

6. Orthogonality and Least-Squares

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6.1 Inner product, length, and orthogonality

✿ Definition

The inner product of two vector \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^n is written $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$.

$$\text{If } \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix}, \text{ then } \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n.$$

✿ Theorem 1

$$(a) \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$$

$$(b) (\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$$

$$(c) (c\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} = c(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot (c\mathbf{v})$$

$$(d) \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} \geq 0, \text{ and } \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}.$$

Definition

The length (or norm) of \mathbf{v} is the non-negative scalar $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ defined by $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}} = \sqrt{v_1^2 + \cdots + v_n^2}$ and $\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$.

Note: $\|c\mathbf{v}\| = |c| \|\mathbf{v}\|$.

Definition

The distance between \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , written as $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$, is the length of the vector $\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$. That is, $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|$.

Orthogonal vectors

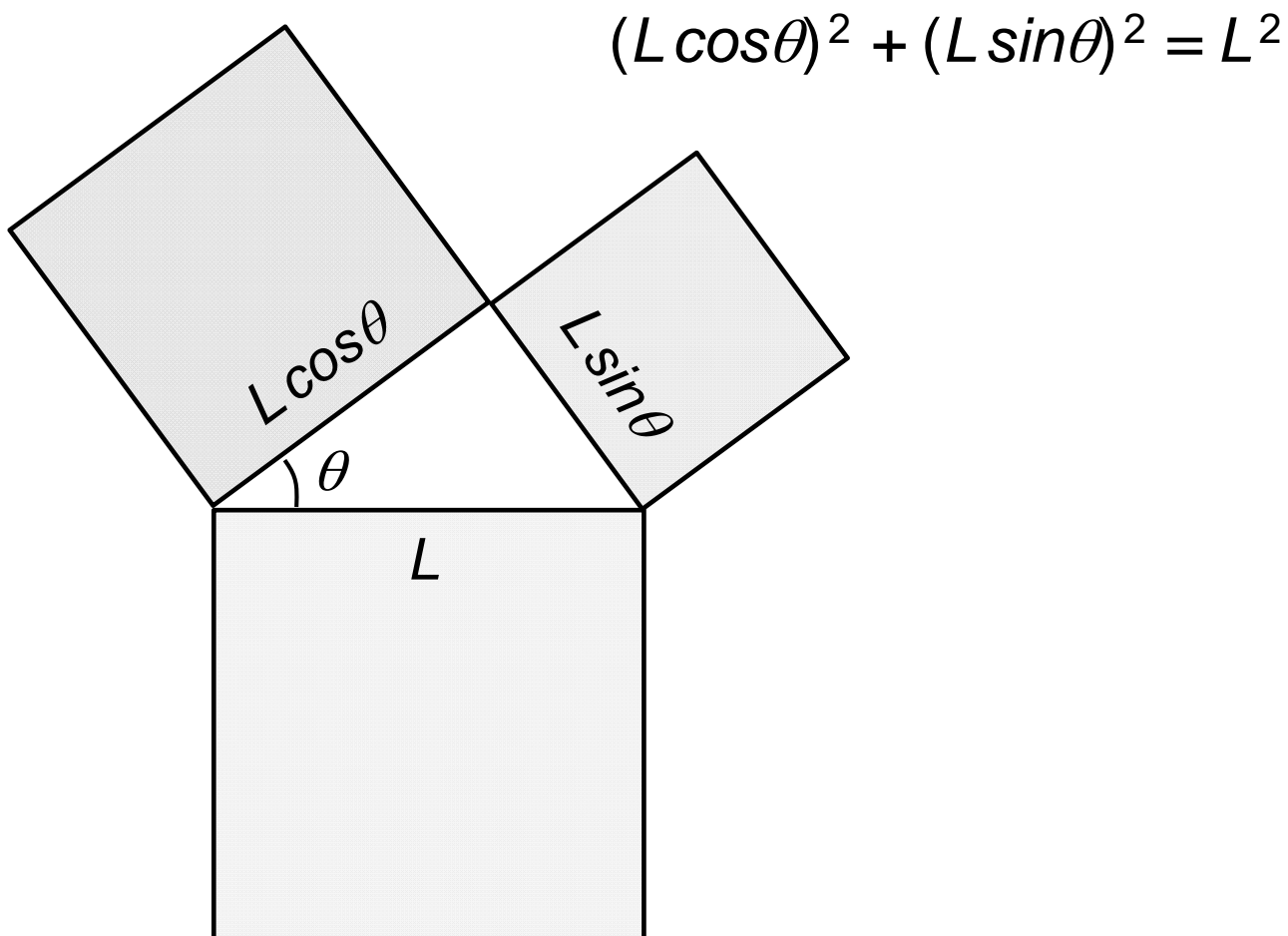
Definition

Two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^n are orthogonal if $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$.

Theorem 2 (The Pythagorean Theorem, 畢氏定理)

Two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are orthogonal if and only if

$$\|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2.$$



Orthogonal complements

Definition

The set of all vectors \mathbf{u} that are orthogonal to every vector \mathbf{w} in \mathbf{W} , then we say that the set is the orthogonal complement of \mathbf{W} , and denote by \mathbf{W}^\perp . (next page)

