

Sec 5.5 Orthogonal Sets

Def. Let v_1, \dots, v_n be nonzero vectors in \mathbb{R}^n

If $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 0$ for all $i \neq j$,

then $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is said to be an orthogonal set in \mathbb{R}^n

eg. $\{(1, 1, 1)^T, (2, 1, -3)^T, (4, -5, 1)^T\}$ is an orthogonal set in \mathbb{R}^3

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

$$(1, 1, 1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 4 - 5 + 1 = 0$$

$$(2, 1, -3) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 8 - 5 - 3 = 0.$$

Theorem. If $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is an orthogonal set in \mathbb{R}^n , then v_1, \dots, v_n are linearly independent.

Pf. of $n=3$: Suppose $c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 = \vec{0}$

$$0 = \langle v_1, c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + c_3 v_3 \rangle$$

$$= \langle v_1, c_1 v_1 \rangle + \langle v_1, c_2 v_2 \rangle + \langle v_1, c_3 v_3 \rangle$$

$$= c_1 \langle v_1, v_1 \rangle + c_2 \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle + c_3 \langle v_1, v_3 \rangle$$

$$= c_1 \langle v_1, v_1 \rangle + 0 + 0$$

$$v_1 \neq \vec{0} \Rightarrow \langle v_1, v_1 \rangle \neq 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = 0$$

Similarly, $c_2 = c_3 = 0$.

Therefore, v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly independent.

Def. An orthogonal set $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is called an orthonormal set if $\|v_j\| = 1$ for all $j = 1, \dots, n$.

In the first example,

$$v_1 = (1, 1, 1)^T, \quad v_2 = (2, 1, -3)^T, \quad v_3 = (4, -5, 1)^T$$

is an orthogonal set.

$$\text{Let } u_1 = \frac{1}{\|v_1\|} \cdot v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1, 1, 1)^T$$

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{\|v_2\|} \cdot v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} (2, 1, -3)^T$$

$$u_3 = \frac{1}{\|v_3\|} \cdot v_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} (4, -5, 1)^T$$

Then $\|u_1\| = \|u_2\| = \|u_3\| = 1$ and

$\{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$ is an orthonormal set

Theorem. Let $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ be an orthonormal set in \mathbb{R}^n .

Then $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

$\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ is called an orthonormal basis.

eg $u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{pmatrix}$, $u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

since $\langle u_1, u_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 0$.
($u_1 \perp u_2$)

and $\|u_1\| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}} = 1$.

$\|u_2\| = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4}} = 1$.

Theorem. Let $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ be an orthogonal basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

If $v = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i u_i$, then

$$c_i = \langle v, u_i \rangle.$$

If $w = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i u_i$, then

$$\langle v, w \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i a_i$$

In particular,

$$\|v\|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2 \quad (\text{Parseval's Formula})$$

$$q \quad u_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1, 1, 1)^T$$

$$u_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} (2, 1, -3)^T$$

$$u_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} (4, -5, 1)^T.$$

let $\bar{x} = (1, 0, -2)^T$. Find c_1, c_2, c_3 such that

$$\bar{x} = c_1 \cdot u_1 + c_2 \cdot u_2 + c_3 \cdot u_3$$

(Write \bar{x} as a linear combination of u_1, u_2, u_3),

Because u_1, u_2, u_3 are orthonormal,

$$c_1 = \langle \bar{x}, u_1 \rangle = (1, 0, -2) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (1+0-2) \\ = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

$$c_2 = \langle \bar{x}, u_2 \rangle = (1, 0, -2) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} (2+0+6) \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \cdot 8$$

$$c_3 = \langle \bar{x}, u_3 \rangle = (1, 0, -2) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} (4+0-2) \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \cdot 2.$$

One can check that

$$\|\bar{x}\|^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 = 5$$

$$c_1^2 + c_2^2 + c_3^2 = \left(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{8}{\sqrt{14}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{42}}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{64}{14} + \frac{4}{42} = 5 = \|\bar{x}\|^2$$

Def. An $n \times n$ matrix Q is said to be an orthogonal matrix if the column vectors of Q form an orthonormal set in \mathbb{R}^n .

Thm Q is orthogonal if and only if $Q^T Q = I$.

eg $Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$ is an orthogonal matrix since

$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{pmatrix}$, $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthonormal set in \mathbb{R}^2 .

And,

$$Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Prop. If Q is an orthogonal matrix, then

(1). $Q^T Q = I$

(2). $Q^T = Q^{-1}$

(3). $\langle Qx, Qy \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$

(4). $\|Qx\|_2 = \|x\|_2$