

# **Set 1: Basics**

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## Scalars, Vectors and Matrices

Scalars and their operations are assumed to be from

- the field of real numbers ( $\mathbb{R}$ )
- the field of complex numbers ( $\mathbb{C}$ )
  - complex number:  $\alpha = \beta + i\gamma$  where  $i$  here is used to represent the root of  $-1$  (occasionally we will use  $j$  for this but it will be made clear when this is done)
  - $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are the real and imaginary parts of  $\alpha$  respectively
  - complex conjugate  $\bar{\alpha} = \beta - i\gamma$
  - the absolute value of  $\alpha$  denoted  $|\alpha|$  is  $\sqrt{\alpha\bar{\alpha}} = \sqrt{\beta^2 + \gamma^2}$

## Scalars, Vectors and Matrices

- $\mathbb{R}^n$  – a vector is an one-dimensionally ordered list of  $n$  real scalars
  - addition of vectors is componentwise scalar addition
  - scalar vector product multiplies each component of the vector with the scalar
- $\mathbb{C}^n$  – a vector is an one-dimensionally ordered list of  $n$  complex scalars
  - addition of vectors is componentwise complex scalar addition
  - scalar vector product multiplies each complex component of the vector with the complex scalar

## Example – $\mathbb{R}^3$

Vectors:

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -52 \end{pmatrix} \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Basic Operations:

$$x + y = \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ -1 \\ -50 \end{pmatrix} \quad 2x = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ -104 \end{pmatrix} \quad 3y = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ -12 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear Combination:

$$2x + 3y = \begin{pmatrix} 32 \\ -6 \\ -98 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example – $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad e = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Scalars, Vectors and Matrices

**Definition 1.1.** An  $m \times n$  matrix of scalars from  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  is a two-dimensionally ordered arrangement of  $mn$  scalars

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{12} & \cdots & \alpha_{1n} \\ \alpha_{21} & \alpha_{22} & \cdots & \alpha_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_{m1} & \alpha_{m2} & \cdots & \alpha_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

The set of  $m \times n$  matrices with scalar elements from  $\mathbb{R}$  is denoted  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

The set of  $m \times n$  matrices with scalar elements from  $\mathbb{C}$  is denoted  $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$

## Matrix Operations

Matrix scaling  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$B = \gamma A = A\gamma \text{ has elements } \beta_{ij} = \gamma\alpha_{ij}$$

Matrix addition  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ :

$$C = A + B = B + A \text{ has elements } \gamma_{ij} = \beta_{ij} + \alpha_{ij}$$

This is the collection of vectors  $\mathbb{R}^{mn}$  and the associated scalar field and operations

## Matrix Vector Product

**Definition 1.2.** If

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \cdots & a_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

and the vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \xi_n \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$Ax = a_1\xi_1 + a_2\xi_2 + \cdots + a_n\xi_n$$

## Matrix Operations

If  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_3}$ , then  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_3}$  is

Scalar definition:

$$C = AB \text{ has elements } \gamma_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n_2} \alpha_{ik} \beta_{kj}$$

Matrix-vector definition:

$$C = AB \rightarrow c_i = Ab_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n_3 \quad \text{where } c_i = Ce_i, \quad b_i = Be_i$$

Outer product definition:

$$C = AB = \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} a_i b_i^T \quad \text{where } a_i = Ae_i, \quad b_i^T = e_i^T B$$

Inner product definition:

$$C = AB \text{ has elements } \gamma_{ij} = a_i^T b_j \quad \text{where } b_i = Be_i, \quad a_i^T = e_i^T A$$

## Matrix Operations

- the matrix product is not commutative
- the matrix product is associative
- the matrix product is distributive, i.e.,  $A(B + C) = AB + AC$
- All scalars and vectors can be replaced with submatrices of appropriate dimension to yield block forms of the matrix product