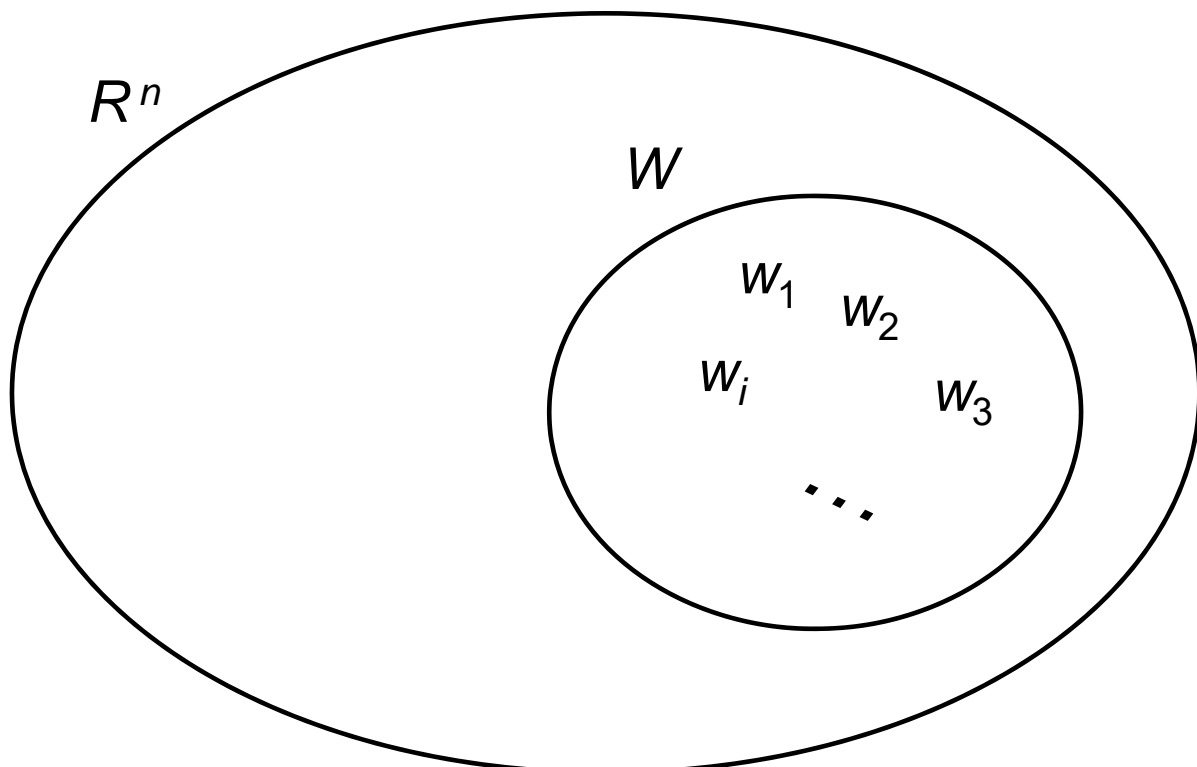
Note

1. A vector \mathbf{x} is in \mathbf{W}^\perp if and only if \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to every vector in a set that spans \mathbf{W} .
2. \mathbf{W}^\perp is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^n if \mathbf{W} is a subspace of \mathbf{R}^n .
3. Zero vector is orthogonal to any vector.

Theorem 3

Let \mathbf{A} be an $m \times n$ matrix. Then

- (i) $(\text{Row } \mathbf{A})^\perp = \text{Nul } \mathbf{A}$. $(\{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}\} \equiv \{\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0}\} \equiv$
(ii) $(\text{Col } \mathbf{A})^\perp = \text{Nul } \mathbf{A}^T$. left null space of \mathbf{A})



$$\mathbf{W}^\perp = \{ \mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{w}_i \text{'s} \}$$

✿ W^\perp is a subspace of R^n for any subset W of R^n .

If w is an arbitrary vector in W , then

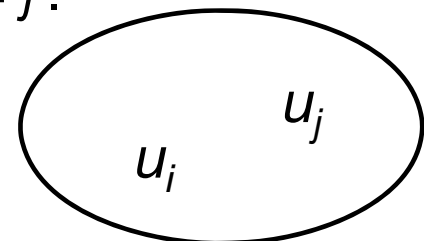
1. $0 \in W^\perp$
2. If $u \in W^\perp$,
then $cu \cdot w = c(u \cdot w) = 0$; thus $cu \in W^\perp$
3. If u and $v \in W^\perp$,
then $(u+v) \cdot w = u \cdot w + v \cdot w = 0$;
thus $(u+v) \in W^\perp$

✿ If W is a subset of R^n , then $(W^\perp)^\perp = W$?

✿ Exercises of Section 6.1.

6.2 Orthogonal sets

✿ A set of vectors $\{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$ in R^n is said to be an orthogonal set if $u_i \cdot u_j = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.



