

Math 270 Linear Algebra

Chapter 5 Inner Product Spaces

5.1 Length and Direction in \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3

Length

$$\mathbb{R}^2 \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2} \quad \text{length or magnitude}$$

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\|\vec{v} - \vec{u}\| = \sqrt{(v_1 - u_1)^2 + (v_2 - u_2)^2} \quad \text{distance between } \vec{u} \text{ and } \vec{v}$$

$$\text{Note: } \vec{v} - \vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 - u_1 \\ v_2 - u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^3 \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2} \quad \text{length of } \vec{v}$$

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

$$\|\vec{v} - \vec{u}\| = \sqrt{(v_1 - u_1)^2 + (v_2 - u_2)^2 + (v_3 - u_3)^2} \quad \text{distance between } \vec{u} \text{ and } \vec{v}$$

Direction

$$\mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\mathbb{R}^3$$

Given $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$, find the angle θ , $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$, between \vec{u} and \vec{v} .

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

By the law of cosines,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{v} - \vec{u}\|^2 &= \|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|\cos\theta \\ \Rightarrow \cos\theta &= \frac{\|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{v}\|^2 - \|\vec{v} - \vec{u}\|^2}{2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|} \\ &= \frac{u_1^2 + u_2^2 + u_3^2 + v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2 - (v_1 - u_1)^2 - (v_2 - u_2)^2 - (v_3 - u_3)^2}{2\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|} \\ \Rightarrow \cos\theta &= \frac{u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + u_3v_3}{\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for $\vec{u}, \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$\cos\theta = \frac{u_1v_1 + u_2v_2}{\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|}, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi.$$

Note $\vec{0}$ in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 has no direction.

Standard inner product or **dot product** on \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \Rightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2$$

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \Rightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + u_3v_3$$

Note:

- 1) $\|\vec{v}\|^2 = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}$
- 2) $\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|}, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$
- 3) $-1 \leq \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{u}\|\|\vec{v}\|} \leq 1$
- 4) \vec{u} and \vec{v} are **orthogonal** or **perpendicular** $\Leftrightarrow \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$.

Properties of the standard inner product

Theorem Let \vec{u}, \vec{v} be vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 , c scalar. Then

(a) $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} \geq 0$; $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \vec{u} = \vec{0}$

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

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

(d) $c\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = c(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})$

Unit Vectors

A **unit vector** in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 is a vector whose length is 1.

If $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$, the vector $\vec{u} = \frac{1}{\|\vec{x}\|} \vec{x} = \frac{\vec{x}}{\|\vec{x}\|}$ is the **unit vector in the direction of** $\|\vec{x}\|$.

\mathbb{R}^2 : 2 special unit vectors $\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

\mathbb{R}^3 : 3 special unit vectors $\vec{i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\vec{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$