

# Lecture 11

①

(11.0) Recall - we have been reviewing vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . In the last lecture we studied the dot product

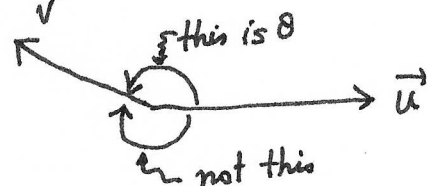
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} \implies \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + u_3 v_3 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(i)  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$       (ii)  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = \|\vec{u}\|^2$

(iii)  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}_1 + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}_2$

Cosine formula:  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \cdot \|\vec{v}\| \cdot \cos(\theta)$

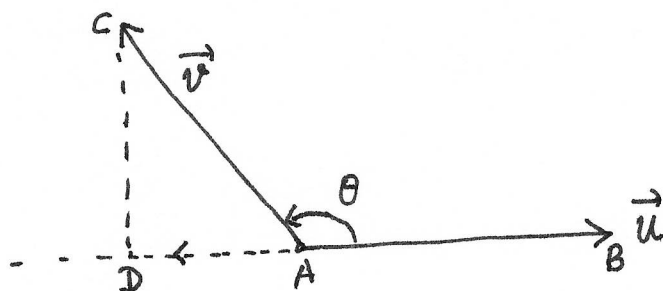
where  $\theta =$  angle between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$   
 $(0 \leq \theta \leq \pi)$



(iv)  $\vec{u} \perp \vec{v} \iff \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0.$

(read:  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are orthogonal to each other)

(v) Projection of  $\vec{v}$  onto  $\vec{u}$



$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) \vec{u}$$

(  $\text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \vec{AD}$  )

$$\vec{v} = \vec{AC} = \vec{AD} + \vec{DC}$$

$\text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})$

Component of  $\vec{v}$  orthogonal to  $\vec{u}$   
 (denoted by  $\text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})$ )

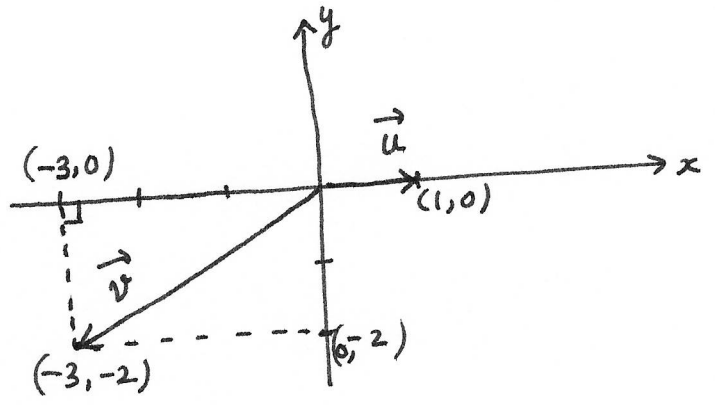
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) &= \vec{v} - \text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) \\ &= \vec{v} - \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) \vec{u} \end{aligned}$$

(11.1) Example. - Let  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

as easily seen in the picture



Example. Let  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

(Picture here will be a bit obscure, and not help with computation).

$$\text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) \vec{u}$$

$$= \left( \frac{2+3+4}{1+1+1} \right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (parallel to } \vec{u} \checkmark)$$

$$\text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \vec{v} - \text{Proj}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 2-3 \\ 3-3 \\ 4-3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

( $\vec{u} \perp \text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})$ ) because  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -1+0+1=0 \checkmark$

(This) is true in general anyway by the way we defined  $\text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})$

$$\vec{u} \cdot (\text{Orth}_{\vec{u}}(\vec{v})) = \vec{u} \cdot \left( \vec{v} - \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) \vec{u} \right)$$

$$= \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} - \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \right) (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}) = 0 \checkmark$$

# (11.2) Cross product.

Only defined for vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$$\vec{u}, \vec{v} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^3 \implies \vec{u} \times \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ (}\perp\text{ to both } \vec{u} \text{ \& } \vec{v}\text{)}$$

Definition If  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$ , then

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2 \\ u_3 v_1 - u_1 v_3 \\ u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This formula is usually remembered in terms of a determinant. We will

discuss determinant of an arbitrary  $n \times n$  size matrix later in the course. But for  $n = 2$  and  $3$ , we can see it right now.

