

# Lecture 17

---

## *Orthonormal Basis and Gram-Schmidt Process*

**Instructor: Ruoyu Sun**



香港中文大學(深圳)  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

数据科学学院  
School of Data Science

# Today's Lecture: Outline

---

Main topic: Orthonormal basis

1. Orthonormal basis
2. Gram-Schmidt Process
3. Orthogonal matrix

Strang's book: mainly Sec 4.4; a bit of Sec 4.2

# Today's Lecture: Learning Goals

---

After the lecture, you should be able to

1. compute an orthonormal basis from a basis of a subspace
2. compute the projection onto a subspace
3. tell the definition and properties of orthogonal matrix

# Review



# Recall: Orthogonality and LS Solution

## Definition in Lec 16 (Orthogonality)

Two vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are orthogonal if  $\mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{v} = 0$ . Denote  $\mathbf{u} \perp \mathbf{v}$

## Thm 16.2 and Lemma 16.1 together:

Consider a least squares problem. The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $\mathbf{y}$  minimizes  $\|A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|$
2.  $\mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{y} \perp S$ .
3.  $A^\top A\mathbf{y} = A^\top \mathbf{b}$

# Part I Orthonormal Basis and Orthogonal Matrix

$u \perp v$ : relation of two vectors

## Orthonormal Set of Vectors

### Definition 17.1 (Orthogonal Set)

Let  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be a set of **nonzero** vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = 0$  for any  $i \neq j$ , then this set is called an **orthogonal set**.  
*pairwise relation*

**Examples:**

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \\ \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

### Definition 17.2 (Orthonormal Set)

An orthonormal set  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  is an orthogonal set of unit-norm vectors, i.e.,  $\|v_i\| = 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$

**Examples:**

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{5} \\ 2/\sqrt{5} \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \quad \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2/\sqrt{13} \\ 3/\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3/\sqrt{13} \\ 2/\sqrt{13} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$



# From an Orthogonal Set to an Orthonormal Set

## Question

Can you create an **orthonormal set** based on an **orthogonal set**?

$\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ , orthogonal set



$\left\{ \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}, \dots, \frac{u_n}{\|u_n\|} \right\}$  orthonormal set



# Examples

## Example

Consider  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

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

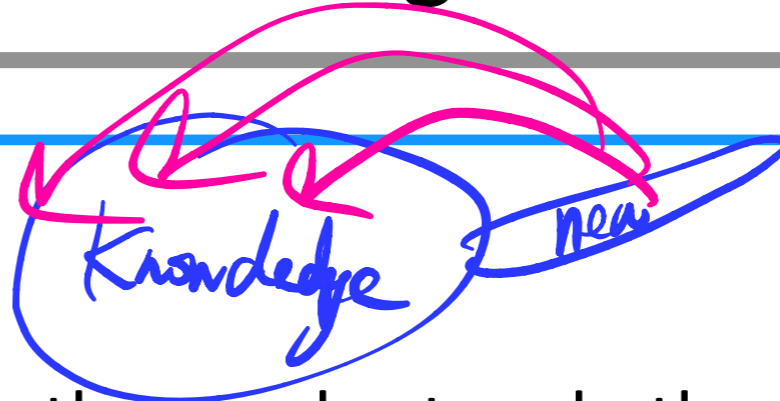
$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{14}} & \frac{4}{\sqrt{42}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} & -\frac{5}{\sqrt{42}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{3}{\sqrt{14}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \end{array} \right]$$

then  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  is an orthogonal set, the orthonormal set is

$$\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Is an orthonormal basis unique for a given inner product space?

# What is Special about an Orthogonal Set?



Next, we check the relation of orthogonal set and other notions:

Orthogonal v.s. independent.

Orthogonal v.s. basis.

**Question** If  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  is an orthogonal set, any "redundancy" ? *Span  $(v_1, \dots, v_k)$  by fewer vectors.*

Let students vote.

*Yes, fewer vec. can span.*  
*No, fewer vec cannot span.*

# Proof of Proposition 17.1

## Proposition 17.1

Let  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  be an orthogonal set. Then  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  are linearly independent.

Proof for  $k=2$ :

skip proof in class  
Exercise

Remark: Orthogonal: pairwise relation,  $(v_i, v_j)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  Indep: all-vec (mutual) relation,  $v_i \rightarrow v_n$ .

Proof for  $k=2$ :  $v_1 \perp v_2$ , then  $\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2 = 0$ ,  $\textcircled{1}$  iff  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$   $\textcircled{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof. } \textcircled{1} \Rightarrow 0 &= v_1^T (\alpha_1 v_1 + \alpha_2 v_2) \\ &= \alpha_1 v_1^T v_1 + \alpha_2 v_1^T v_2 = 0 \\ &= \alpha_1 \|v_1\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = 0 \text{ or } \|v_1\| = 0. \\ \text{def: } v_i \neq 0 &\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $\alpha_2 = 0$ . Then  $\textcircled{1} \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$ . Thus  $v_1, v_2$  are indep.  $\square$ .

# Orthonormal Basis (标准正交基)

## Definition 17.3

A set of vectors  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is called an **orthonormal basis** of a linear space  $V$  if

- (1)  $S$  is an orthonormal set
- (2) Vectors in  $S$  form a basis of  $V$ .

## Example

(1). Standard basis

$e_1, \dots, e_n$

$e_i \perp e_j, \|e_i\|=1, \text{ form basis}$

(2).  $\left\{ v_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, v_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  for  $\mathbb{R}^3$



Benefit of Orthogonal: Help Verify Basis.

---

Q. Prove  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  is basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Method 1. (i) Indep. or Span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (ii)  $n$  vectors.  
need linear systems

Method 2. (i) Orthogonal.  $e_i \perp e_j$ ,  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \rightarrow$  basis  
 $\Rightarrow$  Indep.  
(ii)  $n$  vec.

no need to solve linear system to check span & indep.  
just need to compute inner product.

