

Last time: ORTHOGONAL/ORTHONORMAL SETS AND BASES & THE GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS

From a set of vectors  $\{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$ , we can produce an orthonormal set of vectors  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  with  $\text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_k\} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ .

$$v_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}, \quad v_2 = \frac{\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1\}^\perp} u_2}{\|\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1\}^\perp} u_2\|} = \frac{u_2 - \langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1}{\|u_2 - \langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1\|},$$

$$v_3 = \frac{\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1, v_2\}^\perp} u_3}{\|\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1, v_2\}^\perp} u_3\|} = \frac{u_3 - (\langle u_3, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \langle u_3, v_2 \rangle v_2)}{\|u_3 - (\langle u_3, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \langle u_3, v_2 \rangle v_2)\|}, \dots$$

Example look at  $P_2([0, 1])$ , space of polynomials on  $[0, 1]$  of degree  $\leq 2$ , with the integral inner products. Find an orthonormal basis for  $P_2([0, 1])$  starting with the basis  $\{1, x, x^2\}$ .

Solution Step ① Set  $u_1 = 1, u_2 = x, u_3 = x^2$ .

Step ②  $v_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|} = 1$ .

Step ③ Find  $\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1\}^\perp} u_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= u_2 - \overbrace{\langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1}^{\text{proj}_{\text{span}\{v_1\}} u_2} \\
 &= x - \left( \int_0^1 x \, dx \right) \cdot 1 \\
 &= x - \left[ x^2/2 \right]_0^1 = x - 1/2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then set  $v_2 = \frac{x - 1/2}{\|x - 1/2\|}$

We already found  $\|x - 1/2\|^2 = 1/2$

So  $\|x - 1/2\| = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$

So  $v_2 = \frac{x - 1/2}{(1/2\sqrt{2})} = 2\sqrt{2}x - \sqrt{2}.$

Step (7) Find  $u_3 - (\langle u_3, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \langle u_3, v_2 \rangle v_2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= x^2 - \left( \left( \int_0^1 x^2 \, dx \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \left( \int_0^1 2\sqrt{2}x^3 - \sqrt{2}x^2 \, dx \right) (2\sqrt{2}x - \sqrt{2}) \right) \\
 &= x^2 - \left( \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^1 + \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} x^4 - \frac{x^3}{\sqrt{2}} \right]_0^1 (2\sqrt{2}x - \sqrt{2}) \right) \\
 &= x^2 - \left( \frac{1}{3} + \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) (2\sqrt{2}x - \sqrt{2}) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= x^2 - \frac{1}{3} - (3x - 2x - \frac{3}{2} + 1)$$

$$= x^2 - \frac{1}{3} - x + \frac{1}{2} = x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}.$$

$$\text{Set } v_3 = \frac{x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}}{\|x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}\|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We found} \\ \|x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}\|^2 \\ = 1/180. \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}}{(1/6\sqrt{5})} \quad \uparrow (1/6\sqrt{5})^2$$

$$= 6\sqrt{5}x^2 - 6\sqrt{5}x + \sqrt{5}.$$

We ran out of  $u_i$ 's. So the orthonormal basis we found is  $v_1 = 1$ ,  $v_2 = 2\sqrt{3}x - \sqrt{3}$

$$v_3 = 6\sqrt{5}x^2 - 6\sqrt{5}x + \sqrt{5}.$$

QR Decomposition : Extracting info. about certain matrices from a special case of the Gram-Schmidt Process.

If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with  $n$  linearly independent column vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (or  $\mathbb{C}^m$ )

We can apply Gram-Schmidt to these vectors to get an orthonormal set of  $n$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (respectively  $\mathbb{C}^m$ ).

We can write the original column vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_n \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix} = A$  in terms of the new vectors

$v_1, \dots, v_n$  using the formulas from last time:

$$u_1 = \langle u_1, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \dots + \langle u_1, v_n \rangle v_n$$

$$\vdots$$

$$u_n = \langle u_n, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \dots + \langle u_n, v_n \rangle v_n$$

Rewrite this system as

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}}_A = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}}_Q \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \langle u_1, v_1 \rangle & \dots & \langle u_n, v_1 \rangle \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle u_1, v_n \rangle & \dots & \langle u_n, v_n \rangle \end{pmatrix}}_R$$

It has orthonormal column vectors

$$Q^T Q = \begin{pmatrix} -v_1- \\ \vdots \\ -v_n- \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} = I$$

because  $v_i \cdot v_j = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$

Look at  $R$ . At each stage of the G.S.

