

(not general vector space!)  
special to  $\mathbb{R}^n$

## 1.3 The Dot Product and Orthogonality

$u_i \in \mathbb{R}$

**Definition:** If  $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle$  are vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we define their **dot product**:

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n.$$

Scalar  
or  
vector?

**Example:** If  $\vec{u} = \langle 4, -3, -6, 5, -2 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle 3, -5, 4, -7, -1 \rangle$ , then:

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = (4)(3) + (-3)(-5) + (-6)(4) + (5)(-7) + (-2)(-1)$$

$$= 12 + 15 - 24 - 35 + 2$$

$$= \boxed{-30}$$

# Length of a Vector

$\mathbb{R}^n$

- $\vec{v} + \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- $r\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- dot product new structure

**Definitions:** We define the length or *norm* or *magnitude* of a vector  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^n$  as the non-negative number:

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2}$$

It follows directly from the definition of the dot product that:

$$\|\vec{v}\|^2 = \vec{v} \circ \vec{v}, \text{ or in other words, } \|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{\vec{v} \circ \vec{v}}.$$

A vector with length 1 is called a **unit vector**.

$$\|\vec{v}\| = 1$$

$$\vec{v} \circ \vec{v} = \langle \underline{v_1}, \underline{v_2}, \dots, v_n \rangle \circ \langle \underline{v_1}, \underline{v_2}, \dots, v_n \rangle$$

$$= v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2$$

$$= \|\vec{v}\|^2$$

□

**Theorem:** For any vector  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  :  $\|k\vec{v}\| = |k|\|\vec{v}\|$ .

In particular, if  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}_n$ , then  $\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v}$  is the unit vector in the same direction as  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\vec{u}_2 = -\frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v}$  is the unit vector in the opposite direction as  $\vec{v}$ . Furthermore:

$\|\vec{v}\| = 0$  if and only if  $\vec{v} = \vec{0}_n$ .

$\in \mathbb{R}^5$

**Example:** The vector  $\vec{v} = \langle 3, -2, 5, -4, -8 \rangle$  has length:

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{9 + 4 + 25 + 16 + 64} = \sqrt{118}.$$

The two unit vectors parallel to  $\vec{v}$  are:

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{118}} \vec{v} = \left\langle \frac{3}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{-2}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{-4}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{-8}{\sqrt{118}} \right\rangle$$

= simplify ...

$$\vec{u}_2 = -\vec{u}_1 = \left\langle \frac{-3}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{-5}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{4}{\sqrt{118}}, \frac{8}{\sqrt{118}} \right\rangle.$$

# Properties of the Dot Product

MEMORIZE THESE

## Theorem — Properties of the Dot Product:

For any vectors  $\vec{u}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and scalar  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have:

### 1. The Commutative Property

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = \vec{v} \circ \vec{u}.$$

### 2. The Right Distributive Property

$$\vec{u} \circ (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \vec{u} \circ \vec{v} + \vec{u} \circ \vec{w}.$$

### 3. The Left Distributive Property

$$(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \circ \vec{w} = \vec{u} \circ \vec{w} + \vec{v} \circ \vec{w}.$$

### 4. The Homogeneity Property

$$(k \cdot \vec{u}) \circ \vec{v} = k(\vec{u} \circ \vec{v}) = \vec{u} \circ (k \cdot \vec{v}).$$

### 5. The Zero-Vector Property

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{0}_n = 0.$$

### 6. The Positivity Property

$$\text{If } \vec{u} \neq \vec{0}_n, \text{ then } \vec{u} \circ \vec{u} > 0.$$

The last two properties can be combined into one:

## 7. The Non-Degeneracy Property

$$\left( \vec{u} \circ \vec{u} > 0 \right) \text{ if and only if } \left( \vec{u} \neq \vec{0}_n, \right) \\ \left[ \text{and } \vec{0}_n \circ \vec{0}_n = 0. \right]$$

PF • Assume  $\vec{u} \circ \vec{u} > 0$  & write  $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Then

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{u} = (u_1)^2 + (u_2)^2 + \dots + (u_n)^2 > 0$$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Then at least one of  $u_1^2, \dots, u_n^2$  is not zero.

$\Leftrightarrow$  at least one of  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  is not zero

$\Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \neq \vec{0} \quad \square$

PF  $\vec{0}_n \circ \vec{0}_n = 0$  (exercise).

