

# Summary the second week's lectures.

## Dot Product

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \vec{v} = \langle a_1, b_1, c_1 \rangle \\ \vec{w} = \langle a_2, b_2, c_2 \rangle \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2.$$

Warning. Dot product is a number. It is NOT a vector.

## Algebraic Properties

$$\textcircled{1} (c\vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = c \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{v} \cdot (c\vec{w}).$$

$$\textcircled{2} \vec{v} \cdot (\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2) = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}_1 + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}_2.$$

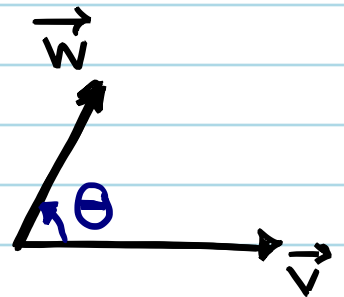
$$\textcircled{3} (\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{w}.$$

$$\textcircled{4} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{v}.$$

## Geometric Properties

$$\textcircled{1} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{v}\|^2.$$

$$\textcircled{2} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta$$



Some of the examples and applications:

Exp. [The angle between two vectors is acute if and only if their dot product is positive.]

Is the angle between  $\langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle$  and  $\langle -2, 3, 1 \rangle$  acute?

Solution. Since  $\langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle \cdot \langle -2, 3, 1 \rangle =$

$$(1)(-2) + (2)(3) + (0)(1) = 4 > 0,$$

the angle between these vectors is acute.

Exp. [Two vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are orthogonal if and only if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .]

Find all values of  $x$  such that  $\vec{v} = \langle x, -x+1, 1 \rangle$  and  $\vec{w} = \langle 1, x+1, x \rangle$  are perpendicular.

Solution.  $\vec{v} \perp \vec{w}$  if and only if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .

So  $\langle x, -x+1, 1 \rangle \cdot \langle 1, x+1, x \rangle =$

$$(x)(1) + (-x+1)(x+1) + (1)(x) =$$

$$x + (-x^2 + 1) + x =$$

$$-x^2 + 2x + 1 = 0$$

Thus  $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 2$

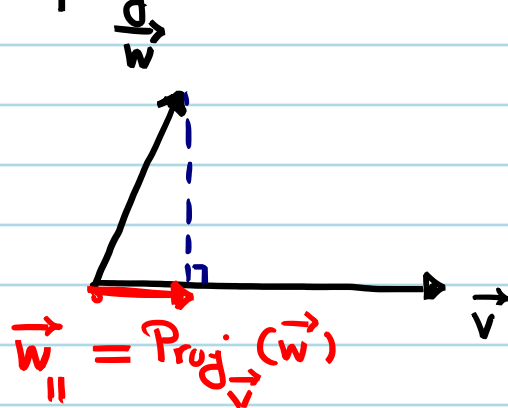
Therefore  $(x-1)^2 = 2$

which implies  $x = 1 + \sqrt{2}$  or  $x = 1 - \sqrt{2}$ .

## Orthogonal Projection

$\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{w})$  : the orthogonal projection of  $\vec{w}$  along  $\vec{v}$ .

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{w}) = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}} \vec{v}$$



Remark. [Geometric interpretation of dot product]

$$\begin{aligned} |\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}| &= \|\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{w})\| \|\vec{v}\| \\ &= (\text{length of the projection of } \vec{w} \text{ along } \vec{v}) (\text{length of } \vec{v}). \end{aligned}$$

•  $\text{Proj}_{\vec{v}}(\vec{w}) = (\text{The component of } \vec{w} \text{ along } \vec{v}) \vec{e}_{\vec{v}}$ ,

where  $\vec{e}_{\vec{v}} = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$  is the unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{v}$ .

• The component of  $\vec{w}$  along  $\vec{v} = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$ .

Exp. [How to use length of vectors to compute dot product.]

Assume  $\|\vec{v}\| = 2$ ,  $\|\vec{w}\| = 3$  and  $\|2\vec{v} + \vec{w}\| = 6$ .

(a) Find  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}$ .

(b) Find  $\|\vec{v} + 3\vec{w}\|$ .

Solution. (a)  $\|2\vec{v} + \vec{w}\|^2 = 4\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} + 4\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{w} \cdot \vec{w}$   
 $= 4\|\vec{v}\|^2 + 4\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} + \|\vec{w}\|^2$

$$\Rightarrow 36 = (4)(4) + 4\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} + 9$$

$$\Rightarrow 4\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 36 - 16 - 9 = 11$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 11/4.$$

(b)  $\|\vec{v} + 3\vec{w}\|^2 = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} + 6\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} + 9\vec{w} \cdot \vec{w}$   
 $= \|\vec{v}\|^2 + 6\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} + 9\|\vec{w}\|^2$

$$= 4 + (6)(11/4) + (9)(9)$$

$$= 4 + \frac{33}{2} + 81 = 101.5$$

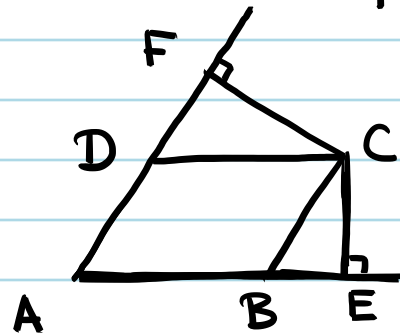
$$\Rightarrow \|\vec{v} + 3\vec{w}\| = \sqrt{101.5}.$$

## Advance Example [NOT needed for the exam.]

In the following figure ABCD is a parallelogram.

