

May 10 (Lecture 2)

Overview: Today we'll keep working with vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , in particular noting some geometric aspects of vectors.

Learning Goals:

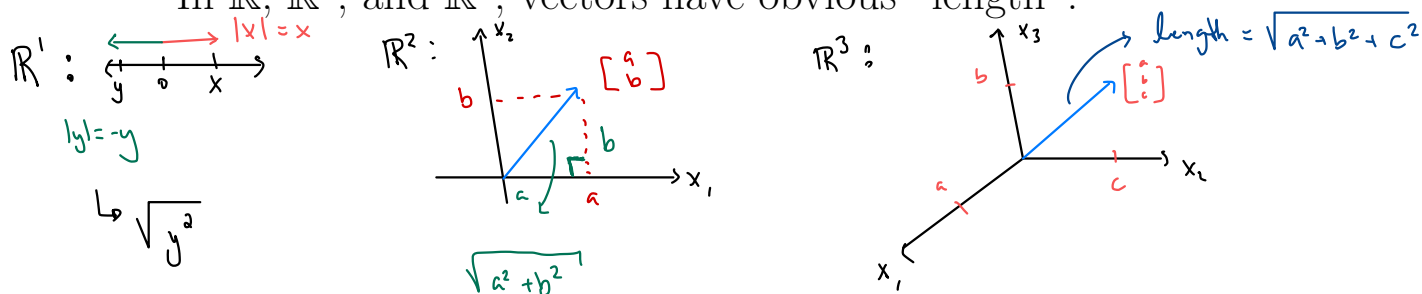
- Correctly define and do basic operations with vectors in \mathbb{R}^n .
- Use the dot product to compute lengths of and angles between vectors.

As you're getting settled:

- You should have received an e-mail for "Homework 0", which is a practice assignment for submitting to Crowdmark! Give it a shot.
- Homework 1 will be released tomorrow morning and due next Tuesday (at **11:30 pm** sharp).
- Office Hours schedule! (Also posted on Brightspace)
 - Mondays: 4:30 - 5:30pm
 - Wednesdays: 1:30 - 2:30pm
 - Fridays: 11:30-12:30pm

Length/Angles of Vectors: The Dot Product

In \mathbb{R}^1 , \mathbb{R}^2 , and \mathbb{R}^3 , vectors have obvious "length":



p. 60 **Definition.** Let $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The **norm** of \vec{x} , denoted by $\|\vec{x}\|$, is

$$\|\vec{x}\| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$$

"The abs. value in \mathbb{R} is the norm of a vector in \mathbb{R} ."

Example.

• In \mathbb{R}^4 : If $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$, then $\|\vec{x}\| = \sqrt{2^2 + 0^2 + 1^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{4 + 1 + 9} = \sqrt{14}$

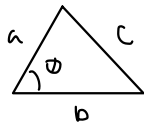
• Find the distance between

$P(1, 1, 1)$ and $Q(2, 0, -3)$

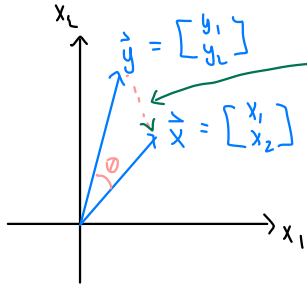
in \mathbb{R}^3 .

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{QP}\| &= \left\| \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\| \\ &= \sqrt{1 + 1 + 16} \\ &= \sqrt{18} \\ &= 3\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

p. 61 **Definition.** A vector $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is called a *unit vector* when $\|\vec{x}\| = 1$.



Question. What's the angle between two vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 ?



* Cosine law and the norm.

Cosine Law: $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \theta$

$\vec{x} - \vec{y}$
(because $\vec{y} + (\vec{x} - \vec{y}) = \vec{x}$)

$\hookrightarrow \|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|^2 = \|\vec{y}\|^2 + \|\vec{x}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{x}\|\|\vec{y}\|\cos \theta$

Expand: $(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + y_1^2 + y_2^2 - 2\|\vec{x}\|\|\vec{y}\|\cos \theta$

Cancel: $-2x_1y_1 - 2x_2y_2 = -2\|\vec{x}\|\|\vec{y}\|\cos \theta$

Divide by -2: $x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 = \|\vec{x}\|\|\vec{y}\|\cos \theta$.