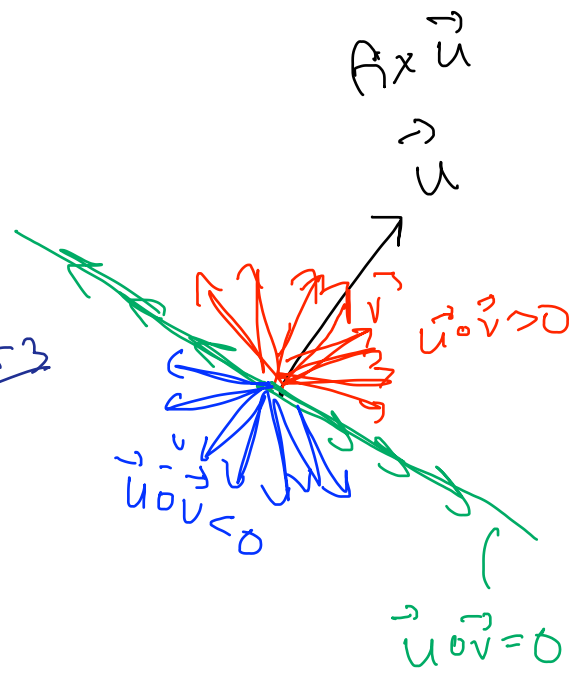
★ **Example:** Suppose we are told that  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are two vectors from some  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (which  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is not really important). Suppose we were provided the information that  $\|\vec{u}\| = 3$ ,  $\|\vec{v}\| = 7$ , and  $\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = 16$ . Find  $\|4\vec{u} - 9\vec{v}\|$ .

Trick:

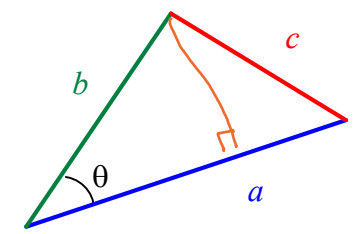
$$\begin{aligned}
 \|4\vec{u} - 9\vec{v}\|^2 &= (4\vec{u} - 9\vec{v}) \circ (4\vec{u} - 9\vec{v}) \\
 &= 16 \underbrace{\vec{u} \circ \vec{u}} - 36 \underbrace{(\vec{u} \circ \vec{v})} - 36 \underbrace{\vec{v} \circ \vec{u}} + 81 \underbrace{(\vec{v} \circ \vec{v})} \\
 &= 16 \|\vec{u}\|^2 - 72 \underbrace{(\vec{u} \circ \vec{v})} + 81 \|\vec{v}\|^2 \\
 &= 16(3)^2 - 72(16) + 81(7)^2 \\
 &= \boxed{2961}
 \end{aligned}$$

# A Geometric Formulation for the Dot Product

$\mathbb{R}^n$  for  $n=2, 3$



The Law of Cosines:



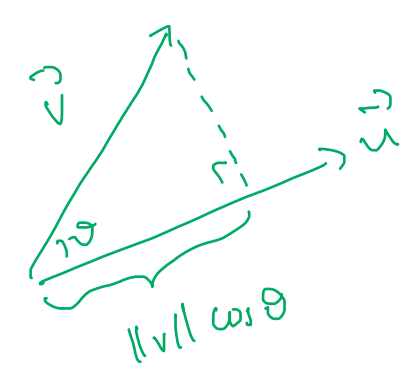
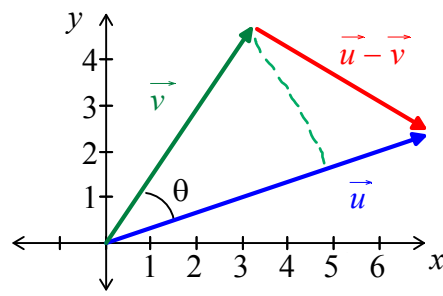
LoC

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos(\theta)$$

$$\|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|^2 = \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta$$

$$(\vec{u} - \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} - \vec{v}) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} - \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} \\ & \|\vec{u}\|^2 - 2(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) + \|\vec{v}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$



The Triangle Formed by  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\vec{u} - \vec{v}$  and  $\vec{u}$

cancelling: cancel  $\|\vec{u}\|^2$  &  $\|\vec{v}\|^2$

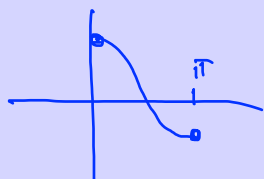
$$-2(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) = -2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta$$