# Orthogonal Matrix

**Definition 17.4 (Orthogonal Matrix)** *Not orthogonal matrix*  
An orthogonal matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a real square matrix whose columns form an **orthonormal basis** in  $\mathbb{R}^n$   $Q = [q_1, \dots, q_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

## Examples:

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 & -4/5 \\ 4/5 & 3/5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$q_i$ 's form **orthonormal set**.

$n$  vector  $\rightarrow$  **basis**  
**orthonormal**  $\Rightarrow$  **indep.**  $\rightarrow$  **basis**

**Claim:** If  $\dim(V) = n$ , then an orthonormal set  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is an orthonormal basis.

[based on what result of past lectures?]

**Corollary:** If the columns of  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  form an **orthonormal set** of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then it is an orthogonal matrix.

*no need to check span.*

# Orthogonal Matrix

## Proposition 17.2 (Orthogonal Matrix)

A matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is an orthogonal matrix if and only if

$$Q^T Q = I_n.$$

$$Q^{-1} = Q^T.$$

Example For any  $\theta$

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q^{-1} = Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

# Proof of Proposition 17.4

Express  $A^T A = I_n$  row

## Proposition 17.2 (Orthogonal Matrix)

A matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is an orthogonal matrix if and only if

$$Q^T Q = I_n.$$

**Proof:** (exercise)

$$Q = [\vec{q}_1 \ \dots \ \vec{q}_n]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = I_n = Q^T Q = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{q}_1^T \vec{q}_1 & \dots & \vec{q}_1^T \vec{q}_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vec{q}_n^T \vec{q}_1 & \dots & \vec{q}_n^T \vec{q}_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 = \vec{q}_i^T \vec{q}_i = \|\vec{q}_i\|^2, \forall i. & \text{[unit norm]} \\ 0 = \vec{q}_i^T \vec{q}_j, \forall i \neq j, & \text{[orthogonal pairs]} \end{cases}$$

collection of inner products

Midterm exam:

Express  $Q^T Q = I_n$  using row-form.

$$Q = [(\cdot \cdot \cdot)] = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q^T Q = \sum \text{row}_i \text{row}_i^T$$

sum of outer products

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \text{row}_1 \text{row}_1^T & \dots & \text{row}_1 \text{row}_n^T \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{row}_n \text{row}_1^T & \dots & \text{row}_n \text{row}_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$



Lemma

Left inverse  $\Rightarrow$  inverse.

If  $AB = I_n$ , then  $BA = I_n$   
 $\downarrow \downarrow$   
square and  $A^{-1} = B$ .

Proof. (Long) -

# Properties of Orthogonal Matrix

## Property 17.1 (Orthogonal Matrix)

If  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is an orthogonal matrix, then

(a) The column vectors of  $Q$  form an orthonormal basis.

(b)  $Q^T Q = I_n$ .

(c)  $Q^{-1} = Q^T$  ←  $QQ^T = I_n$ .

(d)  $\langle Qx, Qy \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$ . [inner product preserving] 保内积.

(e)  $\|Qx\| = \|x\|$ , let  $y=x$  [norm preserving] 保范数.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Qx, Qy \rangle &= (Qy)^T Qx \\ &= y^T (Q^T Q)x = y^T x = \langle y, x \rangle. \\ \|Qx\|^2 &= x^T Q^T Q x = x^T x = \|x\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

These will be very useful for eigenvalues after Lec 21.

# Part II Representation and Projection



# Recall: Representing Element using Basis

**Proposition** (Unique Representation via Basis)

Let  $\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$  be a basis of a linear space  $V$ .

Any element  $v \in V$  can be **uniquely** represented as a linear combination of  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  [discussed in Lec 15]

Representation  $v = \alpha_1 u_1 + \dots + \alpha_n u_n$

We know such  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  exist. But...how to compute?

Well, if  $u_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , just solve linear system  $U \cdot \vec{\alpha} = \vec{v}$   
variable

Next, we show, if  $\{u_i\}$  is orthonormal basis,

then

express **MUCH EASIER**

# Representing Element using Basis

## Theorem 17.1 (Representation via Orthonormal Basis)

Let  $\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$  be an **orthonormal basis** of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Any vector  $v$  can be represented as a linear combination

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i u_i^T v = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle v, u_i \rangle u_i$$

**Proof:** In the expression  $\vec{v} = \sum_i \alpha_i \vec{u}_i$  (\*)

Coeff  $\alpha_i = v^T u_i, i=1, \dots, n$ .

Hint: Two ways.

Via vector.

Via matrix.

Method 1 (vec) We know that  $\{\alpha_i\}$  exist since  $\{u_i\}$ 's form a basis.

Next, compute  $\alpha_k$ 's.  $u_k^T \vec{v} = u_k^T (\sum_i \alpha_i \vec{u}_i) = \sum_i \alpha_i u_k^T u_i = \alpha_k \|u_k\|^2 = \alpha_k$ .

Method 2. (matrix) (\*)  $\Leftrightarrow \vec{v} = U \cdot \vec{\alpha} \Rightarrow \vec{\alpha} = U^{-1} \vec{v} \stackrel{\text{Prop 17.1}}{=} U^T \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^T v \\ \vdots \\ u_n^T v \end{bmatrix}$

Method 3. (matrix).  $\left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (u_i u_i^T) \right] v = U \cdot U^T \cdot v = v$ .

# Example of Representing using Orthonormal Basis

Application of  $v = \sum_{i=1}^n \langle v, u_i \rangle u_i$ .

