

Hello and welcome to class!

Last time

We had been discussing orthogonality, and in particular how to compute orthogonal projections in term of an orthonormal bases.

This time

We will discuss how to produce an orthonormal basis.

1d case

Given a **basis** of a 1-d vector space V

I.e., a nonzero vector $\mathbf{v} \in V$

You can get an **orthonormal basis**

$$\frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$$

1d case: example

Given the **basis** $(1, 2, 3, 4)$ of the 1-d vector space $\text{Span}((1, 2, 3, 4))$

You can get an **orthonormal basis**

$$\frac{(1, 2, 3, 4)}{\|(1, 2, 3, 4)\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{30}}(1, 2, 3, 4)$$

2d case

Given a **basis** of a 2-d vector space V

I.e., two nonzero vectors $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in V$, **neither a multiple of the other**

First we want to modify \mathbf{w} so it becomes orthogonal to \mathbf{v} , by projection: $\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}} \mathbf{v}$

Now normalize: $\mathbf{v}' := \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$, and $\mathbf{w}'' = \frac{\mathbf{w}'}{\|\mathbf{w}'\|}$.

2d example

Given the **basis** $(1, 2, 3), (2, 3, 1)$ of the 2d space they span

First project $(2, 3, 1)$ to the **orthogonal complement** of $(1, 2, 3)$.

$$\begin{aligned}(2, 3, 1) - \frac{(2, 3, 1) \cdot (1, 2, 3)}{(1, 2, 3) \cdot (1, 2, 3)}(1, 2, 3) &= (2, 3, 1) - \frac{11}{14}(1, 2, 3) \\ &= \frac{1}{14}(17, 20, -19)\end{aligned}$$

And then **normalize**.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}(2, 3, 4) \qquad \frac{1}{\sqrt{17^2 + 20^2 + 19^2}}(17, 20, -19)$$

Try it yourself

Find an orthonormal basis of the span of $(1, 1, 0)$ and $(1, 0, 1)$.

Gram-Schmidt

Consider a vector space $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with basis $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$.

Project \mathbf{v}_2 to the subspace orthogonal to \mathbf{v}_1

Project \mathbf{v}_3 to the subspace orthogonal to $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$

Project \mathbf{v}_3 to the subspace orthogonal to $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$

Etc.

Rescale everything to ensure they are unit vectors.

Gram-Schmidt

That is, from $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$, form:

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1$$

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{v}_2 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \right) \mathbf{u}_1$$

$$\mathbf{u}_3 = \mathbf{v}_3 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2$$

$$\mathbf{u}_4 = \mathbf{v}_4 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_4 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_4 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_4 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3}{\mathbf{u}_3 \cdot \mathbf{u}_3} \right) \mathbf{u}_3$$

\vdots

And then rescale all the \mathbf{u}_j .

Example

Apply the **Gram-Schmidt** process to

$$(1, 1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0, 1)$$

We take $\mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 1, 1, 0)$, $\mathbf{v}_2 = (1, 0, 1, 1)$, $\mathbf{v}_3 = (1, 1, 0, 1)$.

Then $\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 1, 1, 0)$,

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = \mathbf{v}_2 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 0, 1, 1) - \frac{2}{3}(1, 1, 1, 0) = \frac{1}{3}(1, -2, 1, 3)$$

Example

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 1, 1, 0) \quad \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{1}{3}(1, -2, 1, 3) \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = (1, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{u}_3 &= \mathbf{v}_3 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1}{\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_1} \right) \mathbf{u}_1 - \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_3 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2}{\mathbf{u}_2 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2} \right) \mathbf{u}_2 \\ &= (1, 1, 0, 1) - \frac{2}{3}(1, 1, 1, 0) - \frac{2}{15}(1, -2, 1, 3) \\ &= \frac{1}{15}((15, 15, 0, 15) - (10, 10, 10, 0) - (2, -4, 2, 6)) \\ &= \frac{1}{15}(3, 9, -12, 9)\end{aligned}$$

Finally, rescaling:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(1, 1, 1, 0) \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{15}}(1, -2, 1, 3) \quad \frac{(3, 9, -12, 9)}{\sqrt{3^2 + 9^2 + 12^2 + 9^2}}$$

Try it yourself

Apply the Gram-Schmidt process to

$$(1, 0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1, 0), (1, 1, 0, 0)$$

Orthogonal matrices

For a square matrix A , the following are equivalent:

- ▶ A has orthonormal rows
- ▶ $AA^T = I$
- ▶ $A^T = A^{-1}$
- ▶ $A^T A = I$
- ▶ A has orthonormal columns

Such matrices are called **orthogonal**. They also preserve dot products:

$$(Av) \cdot (Aw) = (Av)^T (Aw) = v^T A^T Aw = v^T w = v \cdot w$$

QR decomposition

Observe that the steps we took in the **Gram-Schmidt** process each involve **adding multiples** of earlier vectors to later ones.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & \textit{lower} & & \\ & & \textit{triangular} & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_k \end{bmatrix}$$

The inverse of a lower triangular matrix is lower triangular, so:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \\ \mathbf{v}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & \textit{lower} & & \\ & & \textit{triangular} & \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k \end{bmatrix}$$

QR decomposition

The vectors \mathbf{v}_i could have been anything, so:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{any} \\ \textit{matrix} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \textit{lower} \\ \textit{triangular} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \textit{orthogonal} \\ \textit{rows} \end{bmatrix}$$

Taking transposes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{any} \\ \textit{matrix} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \textit{orthogonal} \\ \textit{columns} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \textit{upper} \\ \textit{triangular} \end{bmatrix}$$

This is called the **QR** decomposition.