

As before, if $\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$ is an orthonormal basis for W , then $E_W(x) = \sum \langle x, w_j \rangle w_j$.

Prop. (~~missing from Axler!~~ ^{obscure in}) E_W is linear.

Verification $E_W(x+y) = \sum \langle x+y, w_j \rangle w_j = \dots$

$$\sum \langle x, w_j \rangle w_j + \langle y, w_j \rangle w_j = \dots = E_W(x) + E_W(y).$$

$$E_W(cx) = \sum \langle cx, w_j \rangle w_j = \sum c \langle x, w_j \rangle w_j =$$

$$c \sum \langle x, w_j \rangle w_j = c E_W(x). \blacksquare$$

Further properties

(i) $E_W(x) = x$ if $x \in W$, $E_W(x) = 0$ if $x \in W^\perp$.

(ii) $(E_W)^2 x = E_W x$.

Verification of (ii). Write $x = x_1 + x_2$ as before. Then $E^2 x = E(Ex) = E(E(x_1 + x_2)) =$

$EE x_1 = E x_1 = x_1$. But $x_1 = Ex$. Since

$E^2 x = Ex$ for all x , we have $E^2 = E$. \blacksquare

Example Let $W = \text{Span of } (2, 3, 4)$
and $(0, 3, 4)$. If $x = (1, 1, 0)$, find
 $E_W(x)$.

Sketch of computation First find orthonormal
basis for W . Gram-Schmidt yields
 $(0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5})$ & $(1, 0, 0)$. Therefore $E_W(1, 1, 0) =$
 $\langle (0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5}), (1, 1, 0) \rangle (0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5}) + \langle (1, 0, 0), (1, 1, 0) \rangle (1, 0, 0) =$
 $\frac{3}{5} \cdot (0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5}) + 1 \cdot (1, 0, 0) = (1, \frac{9}{25}, \frac{12}{25})$.

Least squares principle

$W \subseteq V$ fin dim innerproduct space.

For $x \in V$, find $y \in W$ so that $|x - y|^2$ is as
small as possible.

Solution The minimum occurs when $y = E_W x$
and nowhere else.

Verification ~~Write $x = y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_n$ where $y_i \in W$~~

Verification Write $x = x_1 + x_2$ where $x_1 \in W, x_2 \in W^\perp$. Then $\|x - y\|^2 =$

$\|x_2 + (x_1 - y)\|^2$, and since $x_2 \perp x_1 - y$ we know that \uparrow equals $\|x_2\|^2 + \|x_1 - y\|^2 \geq \|x_2\|^2$.

Equality holds $\Leftrightarrow x_1 - y = 0$ or $y = x_1 = E_W x$. \blacksquare

Cor. If u_1, \dots, u_r is an orthonormal basis for W , then $\|x - \sum c_j u_j\|^2$ is minimized \Leftrightarrow

$$c_j = \langle x, u_j \rangle \text{ all } j. \blacksquare$$

Fundamental Application: Want an

empirical formula for one variable y as

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j + b$$

in terms of variables x_1, \dots, x_n .

We may try to do this by measuring

x_1, \dots, x_n, y in m cases, where m is much larger than $n+1$. Usually it is not possible to

find an exact solution for a_1, \dots, a_n, b . The best we can hope for is a "least squares soln."