## Matrix Operations

**Definition 1.3.** The transpose of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , denoted  $A^T$ , and the hermitian transpose of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , denoted  $A^H$ , are the  $n \times m$  matrices

$$A^T = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{11} & \alpha_{21} & \cdots & \alpha_{m1} \\ \alpha_{12} & \alpha_{22} & \cdots & \alpha_{m2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_{1n} & \alpha_{2n} & \cdots & \alpha_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \quad A^H = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\alpha}_{11} & \bar{\alpha}_{21} & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_{m1} \\ \bar{\alpha}_{12} & \bar{\alpha}_{22} & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_{m2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \bar{\alpha}_{1n} & \bar{\alpha}_{2n} & \cdots & \bar{\alpha}_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Vector Space

**Definition 1.4.** Given scalars  $\mathcal{F}$ , a set of vectors  $\mathcal{V}$ , a vector addition operation  $x = y + z$  for  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{V}$ , and a scalar-vector product operation  $y = \alpha x$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have a vector space if the following properties hold:

$$x + y = y + x \quad (1)$$

$$(x + y) + z = x + (y + z) \quad (2)$$

$$x + 0_v = x \quad (3)$$

$$x + (-1_s)x = 0_v \quad (4)$$

$$(\alpha\beta)x = \alpha(\beta x) \quad (5)$$

$$(\alpha +_s \beta)x = \alpha x + \beta x \quad (6)$$

$$\alpha(x + y) = \alpha x + \alpha y \quad (7)$$

$$1_s x = x \quad (8)$$

## Scalar and Vector 0

$$\begin{aligned}0_v &= a + (-1)a \text{ prop4} \\ &= 1a + (-1)a \text{ prop8} \\ &= (0 + 1)a + (-1)a \text{ scalar } 0 + 1 = 1 \\ &= (0a + 1a) + (-1)a \text{ prop6} \\ &= 0a + (1a + (-1)a) \text{ prop2} \\ &= 0a + (a + (-1)a) \text{ prop8} \\ &= 0a + (0) \text{ prop4} \\ &= 0a \text{ prop3}\end{aligned}$$

## Examples

- $\mathcal{P}_n$  – the set of polynomials of degree less than or equal to  $n$ 
  - isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$
  - elements can be written as a linear combination of  $n + 1$  monomials therefore finite dimensional space
- $\mathcal{P}_\infty$  – the set of polynomials of any degree
  - any element can be written as a finite sum of monomials
  - infinite dimensional since it is not the same finite sum size for all vectors
- $\mathcal{L}_\omega^2[\alpha, \beta] = \{f : [\alpha, \beta] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \int_\alpha^\beta f^2(x)\omega(x)dx < \infty\}$ 
  - infinite dimensional
  - need concept of convergence to discuss infinite linear combination that represents each vector

## Algebraic Structure

- The algebraic structure of a vector spaces considers:
  - Subspaces
  - Linear Transformations
  - Bases
  - Linear Independence
- The algebraic structure of the vector spaces  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is **common to all finite dimensional vector spaces**. We will use  $\mathbb{R}^n$  in most of our discussions but the results can be adapted to  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and all other such vector spaces.
- By definition a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  is closed under linear combinations, but an arbitrary subset of the space is not necessarily closed, e.g., a finite set or the set of vectors with nonnegative elements.

## Subspace

**Definition 1.5.** A subset  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a **subspace** if it is closed under linear combination, i.e., if  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \in \mathcal{S}$  then for any scalars  $\alpha_i, i = 1, \dots, k$

$$\alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 + \dots + \alpha_k x_k \in \mathcal{S}$$

and in fact the subspace is itself a vector space (and hence all of our results apply within  $\mathcal{S}$ ).

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a subset (finite or infinite). The set of all linear combinations of vectors in  $\mathcal{S}$  is called the **span** of  $\mathcal{S}$  and is a subspace.

