

are normed linear spaces, and with the exception of Example 6 they are all Banach spaces.

Inner Product Spaces

A normed linear space provides us with a way of measuring the length of a vector. We want to refine the structure further, so that we shall also have available a notion of angle between vectors (in particular, we want to be able to tell whether or not two vectors are perpendicular). By analogy with ordinary three-dimensional vectors, we shall derive these notions from an inner product (also known as a scalar or dot product).

DEFINITION. An *inner product* $\langle x, y \rangle$ on a *real* linear space $\mathcal{A}^{(r)}$ is a *real*-valued function of ordered pairs of vectors x, y with the properties

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, y \rangle &= \langle y, x \rangle; \\ \langle \alpha x, y \rangle &= \alpha \langle x, y \rangle; \\ \langle x_1 + x_2, y \rangle &= \langle x_1, y \rangle + \langle x_2, y \rangle; \\ \langle x, x \rangle &\geq 0, \quad \text{with } \langle x, x \rangle = 0 \text{ if and only if } x = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

Theorem (The Schwarz Inequality). For any two vectors x and y , we have

$$\langle x, y \rangle^2 \leq \langle x, x \rangle \langle y, y \rangle. \quad (2.7)$$

Proof. It follows from (2.6) that, for any real number α ,

$$0 \leq \langle x + \alpha y, x + \alpha y \rangle = \alpha^2 \langle y, y \rangle + 2\alpha \langle x, y \rangle + \langle x, x \rangle.$$

The right side is a nonnegative quadratic in α , so that its discriminant is non-positive; therefore,

$$\langle x, y \rangle^2 - \langle x, x \rangle \langle y, y \rangle \leq 0,$$

which is the desired inequality. \times

Letting $\langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}$ and $\langle y, y \rangle^{1/2}$ stand for nonnegative square roots, we have

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \langle x, x \rangle^{1/2} \langle y, y \rangle^{1/2}. \quad (2.7a)$$

The reader should prove that the equality in (2.7) or in (2.7a) occurs if and only if x and y are dependent.

Using (2.7a),

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x + y, x + y \rangle &= \langle x, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle + 2\langle x, y \rangle \\ &\leq \langle x, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle + 2\langle x, x \rangle^{1/2} \langle y, y \rangle^{1/2} \\ &= [\langle x, x \rangle^{1/2} + \langle y, y \rangle^{1/2}]^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\langle x + y, x + y \rangle^{1/2} \leq \langle x, x \rangle^{1/2} + \langle y, y \rangle^{1/2}. \quad (2.7b)$$

It is now clear that the quantity $\langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}$ is a norm on our linear space.

From (2.6) and (2.7b) one verifies that $\langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}$ satisfies the conditions (2.4) on $\|x\|$. Thus an inner product space has a *natural norm* defined by

$$\|x\| = \langle x, x \rangle^{1/2}. \quad (2.8)$$

Since a norm generates a natural metric, we have

$$d(x, y) = \|x - y\| = \langle x - y, x - y \rangle^{1/2}. \quad (2.9)$$

We now rewrite the Schwarz inequality (2.7a) in the more attractive form

$$|\langle x, y \rangle| \leq \|x\| \|y\|. \quad (2.10)$$

DEFINITION. Two vectors x and y are said to be *orthogonal* (or *perpendicular*) if $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$. A set of vectors, each pair of which is orthogonal, is called an *orthogonal set*.

If two vectors x and y satisfy $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$, we have $\langle x + y, x + y \rangle = \langle x, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle$ or $\|x + y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2$, so that the Pythagorean theorem holds. This justifies the use of the word orthogonal for the property $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$.

One obtains without difficulty the proposition: *An orthogonal set of nonzero vectors is independent.*

DEFINITION. The set of vectors αy , where $y \neq 0$ and α runs through all real numbers, is called the *line* generated by y . The set of vectors αy , where $y \neq 0$ and $\alpha \geq 0$, is called the *positive half-line* generated by y .

There are two unit vectors (that is, vectors of unit length) lying on the line generated by y , $y/\|y\|$ and $-y/\|y\|$.

DEFINITION. The projection of x on the line generated by y is the vector $x_p = \langle x, e \rangle e$, where e is either unit vector lying on the line (either choice of e yields the same vector, x_p).

This projection x_p may be written in terms of y ,

$$x_p = \frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\|y\|^2} y. \quad (2.11)$$

Given a vector x and a vector $y \neq 0$, x can be decomposed in one and only one way as the sum of two vectors, the first lying on the line generated by y and the second perpendicular to this line (see Figure 2.3). We have specifically,

$$x = x_p + z, \quad x_p = \frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\|y\|^2} y, \quad z = x - \frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\|y\|^2} y, \quad \langle z, y \rangle = 0. \quad (2.12)$$

The above decomposition is unique. If $x'_p + z'$ were another such decomposition, then we would have $0 = (x'_p - x_p) + (z - z')$, where $x'_p - x_p$ is proportional to y and $z - z'$ is orthogonal to y ; since the vectors $x'_p - x_p$ and $z - z'$ are orthogonal, they are either independent or else at least one of them must be zero. They cannot be independent, since their sum vanishes; therefore one of them is 0, hence the other must also be 0. This states that $x_p = x'_p$ and