Example

$$\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

For any  $\mathbf{x} = [x, y, z]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1 \rangle \mathbf{v}_1 + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle \mathbf{v}_2 + \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_3 \rangle \mathbf{v}_3 \\ &= \frac{x + y + z}{\sqrt{3}} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{2x + y - 3z}{\sqrt{14}} \mathbf{v}_2 + \frac{4x - 5y + z}{\sqrt{42}} \mathbf{v}_3 \end{aligned}$$



# Orthonormal Basis is Useful

Because

1. Representing any vector by directly computing the "coordinates"

— Useful in, e.g., computing LS-solution (forthcoming)

↓  
Projector

2. Useful in eigen-theory (lecture 21)

Central part

# Projection

## Definition 16.1 [Last lecture]

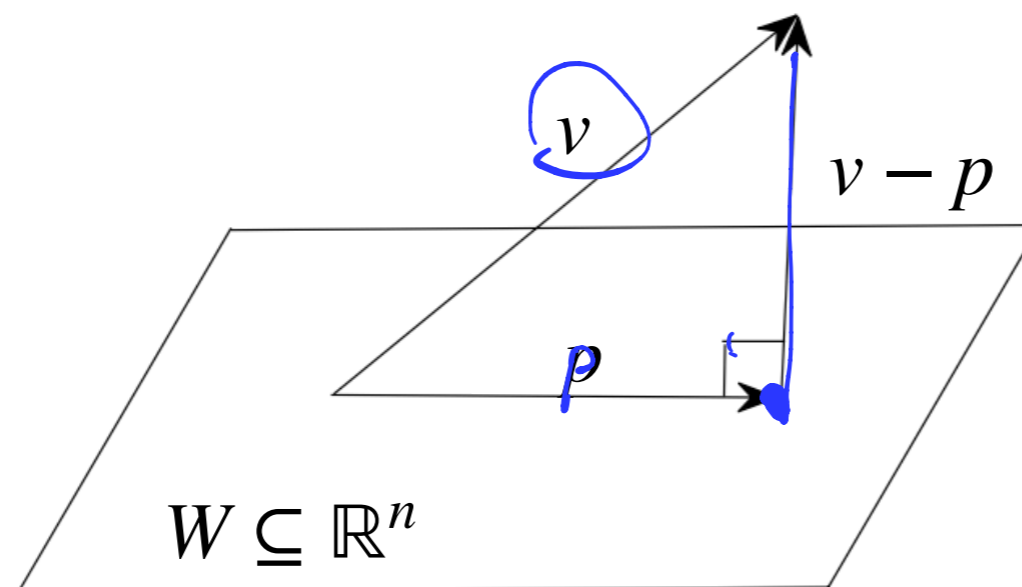
Suppose  $S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{p} \in S$  and  $\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{p} \perp S$ , then we say  $\mathbf{p}$  is the projection of  $\mathbf{b}$  onto  $S$ .

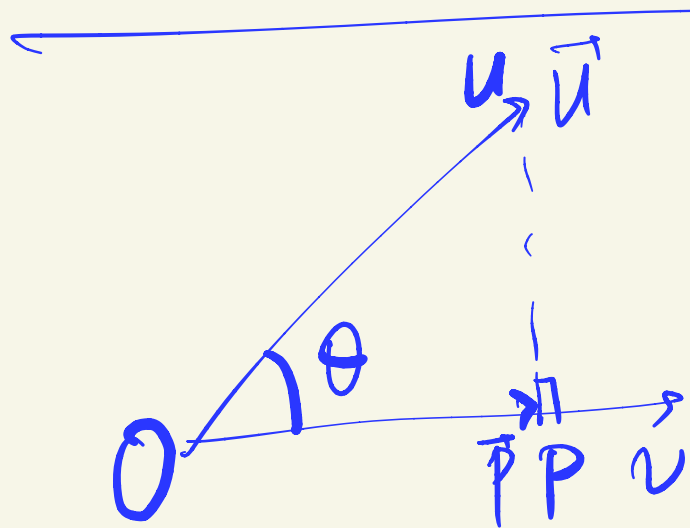
## Proposition 17.2

For any subspace  $W \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , any vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a **unique** vector  $\mathbf{p} \in W$  such that  $(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{p}) \perp W$ .

[skip proof]



# One-dim subspace



$$\vec{p} \equiv \text{Proj of } \vec{u} \text{ onto } \vec{v}$$

$$\text{spa}(\{\vec{v}\}) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} V$$

$$= \text{Proj}_V(\vec{u})$$

Direction of  $\vec{p}$ ? same as  $\vec{v}$

$$\vec{p} = \|\text{length}\| \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \quad (1)$$

Length of  $\vec{p}$ ?

$$|\text{OP}| = |\text{OU}| \cdot \cos \theta,$$

$$\|\vec{p}\| = \|\vec{u}\| \cdot \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\|} = \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{v}\|} \quad (2)$$

$$\vec{p} = \frac{\langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v}$$

Claim If  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$ , then Proj of  $\vec{u}$  onto  $\text{spa}(\{\vec{v}\})$  is

$$\vec{p} = \langle \vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle \vec{v}$$