**Example 1.1.**  $\mathbb{R}^n = \text{span}(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)$

## Matrices and Transformations

**Definition 1.7.** Given  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , consider  $b = Ax$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

- The span of the columns of  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{C}^m$  called the **range** of  $A$  and is denoted  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ .
- Since  $A(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha Ax + \beta Ay$ ,  $A$  defines a linear function

$$F(A) : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{R}(A) \subseteq \mathbb{C}^m$$

- Any linear function  $F : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$  has a unique  $A$  defining it.

## Independence

**Definition 1.8.** The set of vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  are **linearly independent** if

$$\alpha_1 x_1 + \dots + \alpha_k x_k = 0 \rightarrow \alpha_i = 0$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . If this does not hold then the vectors are **linearly dependent**.

Note that:

- A set of vectors being linearly dependent implies one of the vectors can be written as a linear combination of the others.
- Any set that contains the 0 vector is linearly dependent.

## Examples

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

are linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad z = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are linearly dependent

## Bases

**Definition 1.9.** A set of vectors  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \in \mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a **basis** for the subspace  $\mathcal{S}$  if

- $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  are linearly independent,
- $\text{span}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) = \mathcal{S}$

Note that:

- A subspace has many bases but every basis contains  $k$  vectors and the unique integer  $k$  is the dimension of the subspace ( $k = \text{dim}(\mathcal{S})$ ).
- $k = \text{dim}(\mathcal{S})$  is the number of degrees of freedom in  $\mathcal{S}$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{S}$  is essentially  $\mathbb{R}^k$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Any collection of vectors in  $\mathcal{S}$  with  $k + 1$  or more vectors is linearly dependent.

## Matrix Implications

- Linear independent columns of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \leftrightarrow \forall x \neq 0, Ax \neq 0$
- Linear dependent columns of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \leftrightarrow \exists x \neq 0 \ni Ax = 0$
- $\mathcal{N}(A) = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^n | Ax = 0\}$  is a subspace called the **null space** of  $A$ . (Also called the kernel denoted  $\ker(A)$ .)
- # of independent columns = dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A) =$  **column rank** of  $A$
- # of independent rows = dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A) =$  **row rank** of  $A$
- If  $b = Ax \in \mathcal{R}(A)$  and  $\text{rank}(A) = n$  then the linear function defined by  $A$  is one-to-one and onto  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  and  $x$  is unique.

## Analytic Properties

In addition to the algebraic properties discussed so far we can also define analytic properties of vector spaces and the associated linear transformations,

- size
- distance
- angle

These are analyzed via:

- norms
- inner products

## Size and Distance

**Definition 1.10.** A vector norm,  $\|x\|$ , is a function  $\mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that satisfies

- $\|x\| \geq 0$  and  $x = 0 \leftrightarrow \|x\| = 0$  (definiteness)
- $\|\alpha x\| = |\alpha| \|x\|$  (homogeneity)
- $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$  (triangle inequality)

We can also deduce

$$\|x - y\| \geq \left| \|x\| - \|y\| \right|$$

## Examples Vector Norms

Let  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  with elements  $e_i^H x = \xi_i$ .

$$\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |\xi_i|$$

$$\|x\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n |\xi_i|^2}$$

$$\|x\|_p = (\sum_{i=1}^n |\xi_i|^p)^{1/p}$$

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\xi_i|$$

## Norm Equivalence

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\mu(x)$  and  $\nu(x)$  be vector norms then there exist constants, i.e., independent of  $x$ ,  $\sigma > 0$  and  $\tau > 0$  such that*

$$\sigma\mu(x) \leq \nu(x) \leq \tau\mu(x)$$

## Norm Equivalence

In other words, for analytical purposes, all norms are equivalent.  
Convergence in one vector norm implies convergence in any other.