✿ Theorem 4

If $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_p\}$ is an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors in R^n , then S is linearly independent and hence is a basis for the subspace spanned by S .

✿ An orthogonal basis for a subspace W of R^n is a basis for W that is also an orthogonal set.

⚙ Theorem 5

Let $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ be an orthogonal basis for a subspace \mathbf{W} of \mathbf{R}^n . Then each \mathbf{y} in \mathbf{W} has a unique representation as a linear combination of $\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p$. In fact, if

$$\mathbf{y} = c_1 \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + c_p \mathbf{u}_p$$

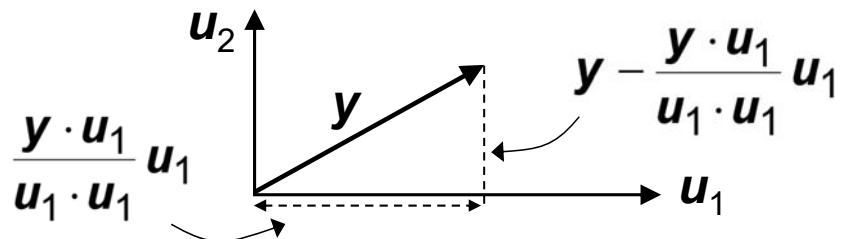
then $c_j = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$.

⚙ Note

投影分量

(1) $\mathbf{y}_j = c_j \mathbf{u}_j = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j} \mathbf{u}_j$ is the orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto \mathbf{u}_j .

(2) $\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{y} - \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_j}{\mathbf{u}_j \cdot \mathbf{u}_j} \mathbf{u}_j$ is component of \mathbf{y} orthogonal to \mathbf{u}_j .



⚙ A set $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ is an orthonormal set if it is an orthogonal set of unit vectors.

