

1. Consider $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} k^2 \\ k \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ where k is some unknown scalar.

(a) 3 points. Find the values of the scalar k for which the two vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} are orthogonal to each other.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} &= 0 \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} k^2 \\ k \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} &= 1 \cdot k^2 - 1 \cdot k + 2 \cdot (-3) \\ &= k^2 - k - 6 \\ &= (k-3)(k+2) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ are both orthogonal to $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$.
 $k=3$ or $k=-2$

(b) 2 points. Is it possible to find values of k for which the two vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} are parallel to each other? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} &= c \vec{v} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} &= c \begin{pmatrix} k^2 \\ k \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} -3c &= 2 \Rightarrow c = -2/3 \\ kc &= -1 \Rightarrow k \cdot \frac{-2}{3} = -1 \Rightarrow k = \frac{3}{2} \\ kc^2 &= 1 \end{aligned} \end{aligned}$$

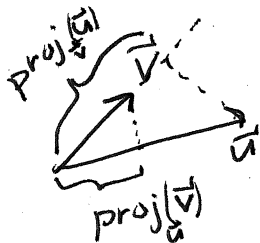
There exists no c and k so that $\vec{u} = c \vec{v}$, i.e. \vec{u} and \vec{v} are parallel.

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{-2}{3}\right)^2 &= 1 \\ \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{4}{9} &= 1 \\ \text{No!} \end{aligned}$$

(c) 3 points. Let $k=0$ to produce a specific known vector \vec{v} . Compute $\text{proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{u})$ and $\text{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \\ \text{proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) &= \left(\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) \vec{u} = \left(\frac{-6}{1+1+4} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \text{proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{u}) &= \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}} \right) \vec{v} = \left(\frac{-6}{0+0+9} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{2}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(d) 2 points. Are your answers in part (c) different? Is this a surprise? EXPLAIN YOUR ANSWER.



You shouldn't be surprised that the projection \vec{u} onto \vec{v} is NOT the same as the projection of \vec{v} onto \vec{u} .