

# Linear Algebra 2: Tutorial 4

Irena Penev

Summer 2025

**Remark:** Unless explicitly specified otherwise,<sup>1</sup> in the following exercises,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is understood to be equipped with the standard scalar product  $\cdot$  and the induced norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and in particular, orthogonality and orthonormality in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are understood to be with respect to the standard scalar product and the induced norm.

## Exercise 1.

(a) Let  $V$  be a real vector space, equipped with the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and the induced norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and let  $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $V$ . Let  $\cdot$  be the standard scalar product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that for all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V$ , we have that

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = [\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}} \cdot [\mathbf{y}]_{\mathcal{B}}.$$

**Hint:** The first thing you should do is find a formula for  $[\mathbf{x}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $[\mathbf{y}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  using the orthonormal basis  $\mathcal{B}$  and the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  in  $V$ .

(b) Same question as in part (a), only for a complex vector space  $V$ .

**Exercise 2.** Consider the following linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute an orthonormal basis of  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3)$  in two different ways: using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization (version 1) and using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization (version 2).

**Exercise 3.** Suppose that  $V$  is a real or complex vector space, equipped with a scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and the induced norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and suppose that  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$  are linearly independent vectors in  $V$ . Now suppose that you perform the two versions of Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization on the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$  in order to obtain orthonormal bases of  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k)$ . Under what circumstances will your two orthonormal bases be different? (Will they ever be different?) Justify your answer.

---

<sup>1</sup>In some exercises, it is indeed specified otherwise.

**Exercise 4.** Consider the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$  from Exercise 2. How would you obtain an orthonormal basis for  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3)$  that is **different** from the one(s) that you obtained in Exercise 2?

**Remark:** Your basis should differ from the one(s) from Exercise 2 not merely in the order in which the vectors appear in the basis, but also in terms of the actual vectors that the basis contains. Don't perform the whole calculation: just explain how you would compute.

**Exercise 5.** Suppose that  $V$  is a real or complex vector space, equipped with a scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and the induced norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Suppose that  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$  is an orthogonal set of non-zero vectors in  $V$ . What do you obtain if you perform the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process (version 1) on  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$  **without** normalizing at the end? And what happens if you do normalize at the end? What happens if you perform the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process (version 2) on  $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$ ?

**Exercise 6.** Consider the following vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ :

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ 27 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \\ -6 \\ 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute an orthonormal basis of  $U := \text{Span}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4)$ . Can you tell what the answer will be without actually performing Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization (either version)?

**Exercise 7.** Consider the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  defined by

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = x_1 y_1 + 2x_2 y_2$$

for all  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1 \ x_2]^T$  and  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1 \ y_2]^T$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . (You may assume that  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  really is a scalar product in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .) Consider the following vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Explain why  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and then perform Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization with input  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$  to obtain an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , where orthonormality is understood to be with respect to our scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and norm  $\|\cdot\|$  induced by it.

**Remark:** Note that  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  are orthogonal with respect to the standard scalar product  $\cdot$ , but they are **not** orthogonal with respect to the scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  defined above.