

MTH108 — Linear Algebra

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1 Euclidean Spaces

A Euclidean Space is a mathematical space in which points and lines can be represented by a set of coordinates in the respective dimension of the space, and every point can be represented in a defined set. For example:

$$\mathbb{R}^3 = (x, y, z); x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$$

is three-dimensional space represented using coordinates in terms of (x, y, z) , where $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$.

Theorem 1.1. Given two vectors \vec{a}, \vec{b} and some constant k , \vec{a} and \vec{b} are called **parallel** if:

$$\vec{a} = k\vec{b} \Leftrightarrow \vec{a}/\vec{b}$$

1.1 Products of Vectors with Constants

Theorem 1.2. Given a constant k in \mathbb{R} and some vector \vec{a} in \mathbb{R}^2 , the product of $k\vec{a}$ is:

$$k\vec{a} = k(x_1, y_1) = (k \cdot x_1, k \cdot y_1), x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

To represent a vector in Linear Algebra, we can use the following notation (using the previously mentioned vector \vec{a} as an example):

$$\vec{a} = (x_1, y_1) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

1.1.1 Examples:

Take $\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, compute $-2\vec{a} + 3\vec{b}$:

$$\begin{aligned} -2\vec{a} + 3\vec{b} &= 2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

1.2 Products of two Vectors

Theorem 1.3. Given two vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , $\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$, $\vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}$, the product of $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} &= (x_1 \quad \dots \quad x_n) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 + \dots + x_ny_n \end{aligned}$$

This is known as the **Dot Product**.

1.2.1 Examples:

Take $\vec{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, Find the dot product of $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} &= (2) + (-1) + (-2) + (3) \\ &= 2 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

1.3 Other Properties of Vector Products

Given some \vec{a}, \vec{b} in \mathbb{R}^n and some constant k , the following properties apply:

- $(\vec{a} + \vec{b})(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = \vec{a}^2 + 2\vec{a}\vec{b} + \vec{b}^2$
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}$
- $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \vec{a}\vec{b} + \vec{a}\vec{c}$
- $\vec{a}(k\vec{b}) = k\vec{a}\vec{b}$
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = \vec{a}^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2$

The midpoint $C(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ of a line from $A(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ to $B(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$ is calculated using the following formula:

$$\begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{pmatrix} = (1-t) \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } t \text{ such that } 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

We can simplify this to calculate every z_i :

$$z_i = \frac{x_i + y_i}{2}$$

1.3.1 Examples:

Given $A(1, -2)$ and $B(-3, 4)$, find the midpoint $C(x, y)$:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{1 + (-3)}{2} \\ &= -1 \\ y &= \frac{(-2) + 4}{2} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Therefore $C = (-1, 1)$.

1.4 Norm and Angle

The magnitude of a vector in \mathbb{R}^n is called the **Norm**, it is notated and defined as:

$$\|\vec{a}\| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2} \quad (\vec{a} \text{ is some vector in } \mathbb{R}^n)$$

We can use this definition to demonstrate some inequalities and properties (*Given some $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and some constant k*):

- $\|\vec{a} + \vec{b}\| \leq \|\vec{a}\| + \|\vec{b}\|$ (*Triangle Inequality*)
- $\|\vec{a} + \vec{b}\| \geq \|\vec{a}\| - \|\vec{b}\|$
- $\|k\vec{a}\| = |k| \cdot \|\vec{a}\|$
- $\left\| \frac{\vec{a}}{\|\vec{a}\|} \right\| = 1$
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \vec{a} \perp \vec{b}$ (*Orthogonal*)
- $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\|}$

1.5 Determinants

The determinant of a matrix is a number that can be calculated using the following formula (*for a 2x2 matrix*):

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

Given $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the **Grand Determinant** of $\vec{a}\vec{b}$ is defined as:

$$G(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \\ \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} \end{vmatrix} = \|\vec{a}\|^2 \|\vec{b}\|^2 - (\vec{a}\vec{b})^2$$

Lemma 1.3.1. *The Cauchy Inequality states:*

$$G(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) \geq 0 \Rightarrow |\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}| \leq \|\vec{a}\| \cdot \|\vec{b}\|$$

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