⚙ Normalize the length of vector $\mathbf{u} = [u_1 \dots u_n]^T$ to \mathbf{u}'

$$\mathbf{u}' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{u_1^2 + \dots + u_n^2}} [u_1 \dots u_n]^T.$$

⚙ Theorem 6

An $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{U} has orthonormal columns if and only if $\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$.

Proof.

$$\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^T \end{bmatrix} [\mathbf{u}_1 \dots \mathbf{u}_n] = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{u}_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_n^T \mathbf{u}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{u}_n^T \mathbf{u}_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

內積



⚙ Theorem 7

Let \mathbf{U} be an $m \times n$ matrix with orthonormal columns, and let \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} be in \mathbf{R}^n . Then

(a) $\|\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}\| = \|\mathbf{x}\|$ (preserving length)

(b) $(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}) \cdot (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$ (preserving orthogonality)

(c) $(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}) \cdot (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{y}) = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = 0$

Proof.

$$(a) \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{u}_n] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + x_2\mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n$$



$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}\| &= \sqrt{(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}) \cdot (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x})} \\ &= \sqrt{(x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n) \cdot (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n)} \\ &= \sqrt{x_1\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n) + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n \cdot (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n)} \\ &= \sqrt{x_1\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n) + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n \cdot (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n)} \\ &= \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2} = \sqrt{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}} = \|\mathbf{x}\|. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (b) \quad (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}) \cdot (\mathbf{U}\mathbf{y}) &= (x_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + x_n\mathbf{u}_n) \cdot (y_1\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + y_n\mathbf{u}_n) \\ &= x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 + \dots + x_ny_n \end{aligned}$$

⚙ Exercises of Section 6.2.

6.3 Orthogonal projections

⚙ Purpose

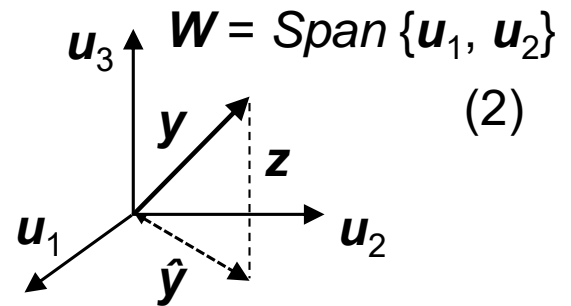
To find the projection of a vector on a subspace.

Theorem 8 (The Orthogonal Decomposition Theorem)

Let W be a subspace of \mathbf{R}^n . Then each \mathbf{y} in \mathbf{R}^n can be written uniquely in the form $\mathbf{y} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} + \mathbf{z}$, (1)
where $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is in W and \mathbf{z} is in W^\perp . In fact, if $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ is any orthogonal basis of W , then

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p}{\mathbf{u}_p \cdot \mathbf{u}_p} \mathbf{u}_p \quad (2)$$

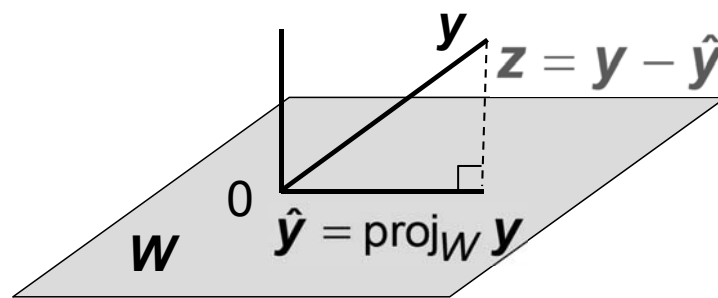
and $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}$.



⚙ The vector $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ in Eq.(1) is called the orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto W and is often written as $\text{proj}_W \mathbf{y}$.

⚙ For example,

The orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto W .



⚙ Ex.2.

Let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$. Observe that $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$

is an orthogonal basis for $W = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$. Write \mathbf{y} as the sum of vector in W and vector orthogonal to W .

Solution.

The orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto \mathbf{W} is

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{y}} &= \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{u}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \mathbf{u}_2 \\ &= \frac{9}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{3}{6} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{9}{30} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{15}{30} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{30} \begin{bmatrix} -12 \\ 60 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

So

$$\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7/5 \\ 0 \\ 14/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

The desired decomposition of \mathbf{y} is

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2/5 \\ 2 \\ 1/5 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 7/5 \\ 0 \\ 14/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties of orthogonal projections

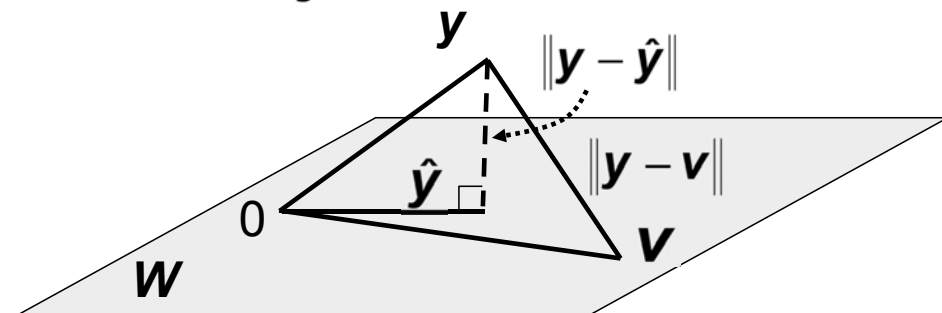
- ✿ If $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ is an orthogonal basis for \mathbf{W} and if \mathbf{y} is in $\mathbf{W} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$, then $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}$.

Theorem 9 (The Best approximation theorem)

Let \mathbf{W} be a subspace of \mathbf{R}^n , \mathbf{y} be any vector in \mathbf{R}^n , and $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ be the orthogonal projection of \mathbf{y} onto \mathbf{W} . Then $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is the closest point in \mathbf{W} to \mathbf{y} , in the sense that

$$\|\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}\| < \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{v}\| \quad (3)$$

for all \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{W} distinct from $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$.



❁ Ex.4. The distance from a point \mathbf{y} in \mathbf{R}^n to a subspace \mathbf{W} is defined as the distance from \mathbf{y} to the nearest point in \mathbf{W} . Find the distance from \mathbf{y} to

$$\mathbf{W} = \text{Span} \{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \}, \text{ where } \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -5 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solution.

By the best approximation theorem, the distance from \mathbf{y} to \mathbf{W} is $\| \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} \|$, where $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y}$. Since $\{ \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \}$ is orthogonal basis for \mathbf{W} ,

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{15}{30} \mathbf{u}_1 + \frac{-21}{6} \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{7}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -5 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\| \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} \|^2 = 3^2 + 6^2 = 45. \text{ The distance from } \mathbf{y} \text{ to } \mathbf{W} \text{ is } \sqrt{45} = 3\sqrt{5}.$$

Theorem 10

If $\{ \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p \}$ is an orthonormal basis for a subspace \mathbf{W} of \mathbf{R}^n , then

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{u}_1 + (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2) \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p) \mathbf{u}_p \quad (4)$$

If $\mathbf{U} = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{u}_p]$, then

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y} \text{ for all } \mathbf{y} \text{ in } \mathbf{R}^n. \quad (5)$$

Proof.

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{u}_1 + (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2) \mathbf{u}_2 + \dots + (\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p) \mathbf{u}_p = \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p \end{bmatrix}$$

Since $\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{y}$

$$\text{proj}_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1^T \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{u}_2^T \mathbf{y} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_p^T \mathbf{y} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{U} (\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{y}$$

❁ Exercises of Section 6.3.

6.4 The Gram - Schmidt process

⚙ Purpose

The Gram - Schmidt process is a simple algorithm for producing an orthogonal or orthonormal basis for nonzero subspace of \mathbf{R}^n .

