

1. Find a unit vector in \mathbb{R}^5 that is parallel to the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{3^2 + 0^2 + (-1)^2 + 2^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{15}$$

\Rightarrow a unit vector parallel to $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{15}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Find all values of a and b for which the vectors $\begin{pmatrix} a/2 \\ b/3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ are orthonormal.

• Orthogonal : $\begin{pmatrix} a/2 \\ b/3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} - \frac{b}{3\sqrt{2}} = 0 \Leftrightarrow b = \frac{3a}{2}$

• Unit vectors : $\left\| \begin{pmatrix} a/2 \\ b/3 \end{pmatrix} \right\|^2 = \frac{a^2}{4} + \frac{b^2}{9} = \frac{a^2}{4} + \frac{9a^2}{9 \cdot 4} = \frac{a^2}{2}$

which $= 1 \Leftrightarrow a = \pm\sqrt{2}$ (and then $b = \pm\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$)

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} \right\|^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$$

So :

$\begin{pmatrix} a/2 \\ b/3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$ are orthonormal if and only if

either • $a = \sqrt{2}$ and $b = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$

or • $a = -\sqrt{2}$ and $b = -\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$

3. (a) Find an orthonormal basis for the plane V in \mathbb{R}^3 given by the equation $x - y = 0$.

The vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ lie in V and are orthogonal, so let $\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Then $\vec{u} \perp \vec{v}$ and $\|\vec{u}\| = 1$ ($\because \|\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\| = \sqrt{2}$) and $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$ (\because it's a standard basis vector)

$\Rightarrow \vec{u}$ and \vec{v} are orthonormal vectors in V

\Rightarrow they're LI, so form a basis of V

- (b) Find the orthogonal projection of $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ onto the plane V from part (a).

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (2 + 1 + 0) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 0 + 0 + 2 = 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \text{proj}_V(\vec{x}) &= (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{x})\vec{u} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{x})\vec{v} \\ &= \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 \\ 3/2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

4. For each of the following statements, determine whether it is always, sometimes or never true.

(a) Let $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w}$ be unit vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . If \vec{u} and \vec{v} are orthonormal, and \vec{v} and \vec{w} are orthonormal, then \vec{u} and \vec{w} are orthonormal.

Sometimes

• True if $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ — they're standard basis vectors so any two of them are orthonormal.

• False if $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ $\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ — again they're standard basis vectors $\Rightarrow \vec{u}, \vec{v}$ & \vec{v}, \vec{w} are orthonormal, but $\vec{u} = \vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} = 1 \neq 0$

So \vec{u}, \vec{w} aren't orthonormal

(b) Let V be a plane in \mathbb{R}^3 . Then V has an orthonormal basis.

Always Let \vec{a}, \vec{b} be a basis of the plane.

Define $\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{a}\|} \vec{a} \Rightarrow \vec{u}$ is a unit vector in the plane.

Define $\vec{v} = \vec{b} - \text{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{b}) \Rightarrow \vec{v}$ is orthogonal to \vec{u} and lies in the plane ($\because \vec{b}$ & $\text{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{b})$ are in the plane)

Define $\vec{w} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v} \Rightarrow \vec{w}$ is a unit vector parallel to \vec{v}

(\Rightarrow orthogonal to \vec{u} & in the plane)

$\Rightarrow \vec{u}, \vec{w}$ is an orthonormal basis of V

(c) The vectors $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$ are orthonormal.

Always

$$\bullet \left\| \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \right\|^2 = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \right\|^2 = \cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$

\Rightarrow they're unit vectors

$$\bullet \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} = -\cos \theta \sin \theta + \sin \theta \cos \theta = 0$$

\Rightarrow they're orthonormal

So they form an orthonormal set.