# Representing Projection via Orthonormal Basis

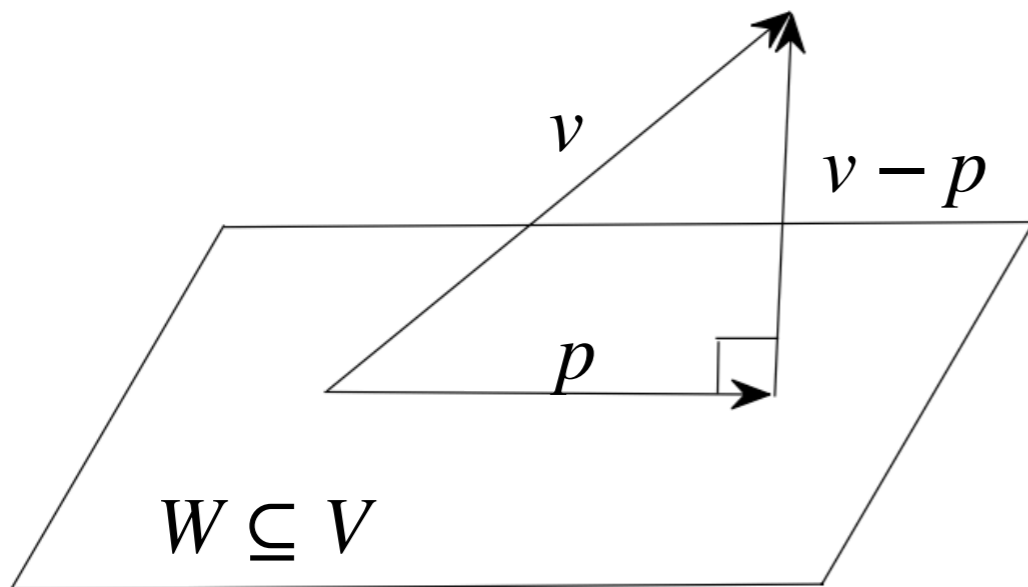
**Theorem 17.2** (Projection Representation) *if you have orthonormal basis*

Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and suppose  $S = \{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  is an **orthonormal basis** of  $W$ . The projection of  $v$  onto  $W$  can be represented as

$$p = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle w_i, v \rangle w_i = \sum_i w_i w_i^T v$$

$$= Z Z^T v, \text{ where } Z = [w_1, \dots, w_k]$$

*Skip proof for general case.*



# Proof of Representing Projection

Let  $S = \{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  is an **orthonormal basis** of  $W$ .

Prove  $p = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle w_i, v \rangle w_i$

**Proof:**

**Hint:**

Try  $k=1$ .

Then  $k=2; n=3$ .

① If you know orthonormal basis  
(of subspace).

then you know how to compute projects.



# Part III Gram-Schmidt Process

# Key Question in this Part

---

Suppose  $S = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is set of linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Key Question:**

How to find an orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(S)$ ?

**Equivalent Question:** how to find an orthonormal set such that  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(S)$  ?

# Is Finding Orthonormal Basis Simple?

Sometimes, yes. e.g.  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; e.g. column space of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a & 0 & c \\ 0 & 1 & b & 0 & d \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sometimes, no.

e.g. Column space of  $Z =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -a & -c \\ -b & -d \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -e \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

not orthogonal

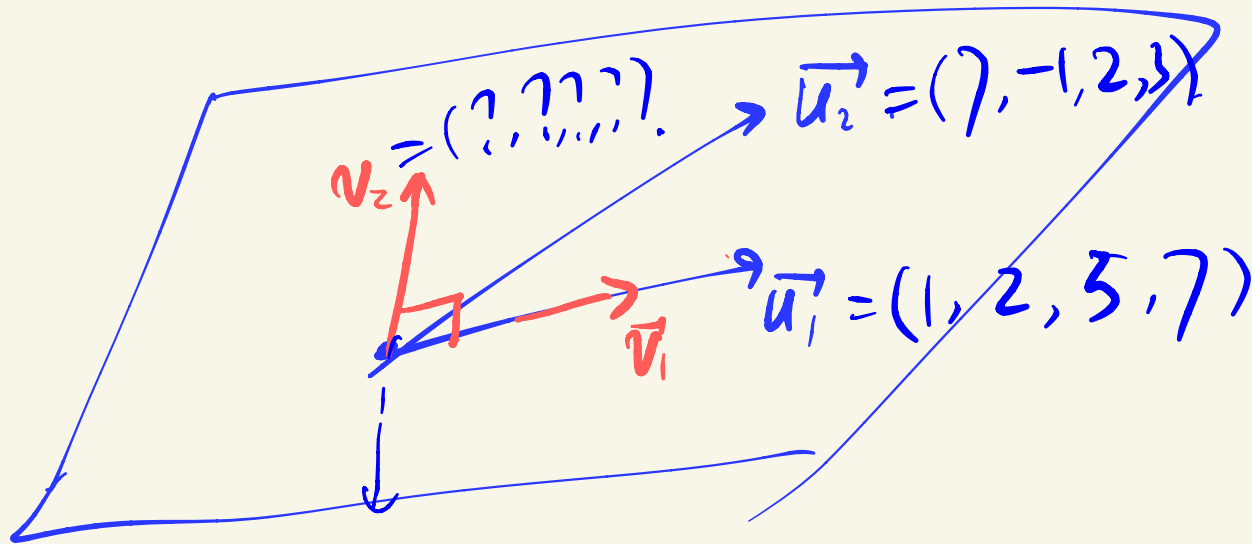
orthonormal basis

orthogonal, unit norm  
span others.

**Think:** Can you use linear combination of **columns** to find orthonormal basis of a column space?

2D

High



find  $\vec{v}_2 \perp \vec{v}_1$  on the plane, done.