Show that

$$AC^2 = AB \cdot AE + AD \cdot AF$$



(These are NOT

dot products.) [Come to my office hour for its solution]

## Determinant of 2x2 and 3x3 matrices

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & c_2 \\ b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} - b_1 \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} + c_1 \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Alternative way ①

$\ominus$ 
 $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$ 
 $\oplus$

$a_3 b_2 c_1$ 
 $a_1 b_2 c_3$   
 $a_1 b_3 c_2$ 
 $a_2 b_3 c_1$   
 $a_2 b_1 c_3$ 
 $a_3 b_1 c_2$

Alternative way ②

$\ominus$ 
 $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$ 
 $\oplus$

$-abc$ 
 $-abc$ 
 $-abc$ 
 $+abc$ 
 $+abc$ 
 $+abc$

$3\ 2\ 1$ 
 $1\ 3\ 2$ 
 $2\ 1\ 3$ 
 $1\ 2\ 3$ 
 $3\ 1\ 2$ 
 $2\ 3\ 1$

## Cross Product of $\vec{v}$ and $\vec{w}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \vec{v} = \langle a_1, b_1, c_1 \rangle \\ \vec{w} = \langle a_2, b_2, c_2 \rangle \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

## Algebraic Properties

- ①  $(c\vec{v}) \times \vec{w} = c \vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \vec{v} \times (c\vec{w})$ .
- ②  $\vec{v} \times (\vec{w}_1 + \vec{w}_2) = \vec{v} \times \vec{w}_1 + \vec{v} \times \vec{w}_2$ .
- ③  $(\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) \times \vec{w} = \vec{v}_1 \times \vec{w} + \vec{v}_2 \times \vec{w}$ .
- ④  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = -\vec{w} \times \vec{v}$ .

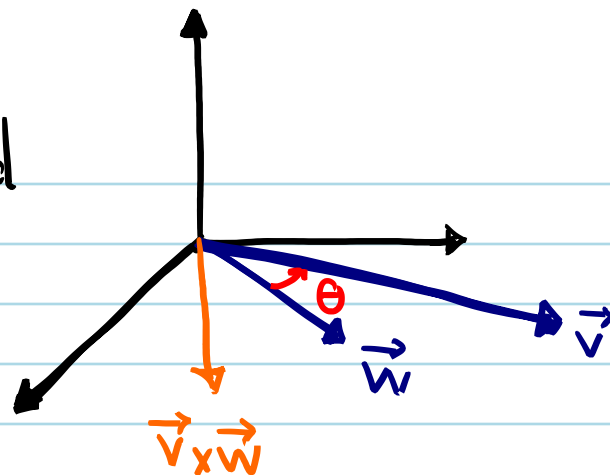
## Geometric Properties

- ①  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \sin \theta$ , where  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  is the angle between  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ .
- ②  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} \perp \vec{v}$  and  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} \perp \vec{w}$ .
- ③  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{w}$  and  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$  obey the right hand rule.

Exp. In the following figure the vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are parallel to the  $xy$ -plane. Find  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$

if  $\|\vec{v}\| = 2$ ,  $\|\vec{w}\| = 1$  and

$$\theta = \pi/6.$$



Solution. We know

$$\begin{aligned}\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| &= \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \sin(\theta) \\ &= (2)(1)(\sin(\pi/6)) \\ &= (2)(1)(1/2) \\ &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

We also know  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ . So it is perpendicular to the  $xy$ -plane.

Hence  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = c \vec{k}$  for some number  $c$ .

Since  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = 1$ ,  $c = \pm 1$ .

At last we know that  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{w}$  and  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$  obey the right hand rule, so  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$  is in the direction of negative  $z$ -axis. Hence

$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \langle 0, 0, -1 \rangle.$$

Exp. [Area of the parallelogram spanned by  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is equal to  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\|$ .]

Find the area of the parallelogram spanned by  $\vec{v} = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle$  and  $\vec{w} = \langle -2, 1, 1 \rangle$ .

Solution. Area =  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\|$ .

$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \langle \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}, -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \rangle$$

$$= \langle 2, -1, 5 \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Area} = \sqrt{(2)^2 + (-1)^2 + (5)^2} = \sqrt{4 + 1 + 25} = \sqrt{30}.$$

Exp. [Volume of the parallelepiped spanned by  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is  $|\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})| = |\det \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u} \\ \vec{v} \\ \vec{w} \end{bmatrix}|$ .]

Find the volume of the parallelepiped spanned by  $\vec{u} = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle$ ,  $\vec{v} = \langle -1, 2, 1 \rangle$  and  $\vec{w} = \langle 2, 1, -1 \rangle$ .

Solution. Volume =  $\left| \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right|$



$$\begin{array}{cccccc}
 1 & 2 & 0 & \vdots & 1 & 2 \\
 -1 & 2 & 1 & \vdots & -1 & 2 \\
 2 & 1 & -1 & \vdots & 2 & 1 \\
 0 & 1 & 2 & & -2 & 4 & 0
 \end{array}
 \Rightarrow \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= -2 + 4 - 1 - 2 = -1.$$

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So volume =  $|-1| = 1$ .

Exp. [Use  $\vec{r}_k$  and  $\vec{r}_j$  and distribution to compute cross product.]

Find  $(2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}) \times (\vec{j} - 4\vec{k})$ .

Solution.  $(2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}) \times (\vec{j} - 4\vec{k})$

$$= 2 \underbrace{\vec{i} \times \vec{j}}_{\vec{k}} - 8 \underbrace{\vec{i} \times \vec{k}}_{-\vec{j}} + 3 \underbrace{\vec{j} \times \vec{j}}_{\vec{0}} - 12 \underbrace{\vec{j} \times \vec{k}}_{\vec{i}}$$

$$= -12\vec{i} + 8\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$$

$$= \langle -12, 8, 2 \rangle$$