

Let  $\langle, \rangle: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  be a sesquilinear form.

Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $V$  with  $k = \dim(V)$ .

Let  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  be a basis of  $W$ .

The Gram matrix of  $\langle, \rangle$  with respect to  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  is  $G \in M_k(\mathbb{F})$  given by

$$G(i, j) = \langle w_i, w_j \rangle.$$

The dual basis of  $W$  is  $\{w^1, \dots, w^k\}$  such that

$$\langle w^i, w_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}.$$

Example Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$  with standard dot product.

Let  $W = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  and basis  $\{w_1, w_2\}$  with  $w_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $w_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . The Gram matrix is

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 20 \end{pmatrix} \text{ since } \begin{matrix} w_1 \cdot w_1 = 3 & w_1 \cdot w_2 = 6 \\ w_2 \cdot w_1 = 6 & w_2 \cdot w_2 = 20 \end{matrix}$$

The dual basis  $\{w^1, w^2\}$  has

$$w^1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{5}{6} \\ -\frac{1}{6} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } w^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix} \text{ since } \begin{matrix} w^1 \cdot w_1 = 1 & w^1 \cdot w_2 = 0 \\ w^2 \cdot w_1 = 0 & w^2 \cdot w_2 = 1 \end{matrix}$$

and  $w^1 = \frac{5}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{-1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $G^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{6} & -\frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{8} \end{pmatrix}$

$$w^2 = -\frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\{w_1^1, \dots, w_k^k\}$  be the dual basis to  
 $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$ .

The orthogonal projection onto  $W$  is  
 the linear transformation

$$P_W: V \rightarrow V \text{ given by } P_W(v) = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, w_i \rangle w_i$$

Proposition  $P_W$  is the unique linear transfor-  
 such that

(1) If  $v \in V$  then  $P_W(v) \in W$

(2) If  $v \in V$  and  $w \in W$  then

$$\langle v, w \rangle = \langle P_W(v), w \rangle$$

Proof To show:

(a)  $P_W$  satisfies (1) and (2)

(b) If  $P$  and  $Q$  satisfy (1) and (2) then  
 $P = Q$ .

(a) (1) Assume  $v \in V$ .

To show:  $P_W(v) \in W$ .

Since  $\{w_1, \dots, w_k\}$  is a basis of  $W$  then

$$P_W(v) = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, w_i \rangle w_i \in W.$$

(a) (2) Assume  $v \in V$  and  $w \in W$ .

To show:  $\langle v, w \rangle = \langle P(v), w \rangle$ .

Write  $w = c_1 w_1 + \dots + c_k w_k$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(v), w \rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, w_i \rangle w_i, \sum_{j=1}^k c_j w_j \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, w_i \rangle c_j \langle w_i, w_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^k \langle v, c_i w_i \rangle \\ &= \langle v, w \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore P_w$  satisfies (1) and (2).

(b) Assume  $P$  and  $Q$  satisfy (1) and (2).

To show:  $P = Q$

To show: If  $v \in V$  then  $P(v) = Q(v)$ .

Assume  $v \in V$ .

By property (1),  $P(v) - Q(v) \in W$ .

By property (2), if  $w \in W$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(v) - Q(v), w \rangle &= \langle P(v), w \rangle - \langle Q(v), w \rangle \\ &= \langle v, w \rangle - \langle v, w \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore P(v) - Q(v) \in W^\perp$

$\therefore P(v) - Q(v) \in W \cap W^\perp = \{0\}$

$\therefore P(v) = Q(v)$  and  $P = Q$ .  $\square$

Orthogonal decomposition

Theorem Let  $W \subseteq V$  be a subspace of  $V$  such that  $\dim(W) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  and  $W \cap W^\perp = \{0\}$ .

Then  $V = W \oplus W^\perp$ .

Proof

(1) Let  $w \in W$  then  $w - P_W(w) \in W$

and  $w - P_W(w) \in W^\perp$  since if  $w' \in W$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle w - P_W(w), w' \rangle &= \langle w, w' \rangle - \langle P_W(w), w' \rangle \\ &= \langle w, w' \rangle - \langle w, w' \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore w - P_W(w) \in W \cap W^\perp$ .

$\therefore w - P_W(w) = 0$ .

$\therefore$  if  $w \in W$  then  $P_W(w) = w$ .

$\therefore \text{im } P_W = W$  and  $P_W^2 = P_W$ .

Let  $P_{W^\perp} = I - P_W$ .

If  $v \in V$  then  $P_{W^\perp}(v) = v - P_W(v)$  and

$v - P_W(v) \in W^\perp$  since if  $w' \in W$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle v - P_W(v), w' \rangle &= \langle v, w' \rangle - \langle P_W(v), w' \rangle \\ &= \langle v, w' \rangle - \langle v, w' \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So  $\text{im } P_{W^\perp} = W^\perp$  and

$$\begin{aligned}(P_{W^\perp})^2 &= (1 - P_W)(1 - P_W) = 1 - 2P_W + P_W^2 \\ &= 1 - 2P_W + P_W = 1 - P_W = P_{W^\perp}.\end{aligned}$$

So  $P_W^2 = P_W$ ,  $P_{W^\perp}^2 = P_{W^\perp}$  and  $P_W + P_{W^\perp} = I$ .

If  $v \in V$  then

$$v = Iv = P_W(v) + P_{W^\perp}(v) \in W + W^\perp.$$

Since  $W \cap W^\perp = \{0\}$  then

$$V = W \oplus W^\perp. \quad \parallel$$