

Last class:

Cauchy-Schwartz inequality

$$|x^T \cdot y| \leq \|x\| \|y\|.$$

I want to back up just a bit

This is telling something about what the inner product measures. It tells us how alike  $x$  and  $y$  are?

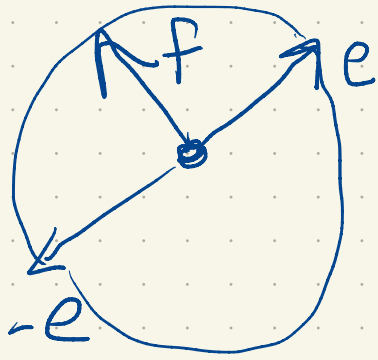
How so? First suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are unit vectors,

$$e, f. \quad (\|e\| = \|f\| = 1)$$

$$|e^T f| \leq 1 \quad -1 \leq e^T f \leq 1$$

Moreover:  $e^T e = \|e\|^2 = 1$

$$e^T (-e) = -(e^T e) = -1$$



$$e = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \quad e = (1, 0)$$

$$f = \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \quad f = (0, 1)$$

$$e^T f = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0 \quad e^T f = 0 + 0 = 0$$

If  $e^T f = 0$  we say  $e$  and  $f$  are orthogonal (or perpendicular)

Morally, for unit vectors,  $e^T f = 1$  means  $e$  and  $f$  are <sup>same</sup> same  
 $e^T f = -1$  means  $e$  and  $f$  are opposite

$e^T f = 0$  means  $e$  and  $f$  are unrelated,

And Cauchy-Schwarz guarantees this kind of analysis holds in all dimensions.

For arbitrary vectors  $x, y$ , what does  $x^T y$

tell you?  $e = \frac{x}{\|x\|}$   $f = \frac{y}{\|y\|}$  are unit vectors  
( $x, y \neq 0$ ).

$$x = \|x\| e, \quad y = \|y\| f$$

$$x^T y = \underbrace{\|x\|}_{\text{mag of } x} \underbrace{\|y\|}_{\text{mag of } y} \underbrace{(e^T f)}_{\text{directional info}}$$

mixes these  
two pieces of  
information  
(magnitudes of  $x, y$   
and their "sameness".)

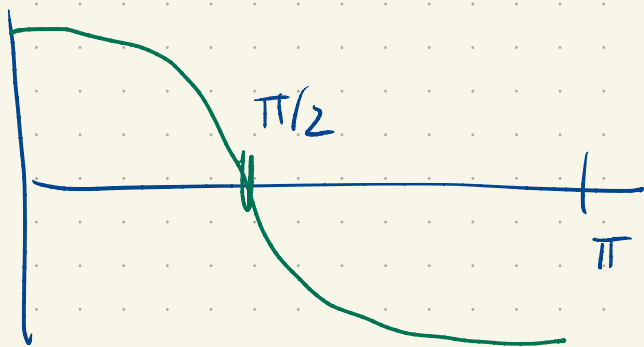
Oh, and if you are seeing  $x^T y = \|x\| \|y\| \cos \theta$  you  
aren't wrong.

$e, f$  are unit vectors we define

$$\angle(e, f) = \theta$$

$$\theta = \arccos(e^T f)$$

$$\cos \theta = e^T f$$



$$e^{Tf} = 1 \Rightarrow \theta = 0$$

$$e^{Tf} = -1 \Rightarrow \theta = \pi$$

$$e^{Tf} = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

For arbitrary  $x, y$  we need to convert to unit vectors:

$$\cos \theta = \left( \frac{x}{\|x\|} \right)^T \left( \frac{y}{\|y\|} \right) = \frac{x^T y}{\|x\| \|y\|}$$

