SOLUTION

$$U\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 2/3 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|U\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{9+1+1} = \sqrt{11}$$

$$\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sqrt{2+9} = \sqrt{11}$$

Theorems 6 and 7 are particularly useful when applied to *square* matrices. An **orthogonal matrix** is a square invertible matrix U such that $U^{-1} = U^T$. By Theorem 6, such a matrix has orthonormal columns.[1] It is easy to see that any *square* matrix with orthonormal columns is an orthogonal matrix. Surprisingly, such a matrix must have orthonormal *rows*, too. See Exercises 27 and 28. Orthogonal matrices will appear frequently in Chapter 7.

EXAMPLE 7 The matrix

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{11} & -1/\sqrt{6} & -1/\sqrt{66} \\ 1/\sqrt{11} & 2/\sqrt{6} & -4/\sqrt{66} \\ 1/\sqrt{11} & 1/\sqrt{6} & 7/\sqrt{66} \end{bmatrix}$$

is an orthogonal matrix because it is square and because its columns are orthonormal, by Example 5. Verify that the rows are orthonormal, too!

PRACTICE PROBLEMS

1. Let $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\sqrt{5} \\ 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{5} \\ 1/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix}$. Show that $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$ is an orthonormal basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$.
2. Let $\mathbf{y}$ and L be as in Example 3 and Figure 3. Compute the orthogonal projection $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ of $\mathbf{y}$ onto L using $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ instead of the $\mathbf{u}$ in Example 3.
3. Let U and $\mathbf{x}$ be as in Example 6, and let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -3\sqrt{2} \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$. Verify that $U\mathbf{x}\cdot U\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{y}$.
4. Let U be an $n \times n$ matrix with orthonormal columns. Show that $\det U = \pm 1$.

6.2 EXERCISES

In Exercises 1–6, determine which sets of vectors are orthogonal.

1. $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$

2. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

3. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -7 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$

4. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$

5. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

6. $\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ -3 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 7–10, show that $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$ or $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$ is an orthogonal basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$ or $\mathbb{R}^3$, respectively. Then express $\mathbf{x}$ as a linear combination of the $\mathbf{u}$'s.

7. $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$

[1] A better name might be *orthonormal matrix*, and this term is found in some statistics texts. However, *orthogonal matrix* is the standard term in linear algebra.

8. $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

9. $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$

10. $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

11. Compute the orthogonal projection of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$ onto the line through $\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and the origin.

12. Compute the orthogonal projection of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ onto the line through $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and the origin.

13. Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$. Write $\mathbf{y}$ as the sum of two orthogonal vectors, one in Span $\{\mathbf{u}\}$ and one orthogonal to $\mathbf{u}$.

14. Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Write $\mathbf{y}$ as the sum of a vector in Span $\{\mathbf{u}\}$ and a vector orthogonal to $\mathbf{u}$.

15. Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$. Compute the distance from $\mathbf{y}$ to the line through $\mathbf{u}$ and the origin.

16. Let $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$. Compute the distance from $\mathbf{y}$ to the line through $\mathbf{u}$ and the origin.

In Exercises 17–22, determine which sets of vectors are orthonormal. If a set is only orthogonal, normalize the vectors to produce an orthonormal set.

17. $\begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$

18. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

19. $\begin{bmatrix} -.6 \\ .8 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} .8 \\ .6 \end{bmatrix}$

20. $\begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 2/3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

21. $\begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{10} \\ 3/\sqrt{20} \\ 3/\sqrt{20} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3/\sqrt{10} \\ -1/\sqrt{20} \\ -1/\sqrt{20} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$

22. $\begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{18} \\ 4/\sqrt{18} \\ 1/\sqrt{18} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1/3 \\ -2/3 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 23 and 24, all vectors are in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Mark each statement True or False. Justify each answer.

23. a. Not every linearly independent set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is an orthogonal set.

b. If $\mathbf{y}$ is a linear combination of nonzero vectors from an orthogonal set, then the weights in the linear combination can be computed without row operations on a matrix.

c. If the vectors in an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors are normalized, then some of the new vectors may not be orthogonal.

d. A matrix with orthonormal columns is an orthogonal matrix.

e. If L is a line through $\mathbf{0}$ and if $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{y}$ onto L, then $\|\hat{\mathbf{y}}\|$ gives the distance from $\mathbf{y}$ to L.

24. a. Not every orthogonal set in $\mathbb{R}^n$ is linearly independent.

b. If a set $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_p\}$ has the property that $\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{u}_j = 0$ whenever $i \neq j$, then S is an orthonormal set.

c. If the columns of an $m \times n$ matrix A are orthonormal, then the linear mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto A\mathbf{x}$ preserves lengths.

d. The orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{y}$ onto $\mathbf{v}$ is the same as the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{y}$ onto $c\mathbf{v}$ whenever $c \neq 0$.

e. An orthogonal matrix is invertible.

25. Prove Theorem 7. [*Hint:* For (a), compute $\|U\mathbf{x}\|^2$, or prove (b) first.]

26. Suppose W is a subspace of $\mathbb{R}^n$ spanned by n nonzero orthogonal vectors. Explain why $W = \mathbb{R}^n$.

27. Let U be a square matrix with orthonormal columns. Explain why U is invertible. (Mention the theorems you use.)

28. Let U be an $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix. Show that the rows of U form an orthonormal basis of $\mathbb{R}^n$.