**Definition/Theorem:** If  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are *non-zero* vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then:

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos(\theta),$$

where  $\theta$  is the angle formed by the vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  in standard position. Thus, we can *compute* the angle  $\theta$  between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  by:



$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\vec{u} \circ \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|},$$

$$\rightarrow \theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{u} \circ \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \right)$$

where  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ . We will use the exact same formula for two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Example:** Let us consider the two vectors  $\vec{u} = \langle 7, 4 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle -3, 2 \rangle$ .

at home



# Orthogonality in $\mathbb{R}^2$ or $\mathbb{R}^3$

**Definition/Theorem:** Two vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are *perpendicular* or *orthogonal* to each other *if and only if*  $\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = 0$ .

**Example:**  $\vec{u} = \langle 4, -2, 3 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle -3, 5, 7 \rangle$

Is  $\vec{u}$  orthogonal to  $\vec{v}$ ? **No**

$$\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = \langle 4, -2, 3 \rangle \circ \langle -3, 5, 7 \rangle$$

$$= (4)(-3) + (-2)(5) + (3)(7)$$

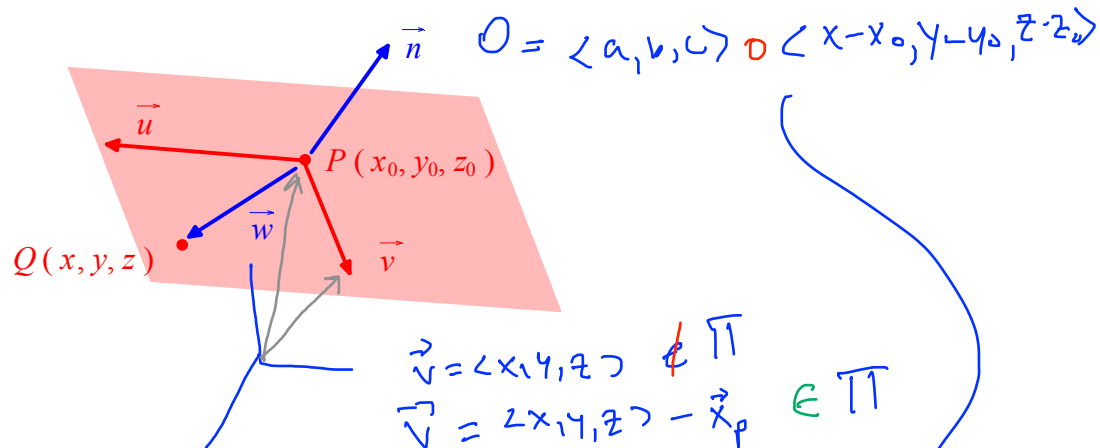
$$= -12 - 10 + 21$$

$$< 0$$

# Revisiting The Cartesian Equation of a Plane

for all  $\vec{v} \in \Pi$

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$



An Arbitrary Plane in Cartesian Space

$$ax + by + cz = d.$$

Comments recall 21 Law of Cosines  
 $-1 \leq \cos \theta \leq 1 \rightsquigarrow -1 \leq \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \leq 1$  ( $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}$ ,  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$ )

# The Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality $\rightarrow$

$\hookrightarrow$  statement about triangles in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$-\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \leq \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} \leq \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|$$

**Theorem — The Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality:** (DEEP)

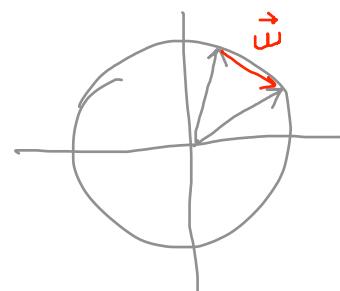
For any two vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  :  $|\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}| \leq \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|$ .

**Proof:** We will separate the proof into two cases:

Case 1: Suppose  $\vec{u} = \vec{0}_n$  or  $\vec{v} = \vec{0}_n$ . Then both sides are 0, so the inequality is true.  $\checkmark$

Case 2: Suppose now that  $\vec{u} \neq \vec{0}_n$  and  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}_n$ .