Note that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  may be dependent on  $n$ .

$$\|x\|_2 \leq \|x\|_1 \leq \sqrt{n}\|x\|_2$$

$$\|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|_2 \leq \sqrt{n}\|x\|_\infty$$

$$\|x\|_\infty \leq \|x\|_1 \leq n\|x\|_\infty$$

## Matrix Norms

**Definition 1.11.** A matrix norm on  $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  denoted  $\|A\|$  maps  $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and satisfies

- $\|A\| \geq 0$  and  $A = 0 \leftrightarrow \|A\| = 0$
- $\|\alpha A\| = |\alpha| \|A\|$
- $\|A + B\| \leq \|A\| + \|B\|$

## Examples of matrix norms

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  with elements  $e_i^H A e_j = \alpha_{ij}$ .

$$\|A\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^m |\alpha_{ij}| = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \|A e_j\|_1$$

$$\|A\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_{ij}| = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} \|e_i^H A\|_1$$

$$\|A\|_2 = \max_{\|x\|_2=1} \|Ax\|_2$$

$$\|A\|_p = \max_{\|x\|_p=1} \|Ax\|_p$$

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_{ij}|^2} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m \|A e_i\|_2^2}$$

## Examples of matrix norms

- The Frobenius norm  $\|A\|_F$  is essentially the vector 2 norm applied to the matrix as if it was a element of  $\mathbb{C}^{mn}$ .
- $\|A\|_F^2 = \text{trace}(A^H A)$  where the trace is the sum of the diagonal elements.
- While all matrix norms are equivalent for analytical purposes, they **differ considerably in their ease of computation.**

## Matrix 2 Norm

- Definition given requires optimization

$$\|A\|_2 = \max_{\|x\|_2=1} \|Ax\|_2$$

- $\|A\|_2$  can be related to eigenvalues and singular values but these are also “infinite” computations
- Bounds can be derived in terms of  $\|A\|_1$  and  $\|A\|_\infty$ , i.e., equivalence can be used for approximation

$$\|A\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\|A\|_1 \|A\|_\infty}$$

## Consistent Matrix Norms

**Definition 1.12.** The matrix norms  $\|\cdot\|_\alpha, \|\cdot\|_\beta, \|\cdot\|_\gamma$  are **consistent** if

$$\|AB\|_\alpha \leq \|A\|_\beta \|B\|_\gamma$$

whenever the product exists.

**Lemma 1.2.** *The matrix  $p$ -norm defines a family of consistent matrix norms.*

*Specifically, for  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times r}$  and  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$*

$$\|AB\|_p \leq \|A\|_p \|B\|_p$$

$$\|Ax\|_p \leq \|A\|_p \|x\|_p$$

## Induced Matrix Norms

**Definition 1.13.** The matrix norm  $\| \cdot \|$  is **subordinate** to vector norms  $\| \cdot \|_\alpha$  and  $\| \cdot \|_\beta$  if

$$\|Ax\|_\alpha \leq \|A\| \|x\|_\beta$$

and the matrix norm therefore bounds the expansion/contraction of the linear transformation defined by  $A$ .

**Definition 1.14.** Given vector norms  $\| \cdot \|_\alpha$  and  $\| \cdot \|_\beta$  the induced matrix norm  $\| \cdot \|_{\alpha,\beta}$  is

$$\|A\|_{\alpha,\beta} = \max_{\|x\|_\alpha=1} \|Ax\|_\beta$$

## Induced Matrix Norms

**Theorem 1.3.** Given a vector norm  $\|\cdot\|_\alpha$  on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  or  $\mathbb{R}^n$  the induced matrix norm  $\|\cdot\|_\beta$  for an  $n \times n$  matrix

1.  $\|Ax\|_\alpha \leq \|A\|_\beta \|x\|_\alpha$  (subordinate)
2.  $\|I\|_\beta = 1$
3.  $\|AB\|_\beta \leq \|A\|_\beta \|B\|_\beta$  (submultiplicative)

## Convergence

Both vector sequences and matrix sequences can therefore be said to converge to limit vectors and limit matrices by considering convergence in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 1.15.** For the vector sequence  $\{x_k\}$  and the matrix sequence  $\{A_k\}$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = x \leftrightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k - x\| = 0$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A_k = A \leftrightarrow \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|A_k - A\| = 0$$

Componentwise convergence for both follows.

