

Linear Algebra: The Algebra of Vectors and Matrices (and Scalars)

Vector spaces

Matrix algebra

Coordinate systems

Affine transformations

Vectors

N-tuple of scalar elements

$$\mathbf{v} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

Vector:

Bold lower-case

Scalar:

Italic lower-case

Vectors

N-tuple:

$$\mathbf{v} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

Magnitude:

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$$

Unit vectors

$$\mathbf{v} : |\mathbf{v}| = 1$$

Normalizing a vector

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|}$$

Operations with Vectors

Addition

$$\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n)$$

Multiplication with scalar (scaling)

$$a\mathbf{x} = (ax_1, \dots, ax_n), \quad a \in \mathbb{R}$$

Properties

$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$$

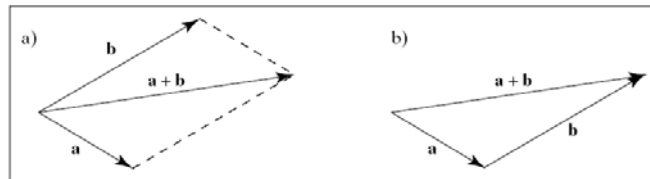
$$(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$$

$$a(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = a\mathbf{u} + a\mathbf{v}, \quad a \in \mathbb{R}$$

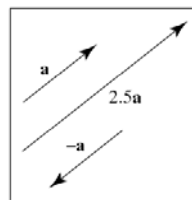
$$\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

Visualization of 2D and 3D Vectors

Addition

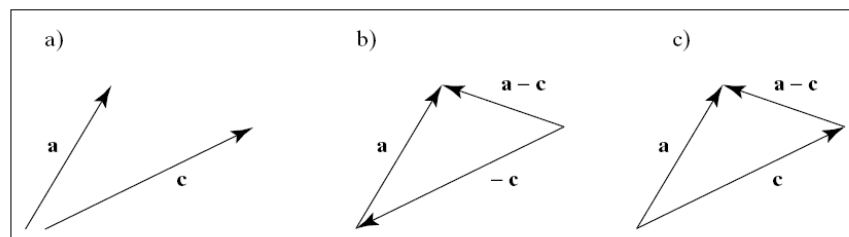


Scaling



Subtraction

Adding the negatively scaled vector



Linear Combination of Vectors

Definition

A linear combination of the m vectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_m$ is a vector of the form:

$$\mathbf{w} = a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + a_m\mathbf{v}_m, \quad a_1, \dots, a_m \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

Special Cases

Linear combination

$$\mathbf{w} = a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + a_m\mathbf{v}_m, \quad a_1, \dots, a_m \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

Affine combination:

A linear combination for which $a_1 + \dots + a_m = 1$

Convex combination

An affine combination for which $a_i \geq 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, m$

Linear Independence

For vectors v_1, \dots, v_m

If $a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_m v_m = \mathbf{0}$ iff $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_m = 0$

then the vectors are linearly independent

Generators and Base Vectors

How many vectors are needed to generate a vector space?

- Any set of vectors that generate a vector space is called a generator set
- Given a vector space \mathbf{R}^n we can prove that we need minimum n vectors to generate all vectors \mathbf{v} in \mathbf{R}^n
- A generator set with minimum size is called a basis for the given vector space

Standard Unit Vectors

$$\mathbf{v} = (x_1, \dots, x_n), \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= x_1(1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0) \\ &\quad + x_2(0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 0) \\ &\quad \dots \\ &\quad + x_n(0, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Standard Unit Vectors

For any vector space \mathbb{R}^n :

$$\mathbf{i}_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{i}_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 0)$$

\dots

$$\mathbf{i}_n = (0, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$$

The elements of a vector \mathbf{v} in \mathbb{R}^n are the scalar coefficients of the linear combination of the basis vectors

Standard Unit Vectors in 2D & 3D

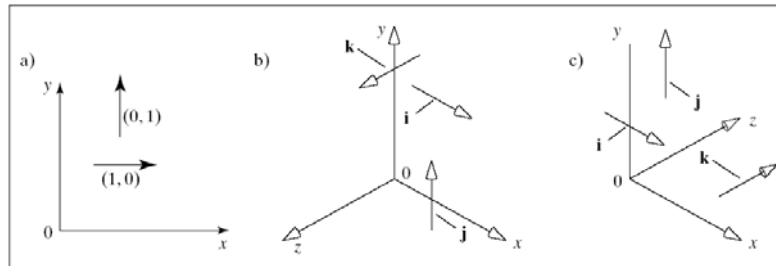
$$\mathbf{i} = (1,0)$$

$$\mathbf{j} = (0,1)$$

$$\mathbf{i} = (1,0,0)$$

$$\mathbf{j} = (0,1,0)$$

$$\mathbf{k} = (0,0,1)$$



Right handed

Left handed

Representation of Vectors Through Basis Vectors

Given a vector space R^n , a set of basis vectors $B \{b_i \text{ in } R^n, i=1, \dots, n\}$ and a vector v in R^n we can always find scalar coefficients such that:

$$\mathbf{v} = a_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + \dots + a_n \mathbf{b}_n$$

