

Problem 5. Let $\mathbf{a} = (2, -1, 3)^T$, and let $W = \text{span}(S)$, where

$$S = \left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}. \quad \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 1 - 2 + 1 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow S$ is an orthogonal set

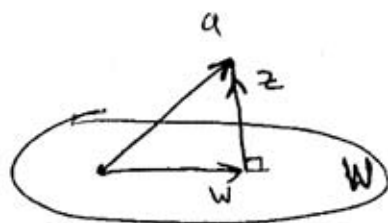
1. Find vectors $\mathbf{w} \in W$ and $\mathbf{z} \in W^\perp$ such that $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{z}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w} &= \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}_1}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{v}_2}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \mathbf{v}_2 = \frac{2 - 2 + 3}{1 + 4 + 1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{2 + 1 + 3}{1 + 1 + 1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 4 \\ 2 - 4 \\ 1 + 4 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 \\ -1 \\ 5/2 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 \\ -1 \\ 5/2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 4 - 5 \\ -2 + 2 \\ 6 - 5 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{z}, \text{ where } \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 \\ -1 \\ 5/2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Check. $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} 5/2 \\ -1 \\ 5/2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{5}{4} + \frac{5}{4} = 0.$



2. What is vector \mathbf{w} called?

Vector \mathbf{w} is called the orthogonal projection of vector \mathbf{a} on $W = \text{span}(S)$.

3. Find the distance between vector \mathbf{a} and W . (Hint: recall that the distance between vector \mathbf{a} and W is the distance between \mathbf{a} and its orthogonal projection on W .)

$$\text{dist}(\mathbf{a}, W) = \|\mathbf{z}\| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$