

Lecture slides for

Introduction to Applied Linear Algebra:
Vectors, Matrices, and Least Squares

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1. Vectors

Outline

Notation

Examples

Addition and scalar multiplication

Inner product

Complexity

Vectors

- ▶ a *vector* is an ordered list of numbers
- ▶ written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1.1 \\ 0.0 \\ 3.6 \\ -7.2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1.1 \\ 0.0 \\ 3.6 \\ -7.2 \end{pmatrix}$$

or $(-1.1, 0, 3.6, -7.2)$

- ▶ numbers in the list are the *elements* (*entries, coefficients, components*)
- ▶ number of elements is the *size* (*dimension, length*) of the vector
- ▶ vector above has dimension 4; its third entry is 3.6
- ▶ vector of size n is called an n -vector
- ▶ numbers are called *scalars*

Vectors via symbols

- ▶ we'll use symbols to denote vectors, e.g., a , X , p , β , E^{aut}
- ▶ other conventions: $\mathbf{g}$, $\vec{a}$
- ▶ i th element of n -vector a is denoted a_i
- ▶ if a is vector above, $a_3 = 3.6$
- ▶ in a_i , i is the *index*
- ▶ for an n -vector, indexes run from $i = 1$ to $i = n$
- ▶ *warning*: sometimes a_i refers to the i th vector in a list of vectors
- ▶ two vectors a and b of the same size are equal if $a_i = b_i$ for all i
- ▶ we overload $=$ and write this as $a = b$

Block vectors

- ▶ suppose b , c , and d are vectors with sizes m , n , p
- ▶ the *stacked vector* or *concatenation* (of b , c , and d) is

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ also called a *block vector*, with (block) entries b , c , d
- ▶ a has size $m + n + p$

$$a = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n, d_1, d_2, \dots, d_p)$$

Zero, ones, and unit vectors

- ▶ n -vector with all entries 0 is denoted 0_n or just 0
- ▶ n -vector with all entries 1 is denoted $\mathbf{1}_n$ or just $\mathbf{1}$
- ▶ a *unit vector* has one entry 1 and all others 0
- ▶ denoted e_i where i is entry that is 1
- ▶ unit vectors of length 3:

$$e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Sparsity

- ▶ a vector is *sparse* if many of its entries are 0
- ▶ can be stored and manipulated efficiently on a computer
- ▶ $\text{nnz}(x)$ is number of entries that are nonzero
- ▶ examples: zero vectors, unit vectors

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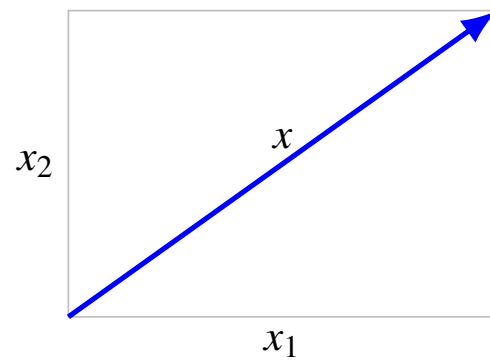
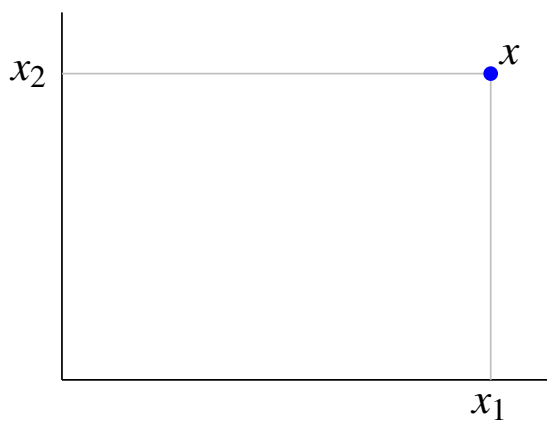
Addition and scalar multiplication

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Location or displacement in 2-D or 3-D

2-vector (x_1, x_2) can represent a location or a displacement in 2-D



More examples

- ▶ color: (R, G, B)
- ▶ quantities of n different commodities (or resources), e.g., bill of materials
- ▶ portfolio: entries give shares (or \$ value or fraction) held in each of n assets, with negative meaning short positions
- ▶ cash flow: x_i is payment in period i to us
- ▶ audio: x_i is the acoustic pressure at sample time i (sample times are spaced $1/44100$ seconds apart)
- ▶ features: x_i is the value of i th *feature* or *attribute* of an entity
- ▶ customer purchase: x_i is the total \$ purchase of product i by a customer over some period
- ▶ word count: x_i is the number of times word i appears in a document

Word count vectors

- ▶ a short document:

Word count vectors are used **in** computer based **document** analysis. Each entry of the **word** count vector is the **number** of times the associated dictionary **word** appears **in** the **document**.

