

Summary of Axler Chapter 6a

Let \mathbf{F} be either \mathbf{R} or \mathbf{C} . An inner product is a function that maps ordered pairs of elements to the underlying field, denoted $\langle u, v \rangle$, such that (i) $\langle v, v \rangle \geq 0$ with equality only for 0 vector; (ii) linearity under addition; (iii) homogeneity in the first slot; and (iv) conjugate symmetry.

Examples include: the standard dot product for \mathbf{R}^n ; the conjugate dot product for \mathbf{C}^n ; and for $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R})$ we can define $\langle p, q \rangle = \int_0^1 p(x) \overline{q(x)} dx$.

Two vectors are orthogonal iff their inner product is zero. The norm of a vector is $\|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}$.

Pythagoras' theorem: If u and v are orthogonal, then

$$\|u + v\|^2 = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2.$$

From this follows: Parallelogram Equality: $\|u + v\|^2 + \|u - v\|^2 = 2(\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2)$.

Cauchy-Schwarz:

$$|\langle u, v \rangle| \leq \|u\| \|v\|.$$

From this follows: Triangle inequality: $\|u + v\| \leq \|u\| + \|v\|$.

An orthonormal set is a set where the vectors are mutually orthogonal and all have norm 1. If (e_i) is an orthonormal basis, then the coefficients expressing vector v in terms of the basis are given by the inner product: $v = \sum_i \langle v, e_i \rangle e_i$.

A nonzero vector is normalized by dividing by its norm. The Gram-Schmidt process converts a linearly independent set (v_i) into an orthonormal set (e_i) with the same span. For increasing j , each e_j is the normalized version of

$$v_j - \sum_{i < j} \langle v_j, e_i \rangle e_i$$