Section 12.1-12.4: Vector Review

## Vectors and Scalars

<u>Def</u>:

1. A <u>scalar</u> is a quantity that can be described by a single number.

2. A <u>vector</u> is a quantity that needs a number and a direction in order to describe it.

## Visualizing Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and $\mathbb{R}^3$

Vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are drawn as arrows

- The length of the arrow is the number part of the vector and is called its <u>magnitude</u>
- The direction the arrow is pointed in gives the <u>direction</u> of the vector
- The starting point doesn't matter, but usually vectors are drawn starting at the origin

 $\rightarrow x$ 

• Even though in some classes, vectors are described with a magnitude and direction, in this class we will describe it by its endpoint (thinking that the starting point is always the origin)

#### Vector Notation

The notation for vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  look like...

< 2, -1 >

The notation for the set (group) of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is...  $V_2$ 

#### Vector Notation

The notation for vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  look like...

< 2, -1, 5 >

The notation for the set (group) of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is...  $V_3$ 

- <u>Visual</u>: If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ), their sum  $\vec{v} + \vec{w}$  is also a vector and you can find it by...
- 1) Draw vector  $\vec{v}$  first
- 2) Draw vector  $\vec{w}$  in such a way that its tail is at the head of  $\vec{v}$  (head-to-tail)
- 3) The vector  $\vec{v} + \vec{w}$  is the vector whose tail is at the tail of  $\vec{v}$  and whose head is at the head of  $\vec{w}$



<u>Visual</u>: If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ), their sum  $\vec{v} + \vec{w}$  is also a vector and you can find it by...



Adding vectors geometrically this way is equivalent to algebraically adding corresponding components together

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Illustrate on board: Like < 2, 5 > + < 3, -2 >

The way we'll add vectors...

Note:

• To add vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , add corresponding components together

#### Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication

<u>Visual</u>:

If  $\vec{v}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) and *c* is a real number (scalar), you can multiply *c* and  $\vec{v}$  to get a vector  $c\vec{v}$  and you can find it by stretching vector  $\vec{v}$  by a factor of *c* without changing its direction.



Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication
<u>Visual</u>: More specifically...

#### If c > 0

the length of  $c\vec{v}$  is the length of  $\vec{v}$  multiplied by c the direction of  $c\vec{v}$  is in the same direction as  $\vec{v}$ 



Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication
<u>Visual</u>: More specifically...

#### If c < 0

the length of  $c\vec{v}$  is the length of  $\vec{v}$  multiplied by |c|the direction of  $c\vec{v}$  is in the opposite direction as  $\vec{v}$ 



Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication <u>Visual</u>: More specifically...

If c = 0

 $c\vec{v}$  will just be the zero vector  $\vec{0}$  which is just a dot at the origin. Its length is 0 and it doesn't have a direction (or it has all directions)

 $\vec{v}$   $C\vec{v}$  c=0

# Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication <u>Visual</u>:



Multiplying a vector by a scalar this way is equivalent to multiplying each component of  $\vec{v}$  by the scalar c

#### Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication

Multiplying a vector by a scalar this way is equivalent to multiplying each component of  $\vec{v}$  by the scalar c

Illustrate on board: Like 2 < 1, 3 >

#### Vector Operations: Scalar Multiplication

The way we'll do scalar multiplication...

Notes:

• To multiply a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by a scalar, multiply each component by that scalar

## Vector Operations: The Negative of a Vector

<u>Visual</u>:

If  $\vec{v}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ), the negative of it has notation  $-\vec{v}$  and can be visualized as an arrow with the same length as  $\vec{v}$  but pointing in the opposite direction as  $\vec{v}$ .



Finding the negative of a vector this way is equivalent to changing the sign of each component of the vector. Illustrate on board like -<2, -5> Vector Operations: The Negative of a Vector The way we'll find the negative of a vector...