## Angles in n-dimensional Spaces

**Definition 1.16.** An inner product (or scalar product) on a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  is a map  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow F$  where the field  $F$  is either  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  that satisfies

1.  $\langle \alpha x + \beta z, y \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y \rangle + \beta \langle z, y \rangle$ , with  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ . (linearity)
2.  $\langle x, y \rangle = \overline{\langle y, x \rangle}$  (hermitian)
3.  $\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle x, x \rangle = 0 \leftrightarrow x = 0$  (definiteness)

## Inner Product

- $\langle x, y \rangle = x^H y$  is an inner product for  $\mathbb{C}^n$
- $\langle x, y \rangle = x^T y$  is an inner product for  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- There are other inner products for  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$  is a norm.

## Angles in n-dimensional Spaces

**Lemma 1.4.** For  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n$

- $|x^H y| \leq \|x\|_p \|y\|_q$  with  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$  (Hoelder inequality)
- $|x^H y| \leq \|x\|_2 \|y\|_2$  (Cauchy-Schwarz inequality)
- $|x^H y| \leq \|x\|_1 \|y\|_\infty$

Angles can be defined by making the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality an equality.

**Definition 1.17.** Let  $x$  and  $y$  be two nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  then the cosine of the angle between the one-dimensional spaces defined by the vectors,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$ , is defined

$$|x^H y| = \cos\theta \|x\|_2 \|y\|_2$$

## Generalization from $\mathbb{R}^2$

Consider  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^2$  positive quadrant.

$$x^T y = \cos \theta \|x\| \|y\|$$

$$\tilde{x}^T \tilde{y} = \cos \theta$$

$$\tilde{x} = (\cos \theta_1, \sin \theta_1) \text{ and } \|\tilde{x}\| = 1$$

$$\tilde{y} = (\cos \theta_2, \sin \theta_2) \text{ and } \|\tilde{y}\| = 1$$

where  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are angles from  $(1, 0)$

$$\tilde{x}^T \tilde{y} = \cos \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 + \sin \theta_1 \sin \theta_2 = \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) = \cos \theta$$

## Orthogonality

**Definition 1.18.** The vectors  $x$  and  $y$  are said to be orthogonal if their inner product is 0, i.e.,  $\langle x, y \rangle = x^H y = 0$ .

This generalizes the Pythagorean Theorem to multidimensional and complex vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\|x + y\|_2^2 &= (x + y)^H (x + y) \\ &= x^H x + y^H y + 2\operatorname{Re}(x^H y) \\ &= x^H x + y^H y \\ &= \|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

## Polarization and Parallelograms

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  (similar statements can be made for  $\mathbb{C}$ ) with an inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle$ . If the norm is defined by  $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle}$  then we have*

- $\|x + y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 + 2 \langle x, y \rangle$
- $\|x - y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 - 2 \langle x, y \rangle$  (*cosine law*)
- $\|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 = 2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)$  (*parallelogram law*)
- $\|x + y\|^2 - \|x - y\|^2 = 4 \langle x, y \rangle$  (*polarization identity*)

## Polarization and Parallelograms

Amazingly, the reverse is also true.

**Theorem 1.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a normed vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  (similar statements can be made for  $\mathbb{C}$ ). If the norm satisfies the parallelogram law then the polarization identity defines an inner product for  $\mathcal{V}$ . That is*

$$\|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 = 2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\langle x, y \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \{ \|x + y\|^2 - \|x - y\|^2 \}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\|x + y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 + 2 \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$\text{and } \|x - y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 - 2 \langle x, y \rangle$$