⚙ Theorem 11 (The Gram - Schmidt process)

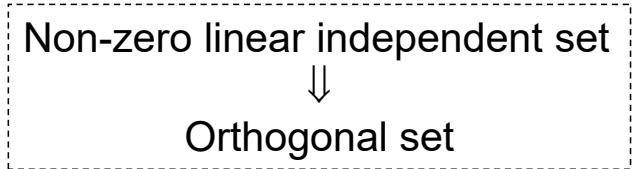
Let a basis $\{ \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_p \}$ for a subspace \mathbf{W} of \mathbf{R}^n , define

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1,$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1,$$

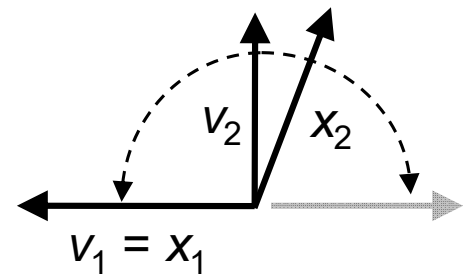
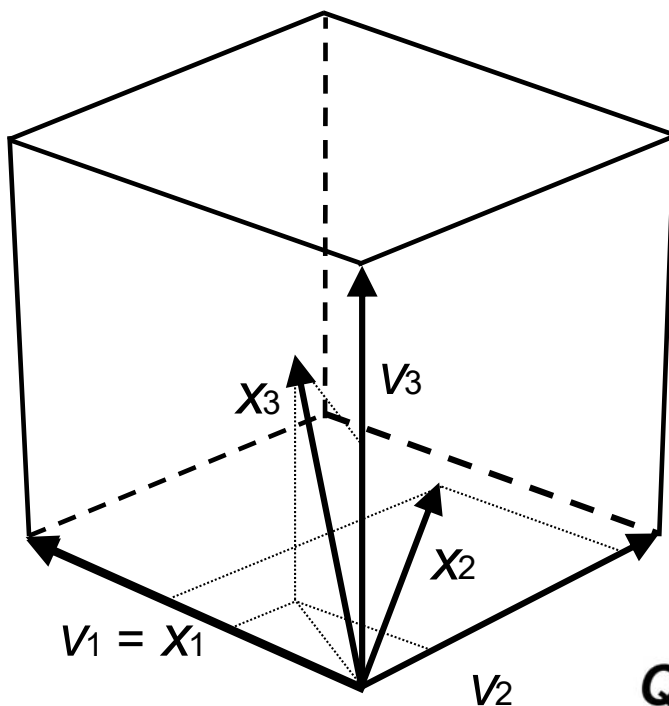
$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{x}_3 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_3 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2, \dots$$

$$\mathbf{v}_p = \mathbf{x}_p - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 - \dots - \frac{\mathbf{x}_p \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}}{\mathbf{v}_{p-1} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{p-1}} \mathbf{v}_{p-1}.$$



Then $\{ \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p \}$ is an orthogonal basis for \mathbf{W} . In addition $Span \{ \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k \} = Span \{ \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_k \}$ for $1 \leq k \leq p$.

⚙ The geometric meaning of the Gram - Schmidt process
 (A three-dimensional case)

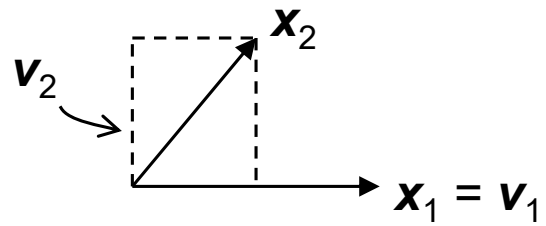


$$Q^T A = \begin{bmatrix} - & \mathbf{v}_1 & - \\ - & \mathbf{v}_2 & - \\ - & \mathbf{v}_3 & - \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \mathbf{x}_2 & \mathbf{x}_3 \\ | & | & | \end{bmatrix}$$

Proof.