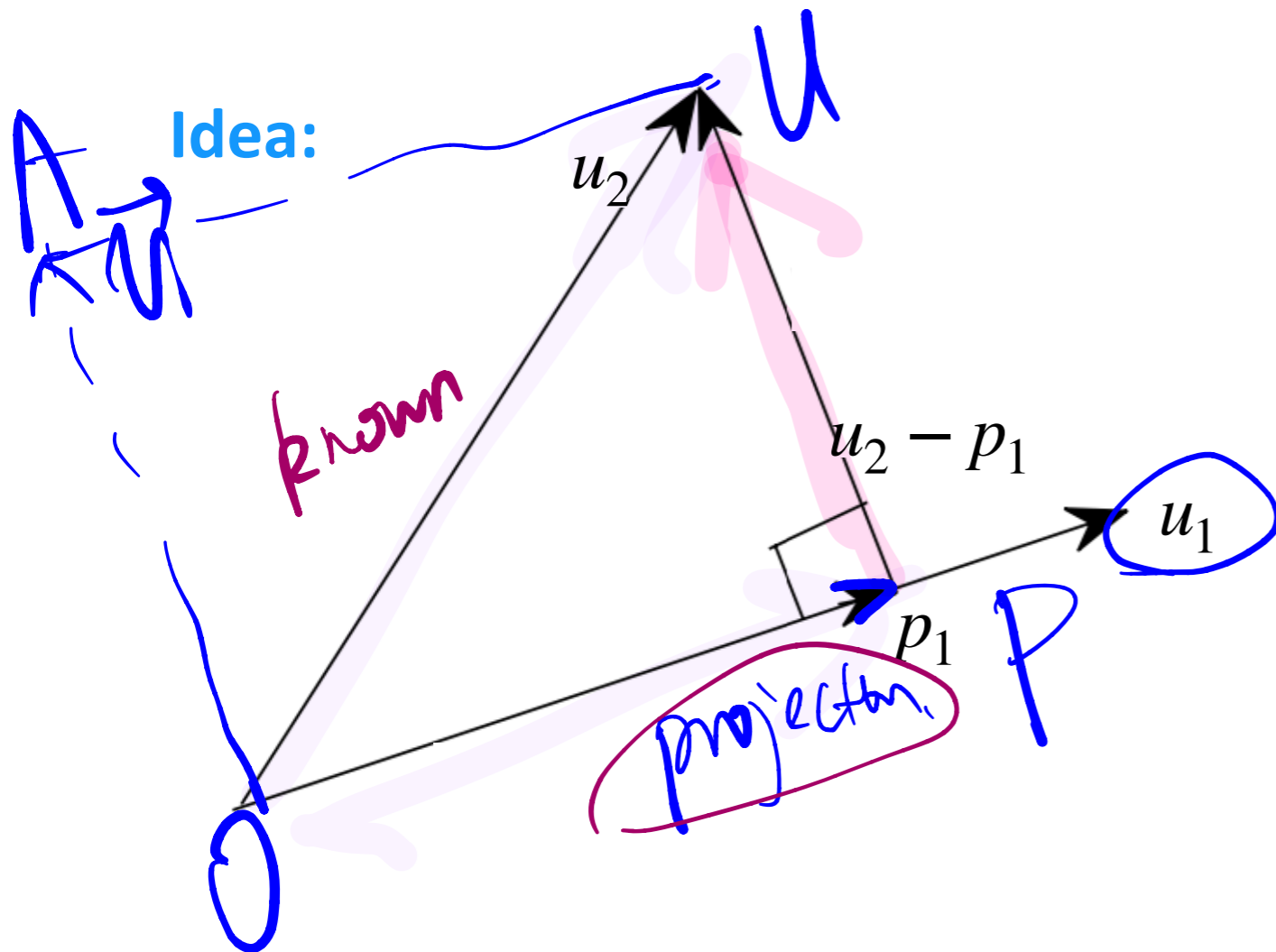
$$\vec{p}_1 = \left\langle \vec{u}_2, \frac{\vec{u}_1}{\|\vec{u}_1\|} \right\rangle \frac{\vec{u}_1}{\|\vec{u}_1\|} = \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}}{\|(1, 2, 5, 7)\|} \right\rangle \frac{(1, 2, 5, 7)}{\|(1, 2, 5, 7)\|}$$



## Exercise: Simple Case

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [u_1, u_2].$$

**Exercise:** Find an orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(\{u_1, u_2\})$



$$v_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}$$

$$v_2 = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{OA} &= \vec{pu} \\ &= \vec{ou} - \vec{op} \end{aligned}$$

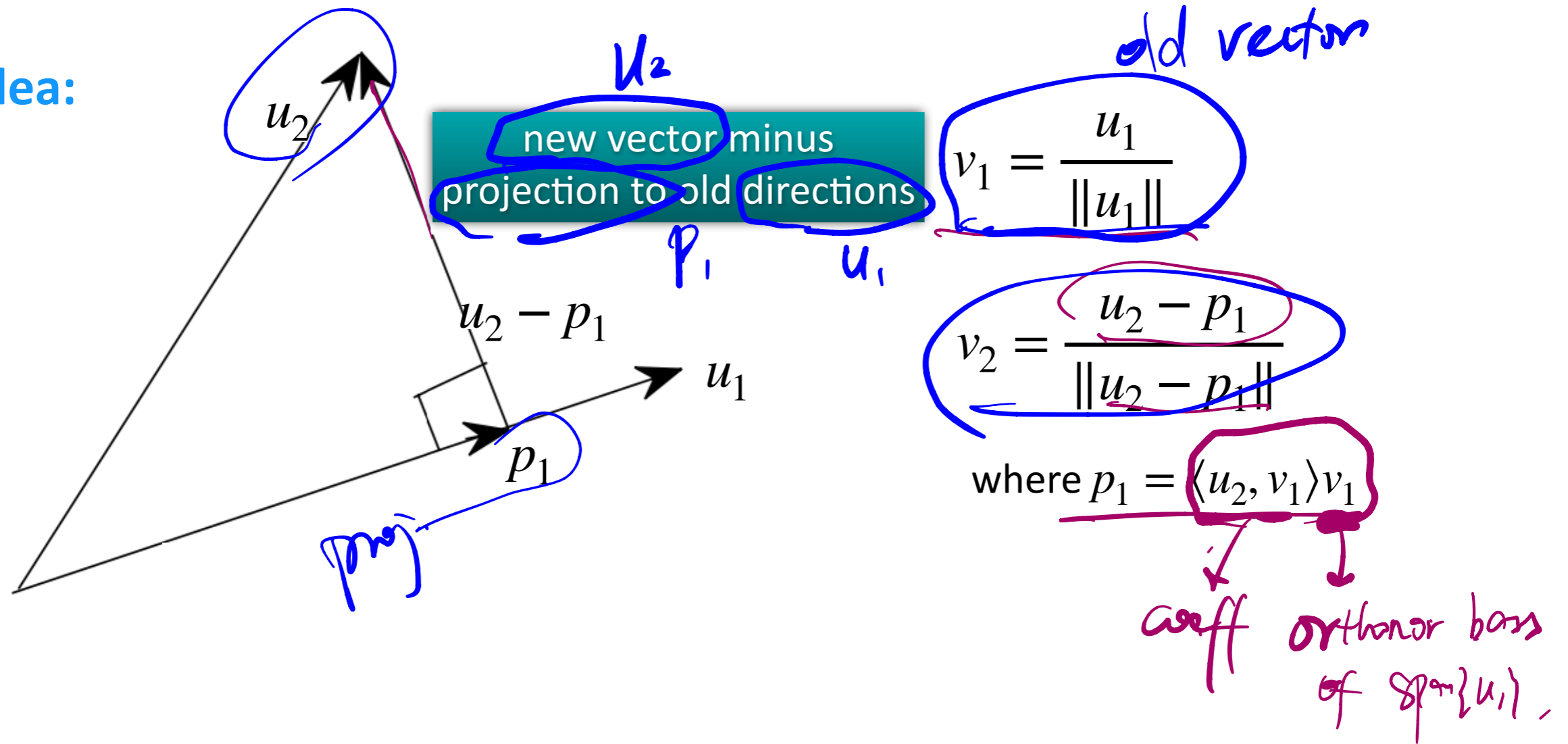
( $\because \vec{op} + \vec{pu} = \vec{ou}$ )