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

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

2x2 matrix obtained by removing 1st row and 1st column

2x2 matrix after removing 1st row & 2nd column

2x2 matrix after removing 1st row and 3rd column

For example -  $\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$= 1 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 0 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + (-1) \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 1(2-4) + (-1)(3-2) = -2 - 1 = -3.$$

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \det \begin{bmatrix} \vec{e}_1 & \vec{e}_2 & \vec{e}_3 \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\vec{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{e}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}).$$

$$= \underbrace{(u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2)}_{\det \begin{bmatrix} u_2 & u_3 \\ v_2 & v_3 \end{bmatrix}} \vec{e}_1 - \underbrace{(u_1 v_3 - u_3 v_1)}_{\det \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_3 \end{bmatrix}} \vec{e}_2 + \underbrace{(u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1)}_{\det \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \\ v_1 & v_2 \end{bmatrix}} \vec{e}_3$$

(11.3) Properties of cross product. (follow easily from the formula).

(i)  $\vec{u} \times \vec{u} = \vec{0}$

(ii)  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = -\vec{v} \times \vec{u}$

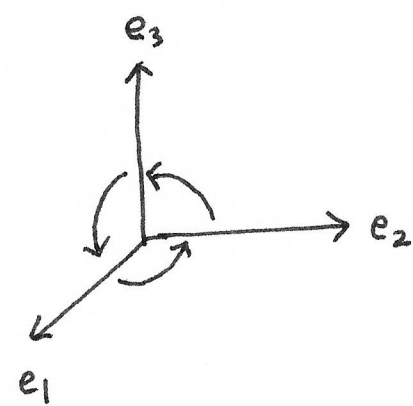
(iii)  $\vec{u} \times (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \vec{u} \times \vec{v} + \vec{u} \times \vec{w}$

(iv)  $\vec{u} \times (\lambda \vec{v}) = \lambda (\vec{u} \times \vec{v})$

here  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3$   
and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Easy calculation:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_2 = \vec{e}_3 \\ \vec{e}_2 \times \vec{e}_3 = \vec{e}_1 \\ \vec{e}_3 \times \vec{e}_1 = \vec{e}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



Hence, cross product of coordinate vectors  $\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2$  &  $\vec{e}_3$  can be easily remembered as the right hand rule.

Sometimes people prefer to remember this, and properties (i), (ii), (iii) & (iv), which can be used to compute the cross product.

Example.  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{e}_1 - \vec{e}_2 + 3\vec{e}_3$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 4\vec{e}_1 + 7\vec{e}_2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} \times \vec{v} &= (\vec{e}_1 - \vec{e}_2 + 3\vec{e}_3) \times (4\vec{e}_1 + 7\vec{e}_2) \\ &= \boxed{\vec{e}_1 \times (4\vec{e}_1)} + \vec{e}_1 \times (7\vec{e}_2) - \vec{e}_2 \times (4\vec{e}_1) - \boxed{\vec{e}_2 \times (7\vec{e}_2)} \\ &\quad + (3\vec{e}_3) \times (4\vec{e}_1) + (3\vec{e}_3) \times (7\vec{e}_2) \end{aligned}$$

(vectors in  $\square$  are  $\vec{0}$  by (i) and (iv))

$$\begin{aligned} &= 7(\vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_2) - 4(\vec{e}_2 \times \vec{e}_1) \\ &\quad + 12(\vec{e}_3 \times \vec{e}_1) + 21(\vec{e}_3 \times \vec{e}_2) \\ &= 7\vec{e}_3 + 4\vec{e}_3 + 12\vec{e}_2 - 21\vec{e}_1 \\ &= -21\vec{e}_1 + 12\vec{e}_2 + 11\vec{e}_3 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -21 \\ 12 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$\left( \begin{array}{l} e_1 \times e_2 = e_3 \\ e_2 \times e_1 = -e_1 \times e_2 \\ \quad \quad \quad = -e_3 \\ \dots \end{array} \right)$

(11.4)  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$  is orthogonal to both  $\vec{u}$  &  $\vec{v}$ .

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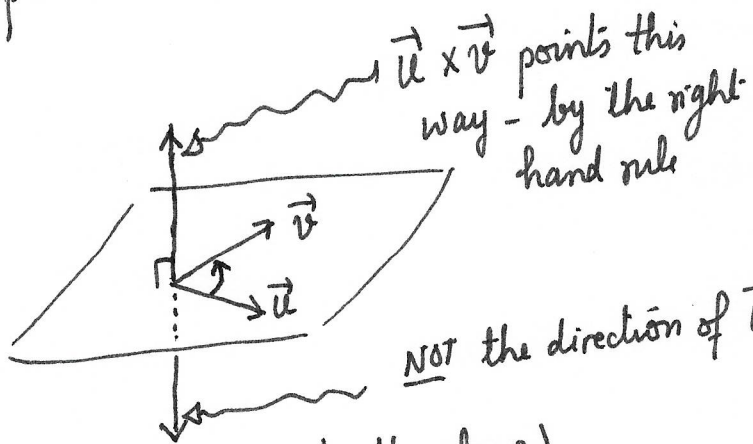
$$\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2 \\ u_3 v_1 - u_1 v_3 \\ u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= u_1 (u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2) + u_2 (u_3 v_1 - u_1 v_3) + u_3 (u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1)$$

$$= v_1 (u_2 u_3 - u_2 u_3) + v_2 (-u_1 u_3 + u_1 u_3) + v_3 (u_1 u_2 - u_1 u_2) = 0 \checkmark$$

Switch the roles of  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  to see that  $\vec{v} \cdot (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) = -\vec{v} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{u}) = 0$ .