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2} \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2 - \frac{\mathbf{x}_2 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_1} \mathbf{v}_1.$$



Orthonormal bases

- An orthonormal basis is constructed easily from an orthogonal basis $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_p\}$; simply normalize all \mathbf{v}_k by $\mathbf{v}_k / \|\mathbf{v}_k\| \rightarrow \mathbf{v}_k$.

QR factorization of matrices

- This factorization is widely used in computer algorithm for various computations, such as solving equations and finding eigenvalues. (Exercise 23 of Section 5.2.)

Theorem 12 (The QR factorization)

If \mathbf{A} is an $m \times n$ matrix with linearly independent columns, then \mathbf{A} can be factored as $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{QR}$, where \mathbf{Q} is an $m \times n$ matrix whose columns form an orthonormal basis for $\text{Col } \mathbf{A}$ and \mathbf{R} is an $n \times n$ upper triangular invertible matrix with positive entries on its diagonal.

Ex.4.

Factor $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ into \mathbf{QR} .

Answer.

(a) Find \mathbf{Q} . $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{orthogonalize}} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{orthonormalize}} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3/\sqrt{12} \\ 1/\sqrt{12} \\ 1/\sqrt{12} \\ 1/\sqrt{12} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix} \right\} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -3/\sqrt{12} & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & -2/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) To find \mathbf{R} .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{QR} \text{ and } \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I} \quad (\text{Theorem 6 of page 10}) \\ \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ -3/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{12} \\ 0 & -2/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{6} & 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3/2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3/\sqrt{12} & 2/\sqrt{12} \\ 0 & 0 & 2/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix}.$$

🌸 Exercises of Section 6.4.

🌸 **Problem** $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{QR}$ and $\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{I}$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{A}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{I} ?$$

No !

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -3/\sqrt{12} & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & -2/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{12} & 1/\sqrt{6} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}.$$

6.5 Least-squares problems

✿ For a linear system, $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$, a solution is demanded but none exists. The best one can do is to find an \mathbf{x} that makes \mathbf{Ax} as close as possible to \mathbf{b} . The general least-squares problem is just to find an \mathbf{x} that makes $\|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}\|$ as small as possible. The term least-squares arises from the fact that $\|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}\|$ is the square root of a sum of squares.

✿ Definition

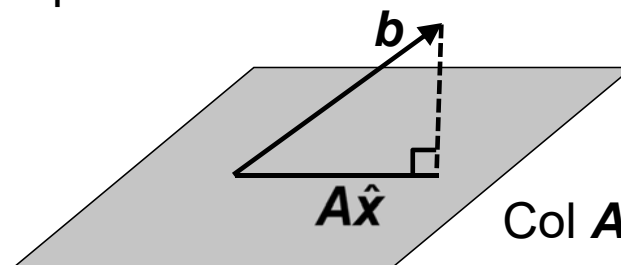
If \mathbf{A} is an $m \times n$ matrix and \mathbf{b} is in \mathbf{R}^m , a least-squares solution of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ is an $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ in \mathbf{R}^n such that

$$\|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}}\| \leq \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{Ax}\| \text{ for all } \mathbf{x} \text{ in } \mathbf{R}^n.$$

Theorem 9 on page 16

✿ Note

No matter that \mathbf{x} is selected, the vector \mathbf{Ax} will necessarily be in the column space $\text{Col } \mathbf{A}$. So we seek an \mathbf{x} that makes \mathbf{Ax} the closest point in $\text{Col } \mathbf{A}$ to \mathbf{b} .



If $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$ is the orthogonal projection of \mathbf{b} on $\text{Col } \mathbf{A}$, then $\mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \hat{\mathbf{b}}$. It means that $\mathbf{Ax} = \hat{\mathbf{b}}$ is consistent and there is a solution $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ in \mathbf{R}^n . By the orthogonal decomposition principle, the projection $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$ has the property that $\mathbf{b} - \hat{\mathbf{b}}$ is orthogonal to $\text{Col } \mathbf{A}$, so $\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ is orthogonal to each column of \mathbf{A} . If \mathbf{a}_j is any column of \mathbf{A} , then \mathbf{a}_j is orthogonal to $(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}})$ and $\mathbf{a}_j^T (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = 0$. Since each \mathbf{a}_j^T is a row of \mathbf{A}^T , $\mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$.