# Exercise: Simple Case

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [u_1, u_2].$$

**Exercise:** Find an orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(\{u_1, u_2\})$

Idea:





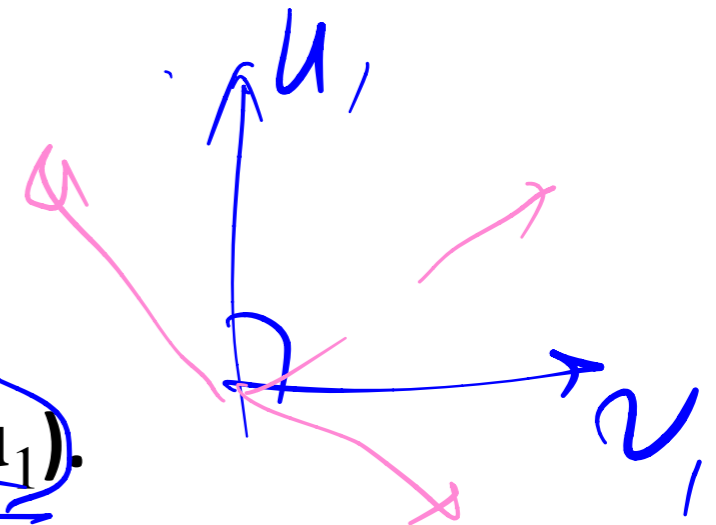
# Design Principles of $k=2$ Case

Find orthonormal set  $U$  s.t.  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$ .

Idea: Induction (“数学归纳”).

First, find ortho-basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1)$ ;

Then find ortho-basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$



**Step 1:** Find the orthonormal basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1\}$  of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1)$ .

**Step 2:** Find the second vector  $\mathbf{v}_2$  in the ortho-basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$ .

**Design principle:** This vector should be

i) Orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}_1$ ;

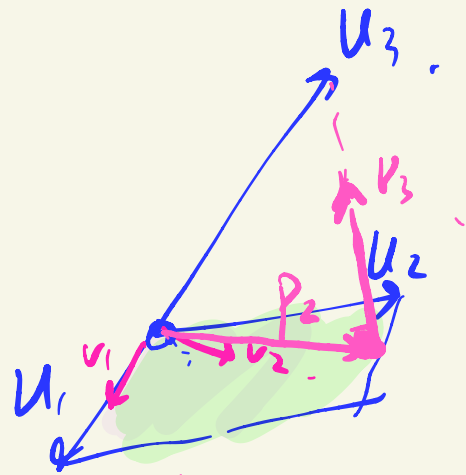
ii) in  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$ .

iii) Norm = 1.

Answer: Direction same as  $u_2 - p_1$   
Where  $p_1 = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1)}(u_2) = \langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1$

new vector minus  
projection to old directions





$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_3 &= u_3 - p_2 \\ &= u_3 - \underbrace{(\text{proj of } u_3)} \end{aligned}$$

Q: How to compute proj of  $u_3$  to  $W_2 = \text{span}(\{u_1, u_2\})$ ?

Step 1: orthonormal basis  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  of  $W_2$

Step 2:  $\text{proj}_{W_2}(u_3) = (u_3^T v_1)v_1 + (u_3^T v_2)v_2$ .



