

Begin with clicker questions

We know how to find  $|\vec{L}|$

What is  $\hat{L}$ ?

I'll give you the answer and then explain it!

$$\text{If: } \vec{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$$

$$\vec{p} = \langle p_x, p_y, p_z \rangle$$

$$\vec{L} = \langle yp_z - zp_y, zp_x - xp_z, xp_y - yp_x \rangle$$

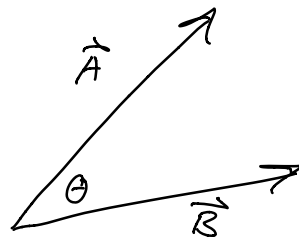
Where did this come from??

This is a new vector multiplication operation  
called the cross product

Given two vectors  $\vec{A} + \vec{B}$

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} :$$

$$|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}| = |\vec{A}| |\vec{B}| \sin \theta$$



Direction: perpendicular to the plane formed  
by  $\vec{A} + \vec{B}$

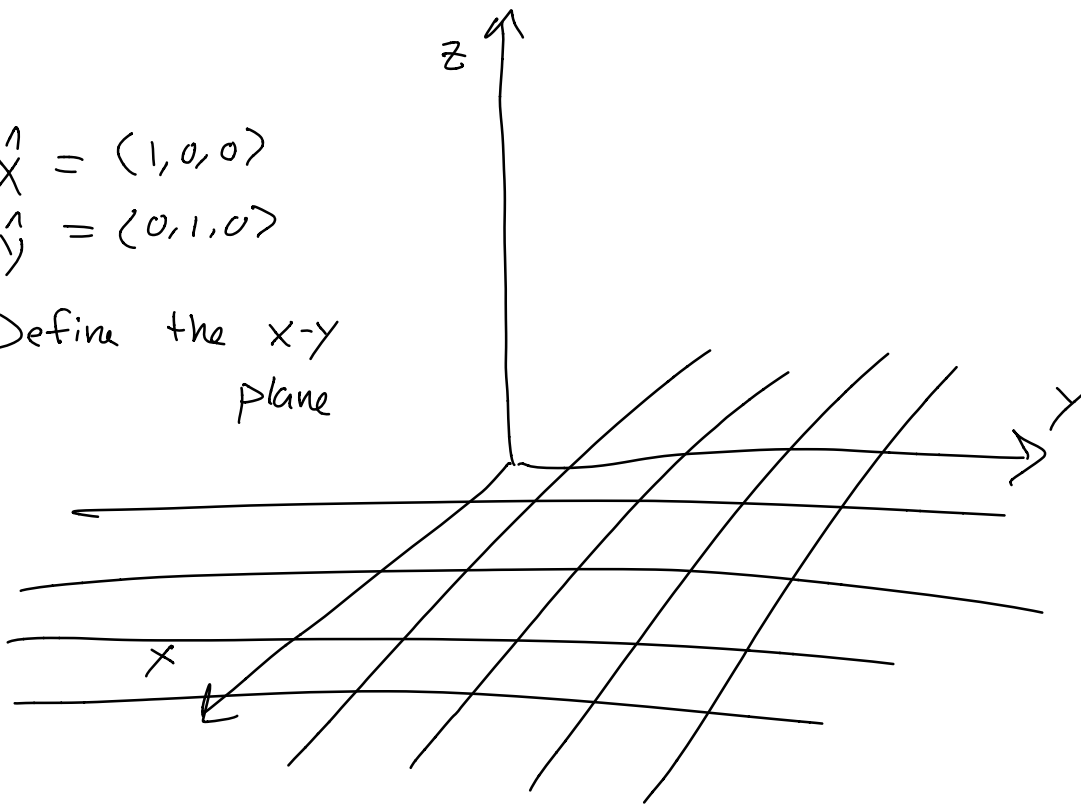
What does this mean?

