

Figure 4.14: The vector product of  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  is defined  $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = |\mathbf{v}| |\mathbf{w}| \hat{\mathbf{n}} \sin \theta$  in terms of the angle  $\theta$  separating the two vectors and the magnitude of each vector. The unit vector  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$  is normal to the plane containing  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  in the direction determined by the right hand rule.