① know orthonormal basis.  $\rightarrow$  Compute projection  
of  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2\}, u_3$  onto  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2\}, u_3$

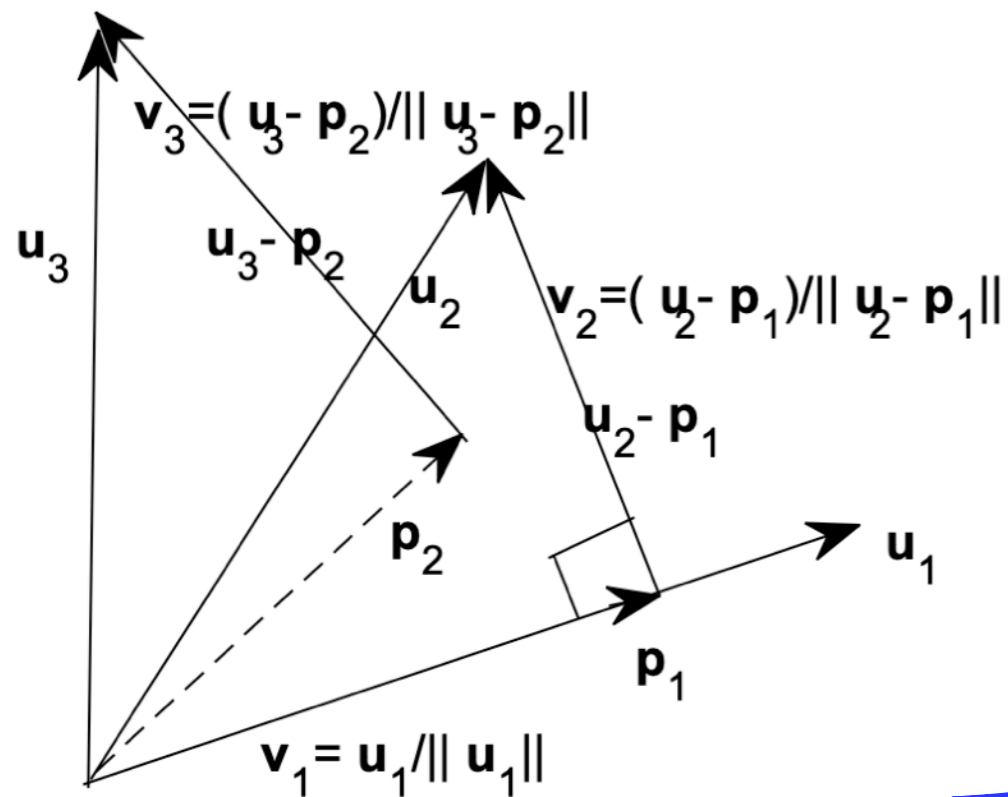
② Compute projection  $\rightarrow$  Compute orthonormal basis  
onto  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2\}, u_3$ .  $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2, u_3\}, u_4$ .

Two sides of  
same coin.

Chicken & egg problem

## k=3 Case

Find orthonormal set  $U$  s.t.  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\})$ .



$$v_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}$$

$$v_2 = \frac{u_2 - p_1}{\|u_2 - p_1\|}$$

where  $p_1 = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1)}(u_2) = \langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1$

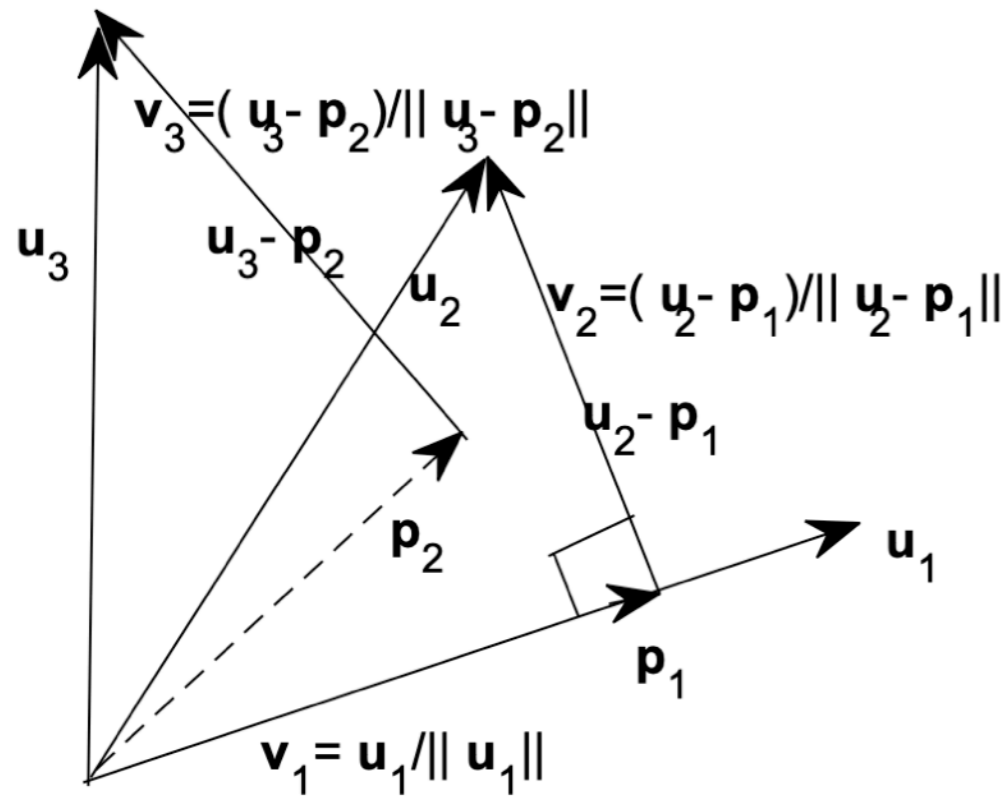
new vector  $v_3$ .

$$v_3 = ?$$

new vector minus  
projection to old directions

# k=3 Case

Find orthonormal set  $U$  s.t.  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\})$ .



$$v_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|}$$

$$v_2 = \frac{u_2 - p_1}{\|u_2 - p_1\|}$$

where  $p_1 = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1)}(u_2) = \langle u_2, v_1 \rangle v_1$

$$v_3 = \frac{u_3 - p_2}{\|u_3 - p_2\|}$$

*new vec* → *proj*

new vector minus projection to old directions

where  $p_2 = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1, u_2)}(u_3) = \langle u_3, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \langle u_3, v_2 \rangle v_2$

*ortho bas. of span(u1, u2)*

## Back to the Question: $k=2$ Case

Find orthonormal set  $U$  s.t.  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$ .

