

# LECTURE 24: ORTHOGONAL PROJECTIONS

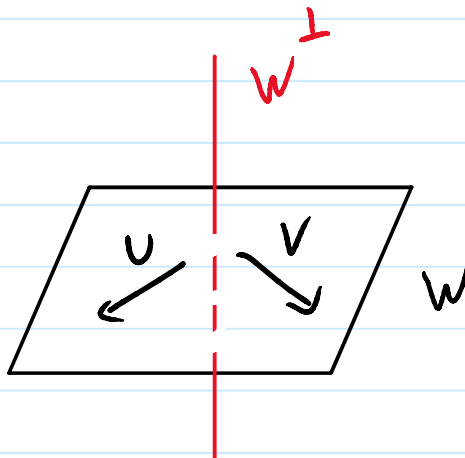
Wednesday, November 20, 2019 9:30 PM

## I- $W^\perp$

**Definition:** If  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$W^\perp =$  All the vectors that are  $\perp$  to (all the vectors) in  $W$

Picture:



**Example:** If  $W = \text{Span} \left\{ \overset{u}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}, \overset{v}{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} \right\}$  find (a basis for)  $W^\perp$

Enough to find all the vectors perpendicular to  $u$  and  $v$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T) = \text{Nul} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \dots = \text{Span} \left\{ \overset{\text{Ans}}{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

**Note:** In terms of matrices,  $W = \text{Col}(A)$  and we showed  $W^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T)$

Hence

$$(\text{Col}(A))^\perp = \text{Nul}(A^T)$$

**Mnemonic:** Put that frown upside down, put  $\perp$  inside your matrix to become T

Also

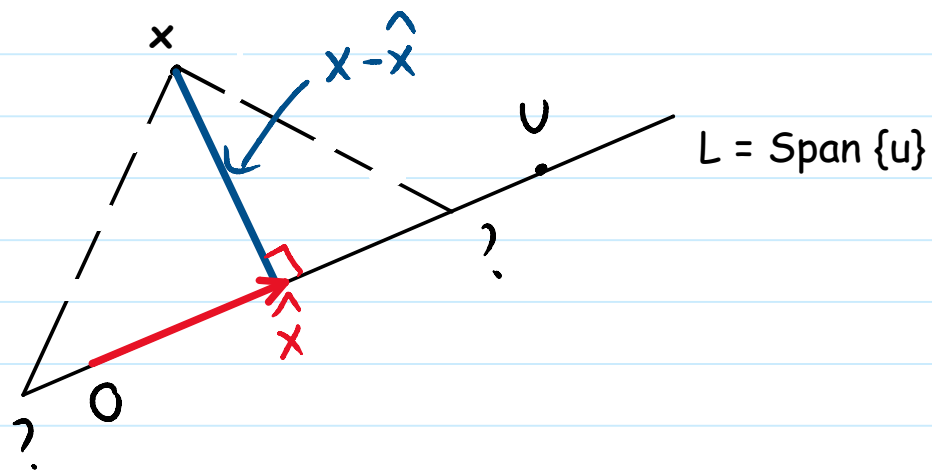
$$(\text{Nul}(A))^\perp = \text{Col}(A^T) \quad (= \text{"Row}(A)\text{"})$$

## II- OP ON A LINE

**Today:** Orthogonal Projections, which is a neat way of "squishing" a vector on another vector (this will have **LOTS** of insane applications, see next 2 lectures)

**Goal:** Given a point  $x$  and a line  $L$ , want to "squish"  $x$  on  $L$

**Picture:**



Many different ways of doing that, but there is one way that is optimal

**Definition:** The **orthogonal projection**  $\hat{x}$  of  $x$  on  $L$  is

the point on  $L$  such that  $x - \hat{x} \perp L$

(1) (2)

**Example:** Calculate the OP  $\hat{x}$  of  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  on  $L = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$u$

(1)  $\hat{x}$  is in  $L$ , so  $x = \overset{\text{WTF}}{a} u$  for some  $a$

(2)  $x - \hat{x} \perp L$ , so  $(x - \hat{x}) \perp u$

$$\Rightarrow (x - \hat{x}) \cdot u = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - au) \cdot u = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x \cdot u - a u \cdot u = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a u \cdot u = x \cdot u$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{x \cdot u}{u \cdot u} \quad (\text{OMG, the hugging formula!!!})$$

$a$

**FACT:**  $\hat{x} = \left( \frac{x \cdot u}{u \cdot u} \right) u$

$$\text{Here: } \hat{x} = \left( \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 6/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Do **NOT** blindly memorize this! **ALWAYS** think:  $\hat{x}$  is some

multiple of  $u$  ( $x = au$ ), where the multiple is given by hugging!