Moreover:  $x^T y = \underbrace{\|x\| \|y\|}_{> 0} \cos \theta$

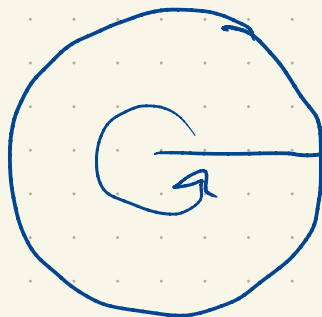
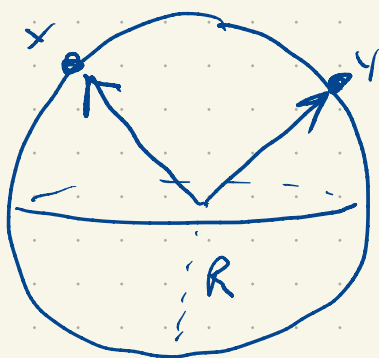
So the sign of  $x^T y$  tells you about the sign of  $\cos \theta$ .

$$x^T y > 0 \Rightarrow \theta \text{ is acute}$$

$$x^T y < 0 \Rightarrow \theta \text{ is obtuse}$$

$$x^T y = 0 \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (x, y \text{ are orthogonal})$$

How far, on the sphere, is it  
from  $x$  to  $y$ ?  $R\theta$ .



circumference is

$$\frac{2\pi R}{\theta} \text{ rad!}$$

$$R \arccos\left(\frac{x^T y}{R^2}\right) = d$$

I can't stress enough how fundamental the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality is.

The triangle inequality,  $\|x+y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$  is a consequence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+y\|^2 &= (x+y)^T (x+y) = \|x\|^2 + y^T x + x^T y + \|y\|^2 \\ &= \|x\|^2 + 2x^T y + \|y\|^2 \\ &\leq \|x\|^2 + 2\|x\|\|y\| + \|y\|^2 \\ &= (\|x\| + \|y\|)^2 \end{aligned}$$

So  $\|x+y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$  (oooh!)

Ok, can I show you that even in 147 dimensions  
the C-S inequality holds?

Lets do it for unit vectors  $e, f$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \|e-f\|^2 &= (e-f)^T(e-f) \\ &= \|e\|^2 - 2e^T f + \|f\|^2 \\ &= 2 - 2e^T f \end{aligned}$$

So  $e^T f \leq 1$ .

Since  $-f$  is also a unit vector,

$$e^T(-f) \leq 1 \Rightarrow -e^T f \leq 1 \Rightarrow e^T f \geq -1,$$

So  $-1 \leq e^T f \leq 1 \Rightarrow |e^T f| \leq 1$ .

If  $x, y \neq 0$   $\left| \frac{x^T y}{\|x\| \|y\|} \right| \leq 1 \Rightarrow |x^T y| \leq \|x\| \|y\|$ ,

If  $x=0$  or  $y=0$ , obvious.

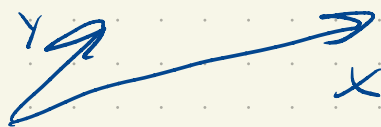
## Chapter 4 (it's a lab!)

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## Chapter 5 Linear Independence.

(Now the real work begins).

Preview: Suppose I give you two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$



And I ask "what are all the vectors you can make by taking linear combinations of  $x$  and  $y$ ?"

What are all the vectors I can make forming

$$\alpha x + \beta y \quad \text{for numbers } \alpha, \beta?$$

zero vector? yep! All multiples of  $x$ ? yep!  
of  $y$ ? yep!

And indeed the whole plane that contains both  $x$  and  $y$ .

Now: what if I add  $z = 3x - 2y$  into the mix?

What can I make forming linear combinations of  $x$  and  $y$  and  $z$ ?

$$\alpha x + \beta y + \gamma z$$

Well I can always take  $\gamma = 0$ . So I set it last as much as before. Do I get anything new?

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha x + \beta y + \gamma(3x - 2y) &= (\alpha + 3\gamma)x + (\beta - 2\gamma)y \\ &= \alpha'x + \beta'y.\end{aligned}$$

So no, nothing new.

The vectors  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $3x - 2y$  are

called linearly dependent. It means they are

redundant from the point of view of making

linear combinations. I can throw one away and



still make as many linear combos.

By contrast,  $x = (1, 0, 0)$  and  $y = (1, 1, 0)$

are called linearly dependent.



Throw one away and you can't form the  $x$ - $y$   
plane.