

**Tuesday, August 30** \*\* *Orthogonal projections and planes in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .*

1. Let  $\mathbf{u} = (2, 4)$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = (3, 1)$ , and  $\mathbf{w} = (4, 4)$ .

- (a) Find the projections  $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u})$  and  $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{w})$  of the vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  onto  $\mathbf{v}$ .
- (b) The orthogonal complement of  $\mathbf{u}$  with respect to  $\mathbf{v}$  is the vector

$$\text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u} - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u}).$$

Find  $\text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u})$  and  $\text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{w})$ . Represent all seven vectors in a figure (the three originals, the two projections, and the two complements).

- (c) Check that the complements  $\text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u})$  and  $\text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{w})$  are both orthogonal to  $\mathbf{v}$ .

2. Let  $P = (1, 2, 3)$ ,  $Q = (0, 1, 2)$ , and  $\mathbf{u} = (1, 2, 1)$ .

- (a) Find the distance from  $P$  to the line  $t\mathbf{u}$ . Hint: What is the closest point to  $P$  on this line?
- (b) Find the distance from  $P$  to the line  $Q + t\mathbf{u}$ . Hint: The distance from  $P$  to  $Q + t\mathbf{u}$  is the same as the distance from which point to the line  $t\mathbf{u}$ ?

3. Let  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Set

$$\mathbf{w} = \text{orth}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u} - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{u}).$$

Find  $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{u}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ , and  $\mathbf{w}$ .

4. Let  $P = (-1, 3, 0)$  and let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the plane described by the equation

$$-2x + y + z = 3.$$

- (a) Find a normal vector  $\mathbf{n}$  to the plane  $\mathcal{P}$ . Hint: First find a normal vector to the plane through the origin  $-2x + y + z = 0$ . How is this normal vector related to  $\mathbf{n}$ ?
- (b) Find a point  $Q$  on the plane  $\mathcal{P}$ . Check that if  $R$  is also a point on  $\mathcal{P}$ , then  $R - Q$  lies on the plane through the origin

$$-2x + y + z = 0.$$

In other words, this says that the translate of the plane  $\mathcal{P}$  by  $Q$  is the plane through the origin.

- (c) Find the projection  $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{n}}(P - Q)$ .
- (d) Use the information from the previous parts to find the distance from  $P$  to  $\mathcal{P}$ .