M311 Calculus III Recitation

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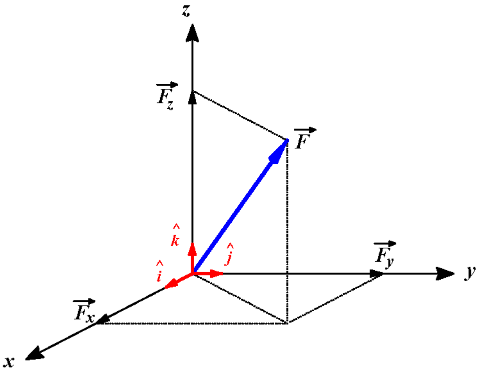
Fall 2019

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_x + \vec{F}_y + \vec{F}_z$$



Suppose $a = \langle 2, 3, 0\rangle$ and $b = \langle -1, 0, 1\rangle$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |a + 2b| &= |\langle 2, 3, 0\rangle + 2\langle -1, 0, 1\rangle| \\ &= |\langle 2, 3, 0\rangle + \langle -2, 0, 2\rangle| \\ &= |\langle 0, 3, 2\rangle| \\ &= \sqrt{0^2 + 3^2 + 2^2} \\ &= \sqrt{13} \end{aligned}$$

Dot products are a special case of matrix multiplication. Suppose $a = \langle 2, 3, 0 \rangle$ and $b = \langle -1, 0, 1 \rangle$. Then

$$a \cdot b = 2(-1) + 3(0) + 0(1) = -2$$

Compare to $(2, 3, 0)(-1, 0, 1)^T$ where these are now thought of as matrices and T denotes transpose.

- Dot product gives a computationally conducive way to get a handle on angles between vectors.
- $a \cdot b = |a||b| \cos\theta$ where θ is the angle between the two vectors.
- In particular, since $\cos\theta = 0$ if and only if $\theta = \pi/2 + k\pi$, we can conclude that $a \perp b \Leftrightarrow a \cdot b = 0$.
- Note: dot product takes two vectors and gives a number.
- In the previous example, since the dot product was nonzero, we can conclusively say that the vectors were not orthogonal.

Computing unit vectors perpendicular to $j - k$ and $i + j$:

$$(j - k) \times (i + j) = i - j - k$$

However, this vector is not a unit vector! We must normalize by dividing by the magnitude, in this case, $1/\sqrt{3}$.

Finding the area of a parallelogram given the corner points.

1. Plot the vectors and draw in the parallelogram
2. Identify two vectors that determine the parallelogram
3. Compute the magnitude of the cross product.

Finding a vector orthogonal to the plane given three points on the plane.

1. The plane through P, Q, R must contain the vectors formed by the points, such as PQ and PR.
2. Find a vector orthogonal to both of these vectors with the corss product.
3. This vector must then be orthogonal to the plane itself.

Find equation of line containing $P_0 = (2, 1, 0)$ and direction perpendicular to $i + J$ and $j + k$.

1. Compute a vector orthogonal to both
2. Say the vector is (a, b, c). Then the parametric equation is $x = 2 + at, y = 1 + bt, z = ct$.

Line segment from $r_0 = \langle 6, -1, 9 \rangle$ to $r_1 = \langle 7, 6, 0 \rangle$:

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) &= (1-t)r_0 + tr_1 \\ &= \langle 6, -1, 9 \rangle - t\langle 6, -1, 9 \rangle + t\langle 7, 6, 0 \rangle \\ &= (1-t)\langle 6, -1, 9 \rangle + t\langle 7, 6, 0 \rangle \\ &= \langle 6, -1, 9 \rangle + t\langle 1, 7, -9 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

How do you determine whether two lines are parallel given their direction vectors?

1. Say we have two lines with direction vectors v_1 and v_2.
2. Determine whether there exists a constant such that $v_1 = cv_2$.
3. If there is, then the two lines are parallel. If not, it may be possible that the lines intersect or are skew.