So, vector \mathbf{v} expressed with respect to B is:

$$\mathbf{v}_B = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$$

Dot (Scalar) Product

Definition:

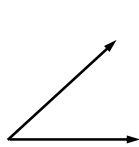
$$\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i v_i$$

Properties

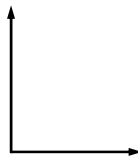
1. Symmetry: $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}$
2. Linearity: $(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}$
3. Homogeneity: $(s\mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = s(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$
4. $|\mathbf{b}|^2 = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b}$
5. $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos(\theta)$

Dot Product and Perpendicularity

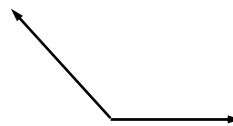
From Property 5:



$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} > 0$$



$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$$



$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} < 0$$

Perpendicular Vectors

Definition

Vectors **a** and **b** are perpendicular iff $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$

Also called “normal” or “orthogonal” vectors

It is easy to see that the standard unit vectors form an orthogonal basis:

$$\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \quad \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0, \quad \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0$$

Cross (Vector) Product

Defined only for 3D vectors and with respect to the standard unit vectors

Definition

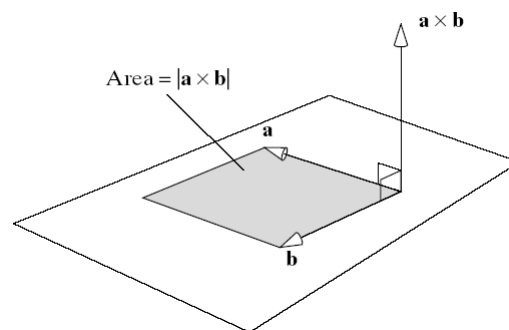
$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = (a_y b_z - a_z b_y)\mathbf{i} + (a_z b_x - a_x b_z)\mathbf{j} + (a_x b_y - a_y b_x)\mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{vmatrix}$$

Properties of the Cross Product

1. $\mathbf{i} \times \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{i} \times \mathbf{k} = -\mathbf{j}$, $\mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{i}$
2. Antisymmetry: $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}$
3. Linearity: $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}$
4. Homogeneity: $(s\mathbf{a}) \times \mathbf{b} = s(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})$
5. The cross product is normal to both vectors: $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{a} = (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$
6. $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|\sin(\theta)$

Geometric Interpretation of the Cross Product



Matrices

Rectangular arrangement of scalar elements

Matrix:
Bold upper-case

$$\mathbf{A}_{3 \times 3} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2.0 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & -4.0 & 2.1 \\ 3 & 0.4 & 8.2 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{A}_{ij})$$

Special Square ($n \times n$) Matrices

Zero matrix: $\mathbf{A}_{ij} = 0$ for all i, j

Identity matrix: $\mathbf{I}_n = \begin{cases} \mathbf{I}_{ii} = 1 & \text{for all } i \\ \mathbf{I}_{ij} = 0 & \text{for } i \neq j \end{cases}$

Symmetric matrix: $(\mathbf{A}_{ij}) = (\mathbf{A}_{ji})$

Operations with Matrices

Addition:

$$A_{m \times n} + B_{m \times n} = (a_{ij} + b_{ij})$$

Properties:

1. $A + B = B + A$
2. $A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$
3. $f(A + B) = fA + fB$
4. Transpose: $A^T = (a_{ij})^T = (a_{ji})$

Multiplication

Definition:

$$C_{m \times r} = A_{m \times n} B_{n \times r}$$
$$(C_{ij}) = \left(\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} \right)$$

Properties:

1. $AB \neq BA$
2. $A(BC) = (AB)C$
3. $f(AB) = (fA)B$
4. $A(B + C) = AB + AC$,
 $(B + C)A = BA + CA$
5. $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$

Inverse of a Square Matrix

Definition

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}^{-1} = \mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{I}$$

Important property

$$(\mathbf{AB})^{-1} = \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{-1}$$

Dot Product as a Matrix Multiplication

Representing vectors as column matrices:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} \\ &= (a_1 \ a_2 \ a_3) \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3 \end{aligned}$$