Thus, given  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ , the direction of  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$  is  $\perp$  to the plane in which  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  lie - given by the right hand rule



(Two directions  $\perp$  to the plane containing  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ )

Now that we know the direction of  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ , we will have to figure out its magnitude - to understand it geometrically.

(11.5) Sine formula.

(7)

$$\boxed{\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\| = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \sin(\theta)}$$

( $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  is the angle between  $\vec{u}$  &  $\vec{v}$ ).

The proof of this formula is very algebraic. Namely, we check that

$$\|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}\|^2 + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})^2 = \|\vec{u}\|^2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 \quad (*)$$

and use the cosine formula for the dot product. ( $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ ).

$$\text{L.H.S. of } (*) = (u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2)^2 + (u_3 v_1 - u_1 v_3)^2 + (u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1)^2 + (u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + u_3 v_3)^2$$

$$= \underbrace{u_2^2 v_3^2 + u_3^2 v_2^2}_{-2u_2 u_3 v_2 v_3} + \underbrace{u_3^2 v_1^2 + u_1^2 v_3^2}_{-2u_1 u_3 v_1 v_3} + \underbrace{u_1^2 v_2^2 + u_2^2 v_1^2}_{-2u_1 u_2 v_1 v_2} + \underbrace{u_1^2 v_1^2 + u_2^2 v_2^2 + u_3^2 v_3^2}$$

$$+ 2u_1 u_2 v_1 v_2 + 2u_1 u_3 v_1 v_3 + 2u_2 u_3 v_2 v_3$$

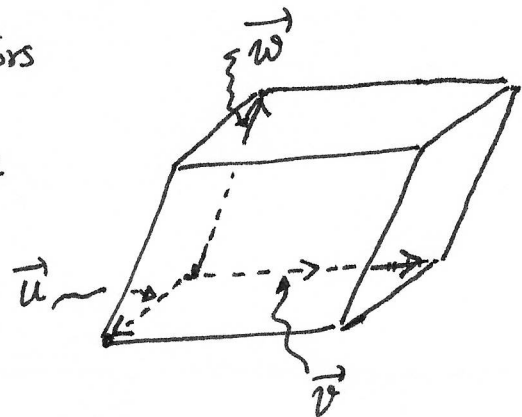
$$= u_1^2 (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2) + u_2^2 (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2) + u_3^2 (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2)$$

$$= (u_1^2 + u_2^2 + u_3^2) (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2) = \|\vec{u}\|^2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|^2 = \text{R.H.S. of } (*).$$

(11.6) Applications. - (i) We can test whether two vectors lie on a line (collinear) by checking if their cross product is  $\vec{0}$ .

Although collinearity of two vectors can be more easily checked by observing if one is a scalar multiple of other or not.

(ii) Let  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  be three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the parallelepiped formed by using these vectors as sides



Then  $\boxed{\text{Volume (P)} = |\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})|}$

Example.- Determine whether  $\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

are coplanar (i.e. lie on the same plane) or not.

Sol Three vectors are coplanar if and only if the volume of the parallelepiped formed by using them as sides is 0.

$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{e}_1 & \vec{e}_2 & \vec{e}_3 \\ 3 & 7 & 3 \\ 5 & 7 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (7-21)\vec{e}_1 - (3-15)\vec{e}_2 + (21-35)\vec{e}_3$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -14 \\ 12 \\ -14 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = 1(-14) + 0(12) + (-1)(-14) = 0.$$

So,  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are coplanar.

Remarks (i) Note:  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = \det \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{bmatrix}$

$$= (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w}$$

(ii)  $(\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \times \vec{w} \neq \vec{u} \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})$  *(Not)*

e.g.  $\vec{u} = \vec{e}_1$ ,  $\vec{v} = \vec{e}_1$ ,  $\vec{w} = \vec{e}_2$ . L.H.S. =  $\vec{0}$  since  $\vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_1 = \vec{0}$

R.H.S. =  $\vec{e}_1 \times (\vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_2) = \vec{e}_1 \times \vec{e}_3 = -\vec{e}_2$ .