(b) Calculate the (smallest) distance between  $x$  and  $L$

(Don't memorize, look at the picture above !)

$$\text{Ans: } \|x - \hat{x}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 6/5 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 2/5 \\ -1/5 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{\frac{5}{25}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

(So in this sense,  $\hat{x}$  is optimal  $\rightarrow$  6.5)

(c) Find a vector perpendicular to  $u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{Ans: } x - \hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2/5 \\ -1/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(Gives an easy way of building perpendicular vectors  $\rightarrow$  6.4)

(d) Write  $x$  as a sum of 2 vectors, one in  $L$  and one perpendicular to  $L$


$$\text{Trick: } x = \hat{x} + (x - \hat{x}) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 6/5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{in } L} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2/5 \\ -1/5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\perp \text{ to } L}$$

(Similar in physics to decomposing a force into tangential and normal component)

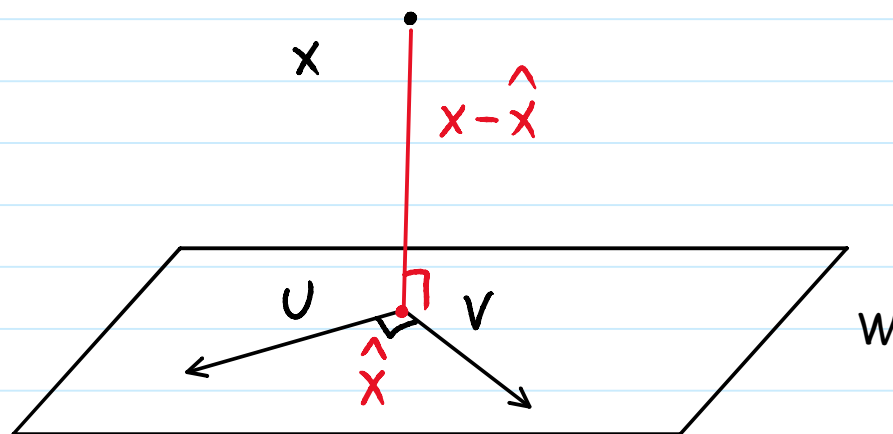
### III- OP ON $\geq$ 2 VECTORS

The beautiful thing is that we can do the same procedure not only for lines, but also for planes (and really any subspace)

**Example:** Let  $W = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \right\}$        $x = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

 **MUST BE  $\perp$  !!!**

(a) Find the OP  $\hat{x}$  of  $x$  on  $W$



**Definition:**  $\hat{x}$  is the vector in  $W$  such that  $(x - \hat{x}) \perp u$  &  $v$

(1) (2)

By (1),  $\hat{x} = au + bv$

By (2),  $\hat{x} = \left( \frac{x \cdot u}{u \cdot u} \right) u + \left( \frac{x \cdot v}{v \cdot v} \right) v$

$$= \left( \frac{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \left( \frac{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}} \right) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Find the distance between  $x$  and  $W$

$$\|x - \hat{x}\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = 3$$

(c) Find a vector  $\perp$  to  $u$  and  $v$

$$x - \hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) Write  $x$  as the sum of 2 vectors, one in  $W$  and one  $\perp$  to  $W$

$$x = \hat{x} + (x - \hat{x})$$

in  $W$                   in  $W^\perp$

## IV- ORTHOGONAL MATRICES

Related to this is the concept of orthogonal matrices

**Example:** Let  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} = [u \mid v]$

$u$                    $v$

**NOTICE:** The columns of  $Q$  are orthonormal

(a) Find  $Q^T Q = I$

Orthonormal

Why?  $Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} [u \mid v] = \begin{bmatrix} u \cdot u & u \cdot v \\ v \cdot u & v \cdot v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I$

(b) Find  $QQ^T x$  where  $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

**WARNING:** In general,  $QQ^T \neq I$

$$\begin{aligned} QQ^T x &= [u \mid v] \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \cdot x \\ v \cdot x \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (u \cdot x)u + (v \cdot x)v \\ &= \left( \frac{x \cdot u}{u \cdot u} \right) u + \left( \frac{x \cdot v}{v \cdot v} \right) v \\ &= \hat{x} !!! \end{aligned}$$

**Fact:**  $QQ^T x = \hat{x} = \text{OP on } W = \text{Span}\{u, v\} = \text{Col}(Q)$

Here:

$$QQ^T x = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \dots = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2/3 \\ 1/6 \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) Calculate  $\|Qx\|$

**FACT:**  $\|Qx\| = \|x\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{2}$

**Why?**  $\|Qx\|^2 = (Qx) \cdot (Qx) = (Qx)^T Qx = x^T Q^T Q x = x^T I x = x^T x = x \cdot x = \|x\|^2$