- ▶ a small dictionary (left) and word count vector (right)

word	3
in	2
number	1
horse	0
the	4
document	2

- ▶ dictionaries used in practice are much larger

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Vector addition

- ▶ n -vectors a and b can be added, with sum denoted $a + b$
- ▶ to get sum, add corresponding entries:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 7 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 9 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ subtraction is similar

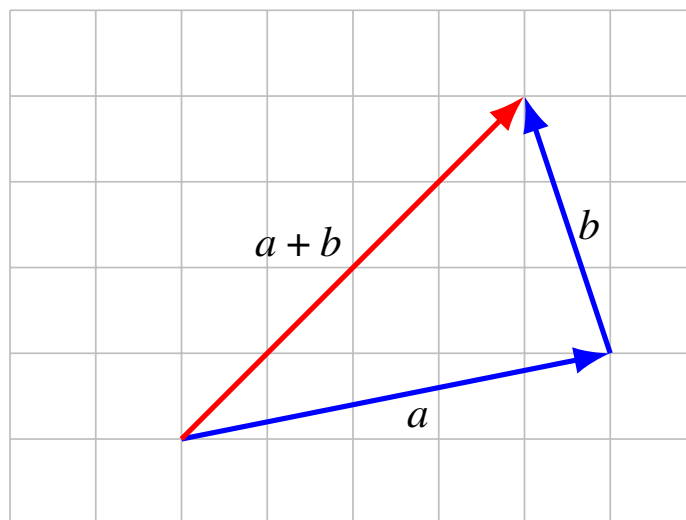
Properties of vector addition

- ▶ *commutative*: $a + b = b + a$
- ▶ *associative*: $(a + b) + c = a + (b + c)$
(so we can write both as $a + b + c$)
- ▶ $a + 0 = 0 + a = a$
- ▶ $a - a = 0$

these are easy and boring to verify

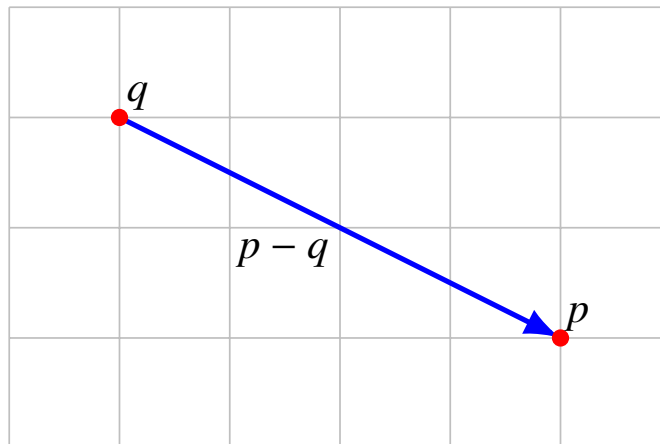
Adding displacements

if 3-vectors a and b are displacements, $a + b$ is the sum displacement



Displacement from one point to another

displacement from point q to point p is $p - q$



Scalar-vector multiplication

- ▶ scalar β and n -vector a can be multiplied

$$\beta a = (\beta a_1, \dots, \beta a_n)$$

- ▶ also denoted $a\beta$

- ▶ example:

$$(-2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 9 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -18 \\ -12 \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties of scalar-vector multiplication

- ▶ associative: $(\beta\gamma)a = \beta(\gamma a)$
- ▶ left distributive: $(\beta + \gamma)a = \beta a + \gamma a$
- ▶ right distributive: $\beta(a + b) = \beta a + \beta b$

these equations look innocent, but be sure you understand them perfectly

Linear combinations

- ▶ for vectors $a_1, \dots, a_m$ and scalars $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$,

$$\beta_1 a_1 + \dots + \beta_m a_m$$

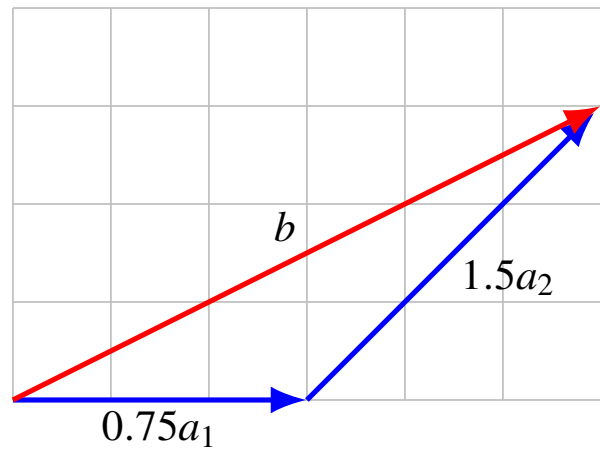
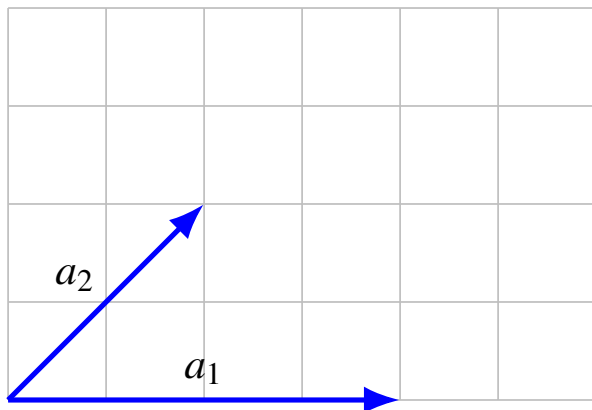
is a *linear combination* of the vectors

- ▶ $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$ are the *coefficients*
- ▶ a very important concept
- ▶ a simple identity: for any n -vector b ,

$$b = b_1 e_1 + \dots + b_n e_n$$

Example

two vectors a_1 and a_2 , and linear combination $b = 0.75a_1 + 1.5a_2$



Replicating a cash flow

- ▶ $c_1 = (1, -1.1, 0)$ is a \$1 loan from period 1 to 2 with 10% interest
- ▶ $c_2 = (0, 1, -1.1)$ is a \$1 loan from period 2 to 3 with 10% interest
- ▶ linear combination

$$d = c_1 + 1.1c_2 = (1, 0, -1.21)$$

is a two period loan with 10% compounded interest rate

- ▶ we have *replicated* a two period loan from two one period loans