29. Let U and V be $n \times n$ orthogonal matrices. Explain why UV is an orthogonal matrix. [That is, explain why UV is invertible and its inverse is $(UV)^T$.]

30. Let U be an orthogonal matrix, and construct V by interchanging some of the columns of U. Explain why V is an orthogonal matrix.

31. Show that the orthogonal projection of a vector $\mathbf{y}$ onto a line L through the origin in $\mathbb{R}^2$ does not depend on the choice of the nonzero $\mathbf{u}$ in L used in the formula for $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$. To do this, suppose $\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{u}$ are given and $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ has been computed by formula (2) in this section. Replace $\mathbf{u}$ in that formula by $c\mathbf{u}$, where c is an unspecified nonzero scalar. Show that the new formula gives the same $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$.

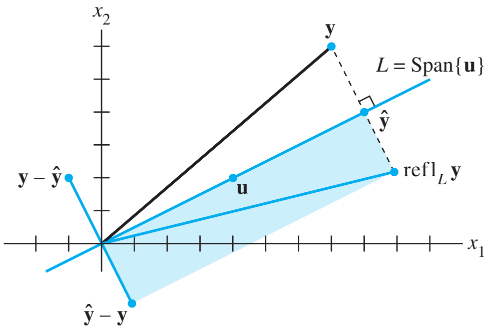
32. Let $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$ be an orthogonal set of nonzero vectors, and let c_1, c_2 be any nonzero scalars. Show that $\{c_1\mathbf{v}_1, c_2\mathbf{v}_2\}$ is also an orthogonal set. Since orthogonality of a set is defined in terms of pairs of vectors, this shows that if the vectors in an orthogonal set are normalized, the new set will still be orthogonal.

33. Given $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$, let $L = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$. Show that the mapping $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \text{proj}_L\,\mathbf{x}$ is a linear transformation.

34. Given $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$, let $L = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$. For $\mathbf{y}$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$, the **reflection of y in** L is the point $\text{refl}_L\,\mathbf{y}$ defined by

$\text{refl}_L\,\mathbf{y} = 2\cdot \text{proj}_L\,\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}$

See the figure, which shows that $\text{refl}_L\,\mathbf{y}$ is the sum of $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \text{proj}_L\,\mathbf{y}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{y}$. Show that the mapping $\mathbf{y} \mapsto \text{refl}_L\,\mathbf{y}$ is a linear transformation.



The reflection of $\mathbf{y}$ in a line through the origin.

35. [**M**] Show that the columns of the matrix A are orthogonal by making an appropriate matrix calculation. State the calculation you use.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -3 & 6 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & -6 \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & -2 \\ 6 & -3 & 6 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ -3 & 6 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

36. [**M**] In parts (a)–(d), let U be the matrix formed by normalizing each column of the matrix A in Exercise 35.

a. Compute U^TU and UU^T. How do they differ?

b. Generate a random vector $\mathbf{y}$ in $\mathbb{R}^8$, and compute $\mathbf{p} = UU^T\mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p}$. Explain why $\mathbf{p}$ is in Col A. Verify that $\mathbf{z}$ is orthogonal to $\mathbf{p}$.

c. Verify that $\mathbf{z}$ is orthogonal to each column of U.

d. Notice that $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{z}$, with $\mathbf{p}$ in Col A. Explain why $\mathbf{z}$ is in $(\text{Col } A)^\perp$. (The significance of this decomposition of $\mathbf{y}$ will be explained in the next section.)

SOLUTIONS TO PRACTICE PROBLEMS

1. The vectors are orthogonal because

$$\mathbf{u}_1 \cdot \mathbf{u}_2 = -2/5 + 2/5 = 0$$

They are unit vectors because

$$\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2 = (-1/\sqrt{5})^2 + (2/\sqrt{5})^2 = 1/5 + 4/5 = 1$$
$$\|\mathbf{u}_2\|^2 = (2/\sqrt{5})^2 + (1/\sqrt{5})^2 = 4/5 + 1/5 = 1$$

In particular, the set $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$ is linearly independent, and hence is a basis for $\mathbb{R}^2$ since there are two vectors in the set.

2. When $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$,

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \frac{\mathbf{y}\cdot\mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u}\cdot\mathbf{u}}\mathbf{u} = \frac{20}{5}\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = 4\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is the same $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ found in Example 3. The orthogonal projection does not seem to depend on the $\mathbf{u}$ chosen on the line. See Exercise 31.

3. $$U\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 2/3 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -2/3 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{bmatrix}\begin{bmatrix} -3\sqrt{2} \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -7 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Also, from Example 6, $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $U\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Hence

$$U\mathbf{x}\cdot U\mathbf{y} = 3 + 7 + 2 = 12, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{y} = -6 + 18 = 12$$

4. Since U is an $n \times n$ matrix with orthonormal columns, by Theorem 6, $U^TU = I$. Taking the determinant of the left side of this equation, and applying Theorems 5 and 6 from Section 3.2 results in $\det U^TU = (\det U^T)(\det U) = (\det U)(\det U) = (\det U)^2$. Recall $\det I = 1$. Putting the two sides of the equation back together results in $(\det U)^2 = 1$ and hence $\det U = \pm 1$.

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