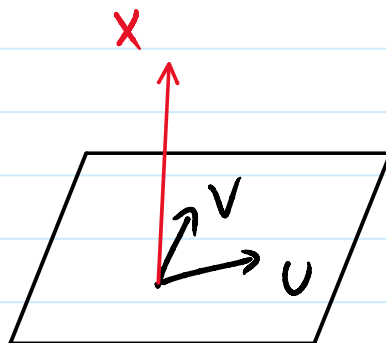
III- ORTHOGONAL COMPLEMENTS

(Completely unrelated, but *complements* our discussion of orthogonality)

Example: Find all the vectors x in \mathbb{R}^3 that are orthogonal to

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Picture:



Slow way:

Suppose $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ is orthogonal to u and v , then:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + z = 0 \\ x + y = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

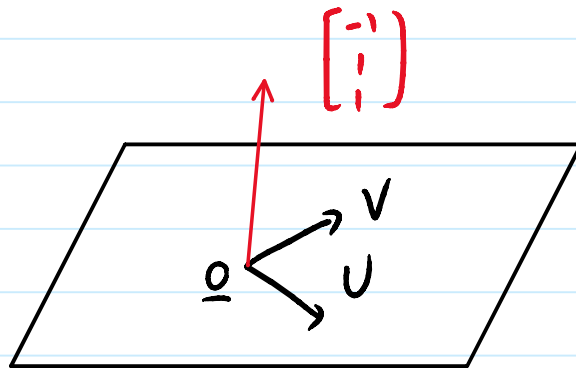
Row-reduce: $\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$

$$\begin{cases} x + z = 0 \\ y - z = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = -z \\ y = z \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -z \\ z \\ z \end{bmatrix} = z \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer: $\text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Picture:



Application (Math 2D):

Find the equation of the plane that goes through 0 and contains the vectors $u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

"Normal" vector is $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (see picture above)

Answer: $(-1)x + (1)y + (1)z = 0 \Rightarrow -x + y + z = 0$

(Could use cross-products, but this technique works in ANY dimension!)

Faster way:

$$A = [u \ v] = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Found: } \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{A^T} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Ans} = \text{Nul}(A^T) = \text{Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \dots = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

Note: CANNOT POSSIBLY be $\text{Nul}(A)$, because $\text{Nul}(A)$ is in \mathbb{R}^2 but we need something in \mathbb{R}^3 !