This fancy quantity looks like it could be important, so let's name it.

p.60 **Definition.** Let $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$ be vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . The

dot product (or scalar product) of \vec{x} with \vec{y} , denoted $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}$, is

$$\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = x_1y_1 + \dots + x_ny_n = \boxed{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i}$$

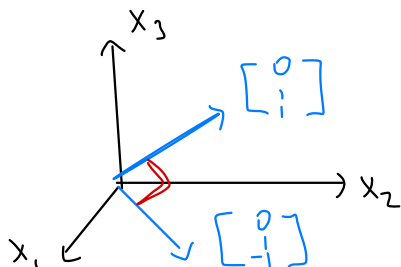
So, for vectors not just in \mathbb{R}^2 but in any \mathbb{R}^n , we have:

$$\boxed{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \|\vec{x}\| \cdot \|\vec{y}\| \cos \theta}$$

Example.

$\circ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = (1)(0) + (2)(1) + (-1)(2) + (3)(3) = 0 + 2 - 2 + 9 = \boxed{9}$
 Angle between: $\theta = \arccos\left(\frac{9}{\sqrt{15}\sqrt{14}}\right) \approx \boxed{0.9}$

$\circ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = (0)(0) + (1)(1) + (1)(-1) = 1 - 1 = \boxed{0}$
 Angle between: $\theta = \arccos\left(\frac{0}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2}}\right) = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}}$



$\vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is orthogonal to every vector in \mathbb{R}^n !

p. 62 **Definition.** Two vectors $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are *orthogonal* when $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = 0$

Example.

In \mathbb{R}^5 : $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = (1)(0) + (2)(-1) + (3)(-1) + (4)(0) + (5)(1) = -2 - 3 + 5 = 0$

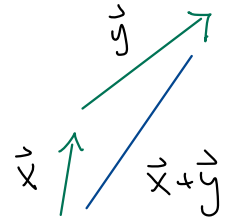
Very Important!

★ These two vectors are orthogonal!

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Theorem. (1.5.1, 1.5.2) For every $\vec{x}, \vec{y}, \vec{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$, we have:

- $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} = \|\vec{x}\|^2 \geq 0$.
- ★ • $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} = 0$ if and only if $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.
- $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}$. ← Symmetric Property
- $\vec{x} \cdot (s\vec{y} + t\vec{z}) = s\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} + t\vec{x} \cdot \vec{z}$. ← "Linearity"!
- ★ • $\|\vec{x}\| \geq 0$ and $\|\vec{x}\| = 0$ if and only if $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.
- $\|t\vec{x}\| = |t| \|\vec{x}\|$.
- $|\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}| \leq \|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\|$. "Cauchy Schwarz inequality"
- $\|\vec{x} + \vec{y}\| \leq \|\vec{x}\| + \|\vec{y}\|$. ← Triangle Inequality!



Example. Let $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, and suppose that \vec{z} is such that $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{z} = 0$. Compute $\vec{x} \cdot (3\vec{z} - \vec{y})$.

Linearity Property:

$$\vec{x} \cdot (3\vec{z} - \vec{y}) = 3(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{z}) - \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = 3(0) - \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = -\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = -(2+0+1) = -3$$

Hint: We can't divide by a vector!

Note: Need to be same \mathbb{R}^n , and if not it isn't defined.

norm 1

Example. Find a unit vector in the same direction as $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$.