### Steps:

**Step 1:** Find the orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1)$ .

**Step 2:** Find the second vector in the ortho-basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2)$ .

**Step 3:** Find the 3rd vector in the ortho-basis of  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)$

This vector should be:

- i) Orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2$ ;
- ii) in  $\text{span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)$ .
- iii) Norm = 1.

Answer: Direction same as  $u_3 - p_2$

where  $p_2 = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1, u_2)}(u_3) = \langle u_3, v_1 \rangle v_1 + \langle u_3, v_2 \rangle v_2$

new vector minus  
projection to old directions



# Gram-Schmidt Process

Suppose  $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$  is a set of linearly independent elements.

**Question:** Based on  $S$ , can we find an orthonormal set  $U$  such that  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(S)$  ?

## Gram-Schmidt Process

Input  $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$

For  $i = 1, \dots, k$

If  $i = 1$ :

$$p_1 = 0$$

Else:

$$p_{i-1} = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \langle u_i, v_j \rangle v_j = \text{Proj}_{\text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_{i-1})}(u_i)$$

$$\text{Set } v_i = \frac{u_i - p_{i-1}}{\|u_i - p_{i-1}\|} \in \text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_{i-1})^\perp$$

Return  $U = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$

→ pseudo code (not runnable in C)  
伪代码

projection to old directions

new vector minus projection to old directions

# Gram-Schmidt Process

Suppose  $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$  is a set of linearly independent vectors.

**Question:** Based on  $S$ , can we find an orthonormal set  $U$  such that  
 $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(S)$  ?

**Proposition 17.3** (Gram-Schmidt Process)

The set  $U = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  returned by the Gram-Schmidt process is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(S)$ .

# Gram-Schmidt Process

Suppose  $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$  is a set of linearly independent elements.

**Question:** Based on  $S$ , can we find an orthonormal set  $U$  such that  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(S)$  ?

## Proposition 17.3 (Gram-Schmidt Process)

The set  $U = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  returned by the Gram-Schmidt process is an orthonormal basis of  $\text{span}(S)$ .

**Proof:** Orthogonality:  $v_{k+1} \perp \text{span}(\{u_1, \dots, u_k\})$

Norm:  $\|v_k\| = 1.$

Linearly Independence: Proposition 17.1

$\dim(\text{span}(S)) = k$  implies the result (Coro 17.1)

# Gram-Schmidt Process Example

Example

$$S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$$

In  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the standard inner product is the scalar product  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{x}$ .

Now find the orthonormal basis for  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)$ .

# Gram-Schmidt Process Example

## Example

$$S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Step 1:  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

Step 2: calculate

$$\mathbf{u}'_2 = \mathbf{u}_2 - \langle \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{v}_1 \rangle \mathbf{v}_1$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} - \left( [-1 \ 4 \ 4 \ -1] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{5}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{u}'_2}{\|\mathbf{u}'_2\|} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{5}{2} \\ -\frac{5}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Gram-Schmidt Process Example

## Example

Step3: calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}'_3 &= \mathbf{u}_3 - \langle \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{v}_1 \rangle \mathbf{v}_1 - \langle \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle \mathbf{v}_2 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \left( [4 \ -2 \ 2 \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &\quad - \left( [4 \ -2 \ 2 \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{u}_1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{u}'_2}{\|\mathbf{u}'_2\|} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \\ 5 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3 = \frac{\mathbf{u}'_3}{\|\mathbf{u}'_3\|} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Application of Orthonormal Basis: Compute Projection

## Application question:

How to compute the projection of  $u$  onto a subspace  $\text{span}(u_1, \dots, u_k)$ ?

## Answer:

First, find an orthonormal basis  $v_1, \dots, v_k$  by Gram-Schmidt process.

Second, use formula  $p = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle u, v_i \rangle v_i$

E.g. compute the projection onto  $\text{span}(S)$ , where

$$S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$$

# Application of Orthonormal Basis: Solve LS-Problem

Lemma 16.1 (special case  $S = C(A)$ )

Consider a least squares problem. The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $\mathbf{y}$  minimizes  $\|A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|$
2.  $\mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{y} \perp S$ , i.e.  $A\mathbf{y} = \text{Proj}_{C(A)}(\mathbf{b})$ ;

**Application question:** How to compute LS-solution?

**Step 1:** Compute  $\text{Proj}_{C(A)}(\mathbf{b})$ ?


How? See the previous slide.

**Step 2:** Solve  $A\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{p}$ .

Alternative method [Lec 16]

Solve  $A^T A\mathbf{y} = A^T \mathbf{b}$ .

no need to  
compute  $A^T A$ .



# Summary Today (Write Your Own)

---

**One sentence summary:**

**Detailed summary:**

# Review Questions

---

How many **propositions** do we have today? [4]

How many **theorems** do we have today?

What are they?

Which is the most nontrivial one?

How many definitions do we have today?

What are they?

# Summary Today (of Instructor)

---

## One sentence summary:

We have studied Orthonormal basis and Gram-Schmidt Process.

## Detailed summary:

### 1) Orthonormal basis.

- Basis consisting of unit vectors that are orthogonal to each other.
- Theorem 17.1**: Representation of vector by ortho-basis of whole space.
- Theorem 17.2**: Representation of projection by ortho-space of a subspace.

### 2) Orthogonal matrix.

- Square matrix whose columns form a orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Properties**:  $Q^T Q = I$ , keep the norm  $\|Qx\| = \|x\|$ ;

### 3) Gram-Schmidt process.

- Goal**: Construct orthonormal basis of a subspace, from a basis of the subspace.
- Main trick**: every new vector minus projection to old directions
- Theoretical result**: Gram-Schmidt process indeed returns an orthonormal basis.