Process,  $v_i$  is constructed to be orthogonal

to  $W_{i-1} = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}\} = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_{i-1}\}$

In other words for  $j < i$  we have

$\langle u_j, v_i \rangle = 0$ . So  $R$  is upper triangular.

What about the diagonal entries  $\langle u_i, v_i \rangle$ ?

If  $\langle u_i, v_i \rangle = 0$ , then we would have

$$u_i = \langle u_i, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \dots + \langle u_i, v_{i-1} \rangle v_{i-1}$$

$$\text{i.e. } u_i \text{ in } \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}\} + \cancel{\langle u_i, v_i \rangle v_i} \\ = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_{i-1}\}$$

But the  $u$ s, the columns of  $A$ , are linearly independent. So this cannot in fact happen.

So  $R$  is invertible.

To summarise:

If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with  $n$  linearly independent column vectors, then  $A$  can be decomposed into a product  $A = QR$ , ( $Q$   $m \times n$ ,  $R$   $n \times n$ ), where the columns of  $Q$  are orthonormal and  $R$  is invertible and upper triangular.

**QR DECOMPOSITION**

Exercise Find a QR Decomposition of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 4 & 15 \\ 0 & 12 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Projection as Best Approximation

Theorem  $V$  - inner product space  
 $W$  - finite-dim. subspace

For any  $u$  in  $V$   $\text{proj}_W u$  is the closest vector in  $W$  to  $u$  i.e. if  $w$  is another vector in  $W$  (other than  $\text{proj}_W u$ ) then

$$\|u - w\| > \|u - \text{proj}_W u\|.$$

## Application : Least squares Problem

$A$  -  $m \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  
 $b$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$

The linear system  $Ax = b$  may or maynot have a solution.

Goal : Find  $x$  so that  $Ax$  is as close to  $b$  as possible i.e.  $\|Ax - b\|$  is minimized.

i.e.  $\uparrow$  if  $Ax - b = \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_m \end{pmatrix}$ , then  
want to minimize  $\sqrt{e_1^2 + \dots + e_m^2}$   
hence "least squares"

Really what is varying is  $Ax = x_1 u_1 + \dots + x_n u_n$   
where  $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ u_1 & \dots & u_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$

i.e.

$Ax$  ranges over linear combinations of the columns of  $A$  i.e. over the column space, call it  $W$ .

So, by the Theorem, really what we're looking for is  $\text{proj}_W b$  (element in the column space closest to  $b$ ).

Since  $b = \overset{Ax}{\text{proj}_W b} + \text{proj}_{W^\perp} b$ , we want  $x$  satisfying  $Ax - b = -\text{proj}_{W^\perp} b$   
i.e. with  $Ax - b$  orthogonal to  $W$ .

The space orthogonal to the column space of  $A$  is the null space of  $A^T$ .

So in other words we want  $Ax - b$  to satisfy  $A^T(Ax - b) = 0$

i.e.  $\boxed{A^T A x = A^T b}$   $\leftarrow$  Normal equation(s) of the system  $Ax = b$ .

When we have solutions to the normal equation, these are the "least squares solutions" and the "least squares error" is  $\|Ax - b\|$  (where  $x$  is a least squares solution).

The solution to the normal equation(s) is unique when  $A^T A$  is invertible, which happens if  $A$  has linearly independent column vectors.

## Connection to QR Decomposition

If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with linearly independent column vectors, with QR decomposition  $A = QR$  then for each  $b$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  the system  $Ax = b$  has a unique least squares solution:

Normal equation:  $A^T A x = A^T b$

$$x = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T b$$

$$= (Q^T R^T Q R)^{-1} Q^T R^T b$$

$$= (R^T Q^T Q R)^{-1} R^T Q^T b$$

$$= (R^T R)^{-1} R^T Q^T b \quad \text{as } Q^T Q = I$$

$$= R^{-1} (R^T)^{-1} R^T Q^T b$$

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