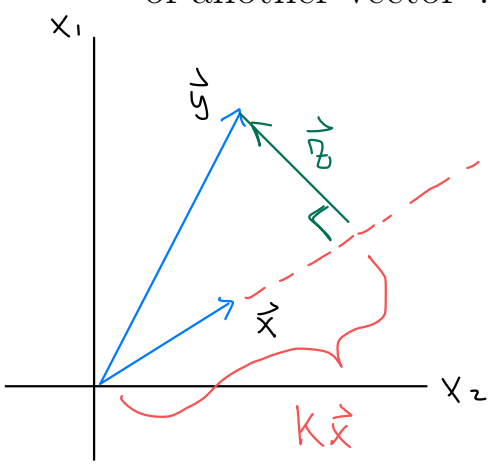
Divide \vec{x} by $\|\vec{x}\| = \sqrt{1+4+9} = \sqrt{14}$: $\frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} \vec{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{14} \\ 2/\sqrt{14} \\ -3/\sqrt{14} \end{bmatrix}$

Is it a unit vector? Yes!

$\left\| \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} \vec{x} \right\| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \cdot \cancel{\|\vec{x}\|} = 1$.

Projections in \mathbb{R}^n

Often we want to find out "how much of one vector is in the direction of another vector".



Based on our picture, $\vec{y} = k\vec{x} + \vec{z}$. What is k ?

Take the dot product on both sides with \vec{x} :

$$\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{x} \cdot (k\vec{x} + \vec{z}) = k \underbrace{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}}_{=\|\vec{x}\|^2} + \vec{x} \cdot \vec{z} = k \|\vec{x}\|^2$$

$= 0$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} = \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}}$$

So, $\vec{y} = \underbrace{\left(\frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} \right)}_{\text{scalar}} \vec{x} + \underbrace{\left(\text{some vector orthogonal to } \vec{x} \right)}_{\text{vector}}$.

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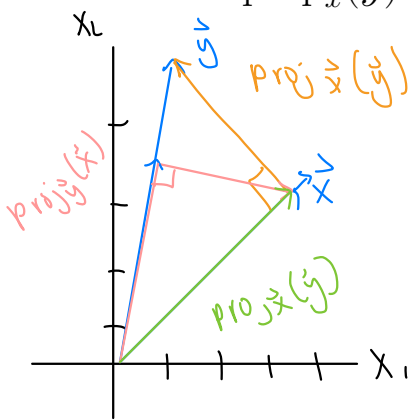
Definition. Let $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$. The projection of \vec{y} onto

\vec{x} , denoted $\text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})$, is the vector $\underbrace{\left(\frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} \right)}_{\text{Scalar}} \cdot \underbrace{\vec{x}}_{\text{Vector}}$. (scalar multiplication)

The projection of \vec{y} orthogonal to \vec{x} (or perpendicular part), denoted

$\text{perp}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})$, is the vector $\vec{y} - \left(\frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{x}\|^2} \right) \vec{x}$ \rightarrow dot product to zero.

Example. Let $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$. Compute $\text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})$, $\text{proj}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{x})$, and $\text{perp}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y})$.



$$\text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y}) = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}}{16+9} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{19}{25} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{M}$$

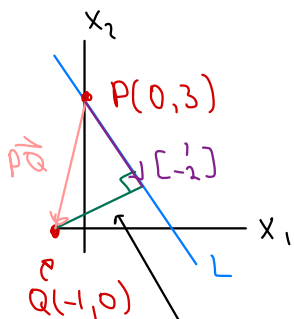
$$\text{proj}_{\vec{y}}(\vec{x}) = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}{1+25} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{19}{26} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{M}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Perp}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y}) &= \vec{y} - \text{proj}_{\vec{x}}(\vec{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{19}{25} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \dots \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -31/25 \\ 68/25 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{M} \end{aligned}$$

p. 71 (see posted notes for a stats example)

Examples continued, and applications:

consider the line $L: x_2 = -2x_1 + 3$. What is the minimum distance from $Q(-1, 0)$ to L ?



$$\text{Vector } \perp Q \text{ to } L: \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ -2x_1 + 3 \end{bmatrix} = x_1 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{direction of } L!} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (x_1 \in \mathbb{R})$$

The minimum distance will be ...

$$\|\text{perp}_d(\vec{PQ})\| = \left\| \vec{PQ} - \text{proj}_d(\vec{PQ}) \right\|$$

$$= \left\| \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}}_{= \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}} - \left(\frac{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}}{1+4} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} - \frac{5}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\|$$

$$= \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\| = \sqrt{4+1}$$

$$= \sqrt{5}$$