

1.110: The Gram-Schmidt Procedure

In this exercise the Gram-Schmidt method will be used to create an orthonormal basis set from the following vectors which are neither normalized nor orthogonal.

$$u1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1+i \\ 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \quad u2 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad u3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 28 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Demonstrate that the vectors are not normalized and are not orthogonal.

$$\begin{aligned} (\overline{u1})^T u1 &= 4 & (\overline{u2})^T u2 &= 11 & (\overline{u3})^T u3 &= 784 \\ (\overline{u1})^T u2 &= 4 & (\overline{u1})^T u3 &= 28 & (\overline{u2})^T u3 &= 84 \end{aligned}$$

Using the first vector make u2 orthogonal to it by subtracting its projection on u1.

$$u2 = u2 - \frac{(\overline{u1})^T u2}{(\overline{u1})^T u1} u1$$

Make u3 orthogonal to u1 and u2 by subtracting its projection on u1 and u2.

$$u3 = u3 - \frac{(\overline{u1})^T u3}{(\overline{u1})^T u1} u1 - \frac{(\overline{u2})^T u3}{(\overline{u2})^T u2} u2$$

Finally, normalize the new orthogonal vectors.

$$u1 = \frac{u1}{\sqrt{(\overline{u1})^T u1}} \quad u2 = \frac{u2}{\sqrt{(\overline{u2})^T u2}} \quad u3 = \frac{u3}{\sqrt{(\overline{u3})^T u3}}$$

Demonstrate that an orthonormal basis set has been created.

$$\begin{aligned} (\overline{u1})^T u1 &= 1 & (\overline{u2})^T u2 &= 1 & (\overline{u3})^T u3 &= 1 \\ (\overline{u1})^T u2 &= 0 & (\overline{u1})^T u3 &= 0 & (\overline{u2})^T u3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Display the orthonormal basis set.

$$u1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 + 0.5i \\ 0.5 \\ 0.5i \end{pmatrix} \quad u2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.378 \\ 0.756 \\ 0.378 - 0.378i \end{pmatrix} \quad u3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.085 - 0.592i \\ 0.423 \\ -0.676 + 0.085i \end{pmatrix}$$

1.110: The Gram-Schmidt Procedure is shared under a [not declared](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by LibreTexts.