1.10.2

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Question

Find the unit vector in the direction of the sum of the vectors $\mathbf{a} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$.

Equation

The formula for unit vector of x is :

$$\frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|}$$

Theoretical Solution

Given :

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2}$$

Sum of the vectors:

$$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{3}$$

Norm of $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$:

$$\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\| = \sqrt{\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2} = \sqrt{9} = 3. \tag{4}$$

Using the unit vector formula :

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}}{\|\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}\|} \tag{5}$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{3}\begin{pmatrix}2\\1\\2\end{pmatrix}. \tag{6}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix}\frac{2}{3}\\\frac{1}{3}\\\frac{2}{3}\end{pmatrix} \tag{7}$$

C Code - Unit vector function

```c
    #include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>

// Function to compute unit vector of (x1, x2, x3)
void unitVector(double x1, double x2, double x3, double unit[3])
    {
    double mag = sqrt(x1*x1 + x2*x2 + x3*x3); // |x|
    unit[0] = x1 / mag;
    unit[1] = x2 / mag;
    unit[2] = x3 / mag;

   }
```

Python Code through shared output

```
#Code adapted to plot only vectors a, b, a+b and unit vector
#Released under GNU GPL
import sys
import numpy as np
import numpy.linalg as LA
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D

# local imports
from libs.line.funcs import *
from libs.triangle.funcs import *
from libs.conics.funcs import circ_gen

#if using termux
import subprocess
import shlex
#end if
```

Python Code through shared output

```
# Vectors from ctypes example
a = np.array([2.0, -1.0, 1.0])
b = np.array([0.0, 2.0, 1.0])
s = a + b

# Unit vector function
def unit_vector(x):
    return x / LA.norm(x)

u_py = unit_vector(s)

# Create figure
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
```

Python Code through shared output

```
# Plot vectors (from origin)
ax.quiver(0,0,0,*a,color=r,label=a)
ax.quiver(0,0,0,*b,color=g,label=b)
ax.quiver(0,0,0,*s,color=b,label=a+b)

# Plot unit vector (length = 1)
ax.quiver(0,0,0,*u_py,color=c,label=unit (Python))

# Plot scaled unit vector (same length as s)
ax.quiver(0,0,0,*(u_py*LA.norm(s)),color=c,linestyle=dashed,label
    =unit scaled)

ax.set_title(Vectors a, b, a+b and Unit Vector)
ax.legend()
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```

Python code Direct

```
 import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D

# Define vectors
a = np.array([2, -1, 1])
b = np.array([0, 2, 1])
result = a + b # a + b
unit_result = result / np.linalg.norm(result) # unit vector

# Plot
fig = plt.figure()
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
```

Python code Direct

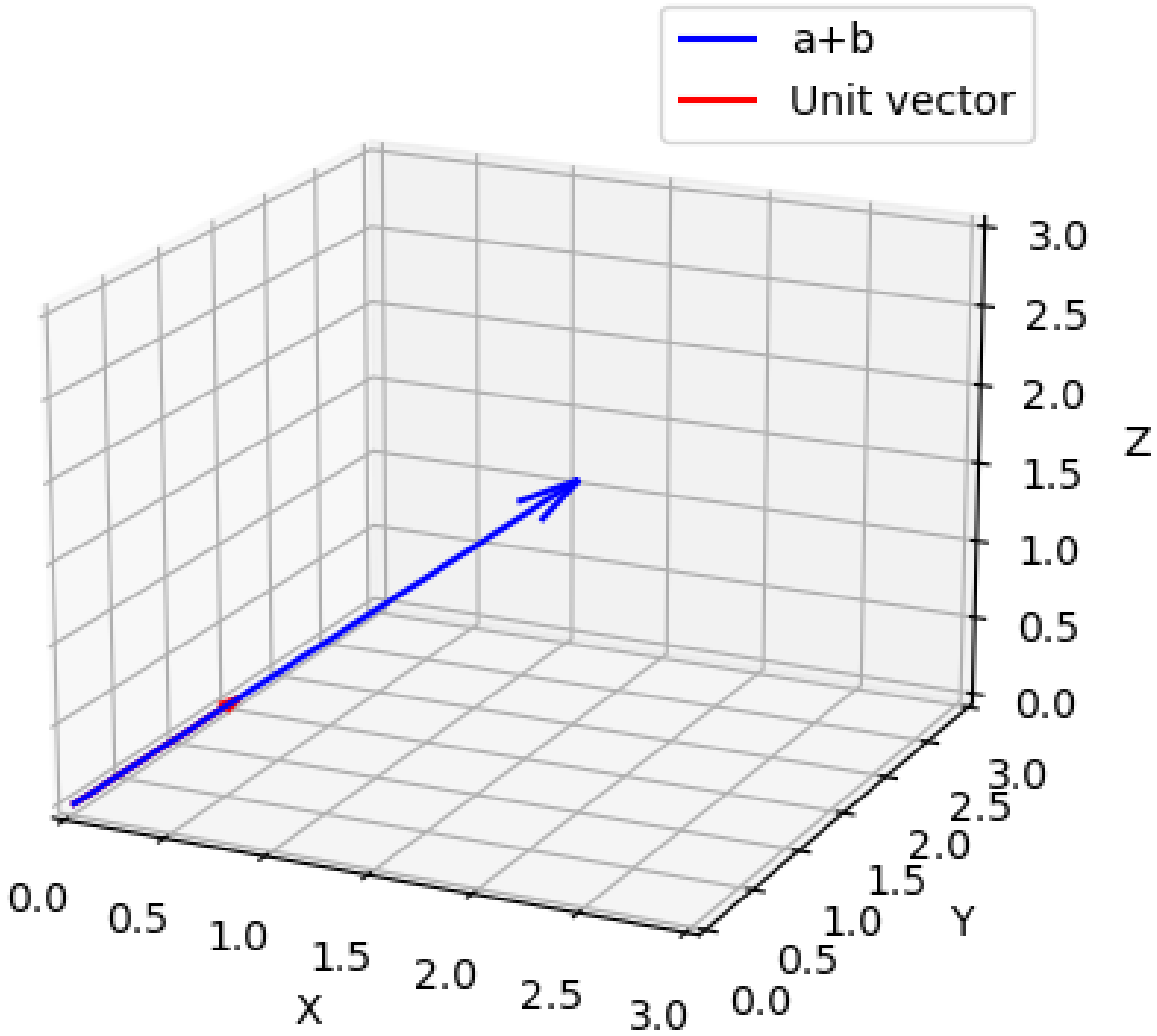
```
# Plot the resultant vector
ax.quiver(0, 0, 0, result[0], result[1], result[2], color='b',
    label='a+b', arrow_length_ratio=0.1)

# Plot the unit vector (scaled to length 1)
ax.quiver(0, 0, 0, unit_result[0], unit_result[1], unit_result
    [2], color='r', label='Unit vector', arrow_length_ratio=0.1)

# Labels
ax.set_xlim([0, 3])
ax.set_ylim([0, 3])
ax.set_zlim([0, 3])
ax.set_xlabel('X')
ax.set_ylabel('Y')
ax.set_zlabel('Z')
ax.legend()

plt.show()
```

Plot


a+b
Unit vector
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0.0
Z
0.0
0.5
1.0
1.5
2.0
2.5
3.0
X
0.0
0.5
1.0
1.5
2.0
2.5
3.0
Y