Consider the vector  $\vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  given by:



$$\vec{w} = \frac{\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|} - \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$$

Then

$$\|\vec{w}\|^2 = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{w} = \left( \frac{\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|} - \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|} - \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}}{\|\vec{u}\|^2} - 2 \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} + \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2}$$

$$= \frac{\|\vec{u}\|^2}{\|\vec{u}\|^2} - 2 \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} + \frac{\|\vec{v}\|^2}{\|\vec{v}\|^2}$$

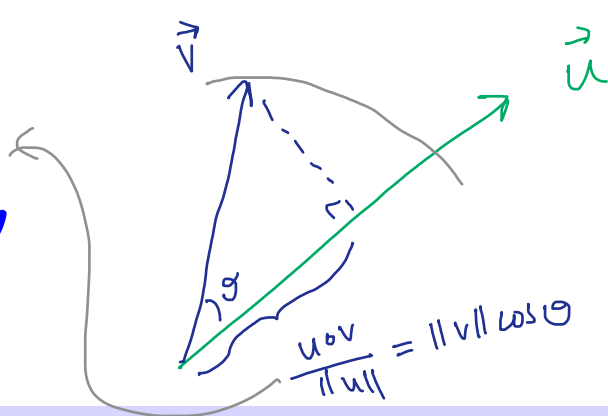
Observe  $\|\vec{w}\|^2 \geq 0$

$$\text{So: } 2 - 2 \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|} \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} \leq \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|. \quad \square$$

$$\frac{u \cdot v}{\|u\|} < \|v\|$$

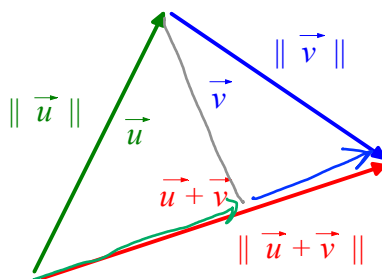
# The Triangle Inequality



## Theorem — The Triangle Inequality:

For any two vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  :  $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$ .

"=" when all lie on line.



The Triangle Inequality:  $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|$

PP  $\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\|^2 = (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} + \vec{v})$

$$= u \cdot u + u \cdot v + v \cdot u + v \cdot v$$

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

$$\leq \|u\|^2 + 2\|u\|\|v\| + \|\vec{v}\|^2$$

(by Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality)

$$= (\|u\| + \|v\|)^2$$

(algebra)

Since  $\|u+v\| \geq 0$ ,  $\|u\|, \|v\| > 0$ , taking square roots:

$$\|\vec{u} + \vec{v}\| \leq \|\vec{u}\| + \|\vec{v}\|. \quad \square$$

# Angles and Orthogonality



**Definition:** If  $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are *non-zero* vectors, we define the angle  $\theta$  between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  by:

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\vec{u} \circ \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\|},$$

where  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ . Furthermore, we will say that  $\vec{u}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{v}$  if  $\vec{u} \circ \vec{v} = 0$ .

We will *agree* that the zero vector  $\vec{0}_n$  is orthogonal to *all* vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

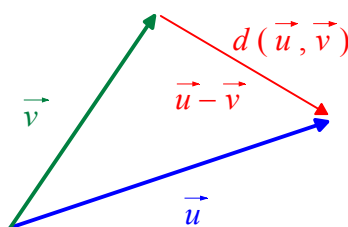
**Example:** Find the angle  $\theta$  between  $\vec{u} = \langle 3, -7, 6, -4 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle 2, 1, -3, -2 \rangle$ .

# Distance Between Vectors

**Definition:** If  $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle$  are vectors from  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we define the distance between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  as:

$$d(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\|$$

$$= \sqrt{(u_1 - v_1)^2 + (u_2 - v_2)^2 + \dots + (u_n - v_n)^2}.$$



The Distance Between Two Vectors  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$

**Example:** Let  $\vec{u} = \langle 7, 3, -4, -2 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle -2, 0, 3, -4 \rangle$ .

## Theorem — Properties of Distances:

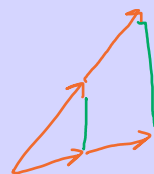
Let  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}, \vec{w} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then, we have the following properties:

### 1. The Symmetric Property for Distances

$$d(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = d(\vec{v}, \vec{u}).$$

### 2. The Homogeneity Property for Distances

$$d(k\vec{u}, k\vec{v}) = |k| \cdot d(\vec{u}, \vec{v}).$$



### 3. The Triangle Inequality for Distances

$$d(\vec{u}, \vec{w}) \leq d(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) + d(\vec{v}, \vec{w}).$$

$$\|\vec{u} - \vec{w}\| \leq \|\vec{u} - \vec{v}\| + \|\vec{v} - \vec{w}\|$$

Pfs  
do exercises!