❁ Theorem 13

The set of least-squares solutions of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ coincides with the nonempty set of solutions of the normal equations $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$. If $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ is invertible, then $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b}$.

❁ Ex.1.

Find a least-squares solution of the inconsistent system

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \text{ for } \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solution. } \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= \left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{84} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -1 \\ -1 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{84} \begin{bmatrix} 84 \\ 168 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

❁ In many calculations, $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ is invertible, but this is not always the case.

❁ Ex.2. Find a least-squares solution of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ for

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

where $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$ is not invertible.

$$\text{Solution. } \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{The augmented matrix } \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + x_4 = 3 \\ x_2 - x_4 = -5 \\ x_3 - x_4 = -2 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Solution } \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 - x_4 \\ -5 + x_4 \\ -2 + x_4 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

⚙ Theorem 14

The matrix $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}$ is invertible if and only if the columns of \mathbf{A} are linearly independent. In this case, the equation $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ has only one least-squares solution $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$, and it is given by $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{b}$.

⚙ Note

The distance from \mathbf{b} to $\mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ is called the least-squares error.

Alternative calculations of least-square solutions

⚙ Meaning

In some cases, the normal equations for a least-squares problem can be ill-conditioned; that is, small errors in the calculations of the entries of $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}$ can sometimes cause relatively large errors in the solution $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$. If the columns of \mathbf{A} are linearly independent, the least-squares solution can often be computed more reliably through a **QR** factorization of \mathbf{A} .

⚙ ill-conditioned

The condition number associated with the linear equation $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ gives a bound on how inaccurate the solution \mathbf{x} will be after approximate solution.

Conditioning is a property of the matrix, not the algorithm or floating point accuracy of the computer used to solve the corresponding system.

The rate at which the solution \mathbf{x} will change with respect to a change in \mathbf{b} . Thus, if the condition number is large, even a small error in \mathbf{b} may cause a large error in \mathbf{x} .

The condition number is the maximum ratio of the relative error in \mathbf{x} divided by the relative error in \mathbf{b} ,

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{e}\|/\|\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b}\|}{\|\mathbf{e}\|/\|\mathbf{b}\|} = \|\mathbf{A}\|\|\mathbf{A}^{-1}\|, \text{ where } \|\mathbf{x}\| \text{ is 2 norm.}$$

✿ For example,
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1.001 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1.001 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2.001 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where condition number is

$$\left\| \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1.001 \end{bmatrix} \right\| \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 1001 & -1000 \\ -1000 & 1000 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{4.002001} \sqrt{4002001} = 4002$$

✿ The larger condition number is, the more ill conditioned the coefficient matrix is.

✿ Theorem 15

Given an $m \times n$ matrix \mathbf{A} with linearly independent columns, let $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{QR}$ be a \mathbf{QR} factorization of \mathbf{A} .

Then for each \mathbf{b} in \mathbf{R}^m , the equation $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ has a unique least-squares solution,

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b}.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= (\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{b} \quad \text{since } \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{QR} \\ &= (\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{QR})^{-1}\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b} \\ &= (\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{I}\mathbf{R})^{-1}\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b} \\ &= (\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{R})^{-1}\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{R}^{-1}(\mathbf{R}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{b}. \end{aligned}$$

🌸 Note

Since \mathbf{R} is an upper triangular matrix, $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ should be calculated from the equation

$$\mathbf{R} \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{b} .$$

It is much faster to solve this equation by back-substitution or row operations than to compute \mathbf{R}^{-1} and use the preceding equation.

🌸 Ex.5.

Find the least-squares solution of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ for

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 7 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} .$$

Solution.

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{QR} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} .$$

$$\mathbf{R}\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ -6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} .$$

🌸 Exercises for Section 6.5.