Notes:

• To find the negative of a vector, change the sign of each component of the vector

# Vector Operations Ex 1: If $\vec{v} = < 2, -3, 7 >$ and $\vec{w} = < -6, 1, 4 >$ , find... a) $\vec{v} + \vec{w}$

b)  $-5\vec{v}$ 

c)  $-\vec{w}$ 

## Magnitude of a Vector

Visual:

If  $\vec{v}$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ), its magnitude is denoted by  $\|\vec{v}\|$  and geometrically represents the length of the arrow.

||ṽ|| is its length, like 3ft

#### Magnitude of a Vector

The way we'll find the magnitude of a vector...

Def:  
1. If 
$$\vec{v} = \langle a, b \rangle$$
 is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then...  
 $\|\vec{v}\| \equiv \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ 

2. If 
$$\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$$
 is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , then...  
 $\|\vec{v}\| \equiv \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$ 

## Magnitude of a Vector

<u>Ex 2</u>: Find the magnitude of < -2, 5, 1 >

Given 2 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or 2 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ), there are many ways to multiply them. One way is called the <u>dot product</u>.

Things to know about the dot product

- In order to find the dot product of 2 vectors, they must have the same number of components.
- The dot product of 2 vectors is a scalar.
- The dot product has properties that look like multiplication properties.
- Main uses of dot product is in finding the angle between 2 vectors and gives another way to find the magnitude of a vector.

The way we'll find the dot product...

#### <u>Def</u>:

1. If  $\vec{v} = \langle a, b \rangle$  and  $\vec{w} = \langle c, d \rangle$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then...

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} \equiv ac + bd$$

2. If  $\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$  and  $\vec{w} = \langle d, e, f \rangle$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , then...

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} \equiv ad + be + cf$$

Vector Operations: Dot Product <u>Ex 3</u>: Find  $< 2,5, -3 > \cdot < 6, -4,0 >$ 

<u>Def</u>: The <u>angle between 2 vectors</u>  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is the smaller of the 2 angles when vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are drawn tail-to-tail.



<u>Theorem</u>: If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) and  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ , then...

 $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta$  or  $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|} \right)$ 

#### Ex 4: Find the angle between the vectors $\vec{v} = < -1, 4, 2 >$ and $\vec{w} = < 7, -2 - 2 >$

<u>Corollary</u>: Let  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  be non-zero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ). Then  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are orthogonal (or perpendicular) if and only if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .

Ex 5: Are the following pairs of vectors orthogonal?

a)  $\vec{v} = <-1, -5 >$  and  $\vec{w} = <3, -2 >$ 

#### b) $\vec{v} = <-3, -2, 2 > \text{ and } \vec{w} = <2, -1, 2 >$

Given 2 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , there is another way to multiply them called the <u>cross product</u>.

Things to know about the cross product

- In order to find the cross product of 2 vectors, they must be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$
- The cross product of 2 vectors is a vector.
- The cross product has properties that look like multiplication properties.
- The main use of the cross product is in finding a vector perpendicular to 2 given vectors.





<u>Ex 6</u>: If  $\vec{v} = <4, -2, 1 >$  and  $\vec{w} = <3, 1, 5 >$ , find  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$ .

## **Position Vectors**

Notes:

- The starting of a position vector MUST BE THE ORIGIN
- We usually use  $\vec{r}$  (sometimes  $\vec{x}$ ) for position vectors
- A position vector gives you the position (location) of a point from the origin

#### **Position Vectors**

#### Notes:

point = 
$$(a, b, c)$$
  $\leftrightarrow$  position vector =  $< a, b, c >$ 

This allows us to do algebra with points

#### Vector from point P to point Q

If 
$$P = (a, b, c)$$
 and  $Q = (d, e, f)$ , then  
 $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \langle d - a, e - b, f - c \rangle$ 

<u>Ex 7</u>: Find the vector  $\vec{v}$  whose tail is at point (3, -5, 2) and whose head is at point (0, 3, -1)