Two vectors define a surface

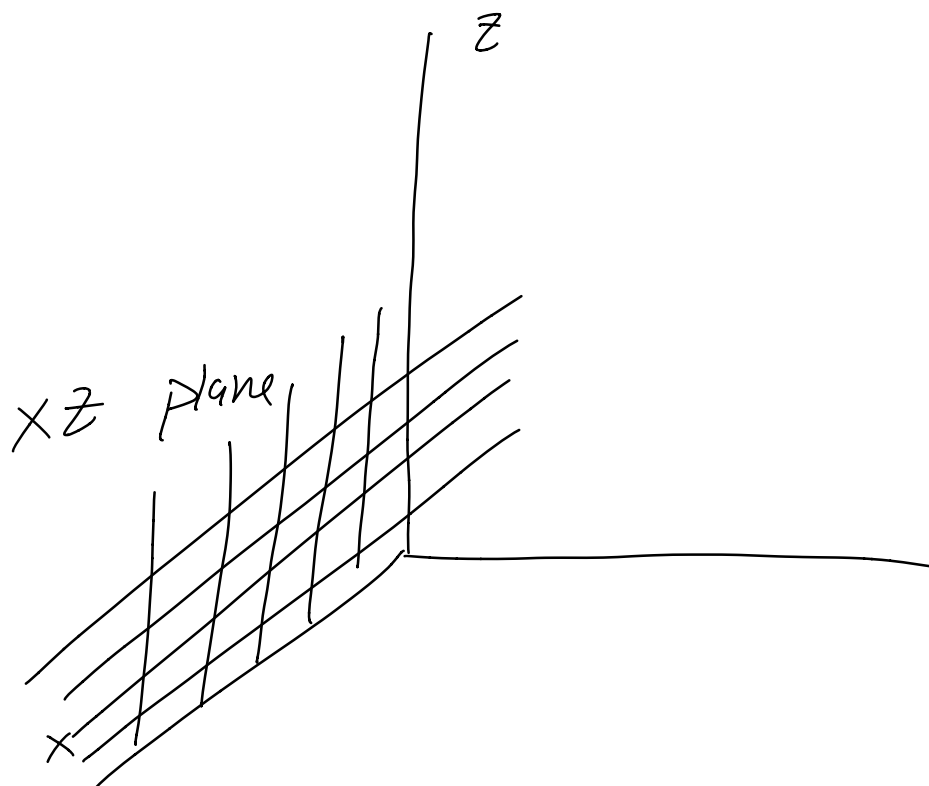
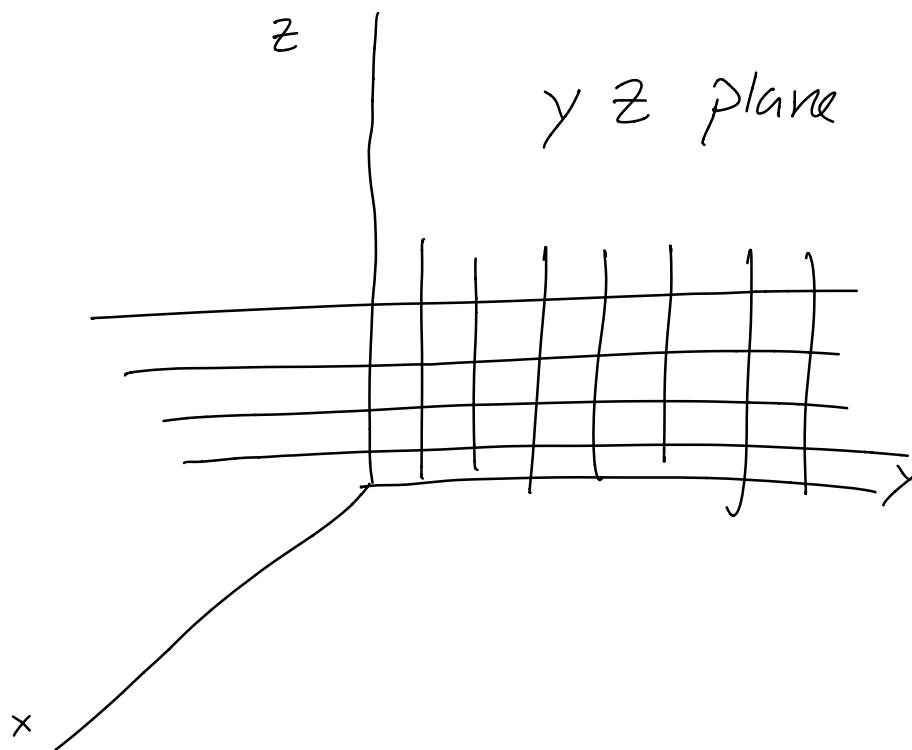
$$\hat{x} = (1, 0, 0)$$

$$\hat{y} = (0, 1, 0)$$

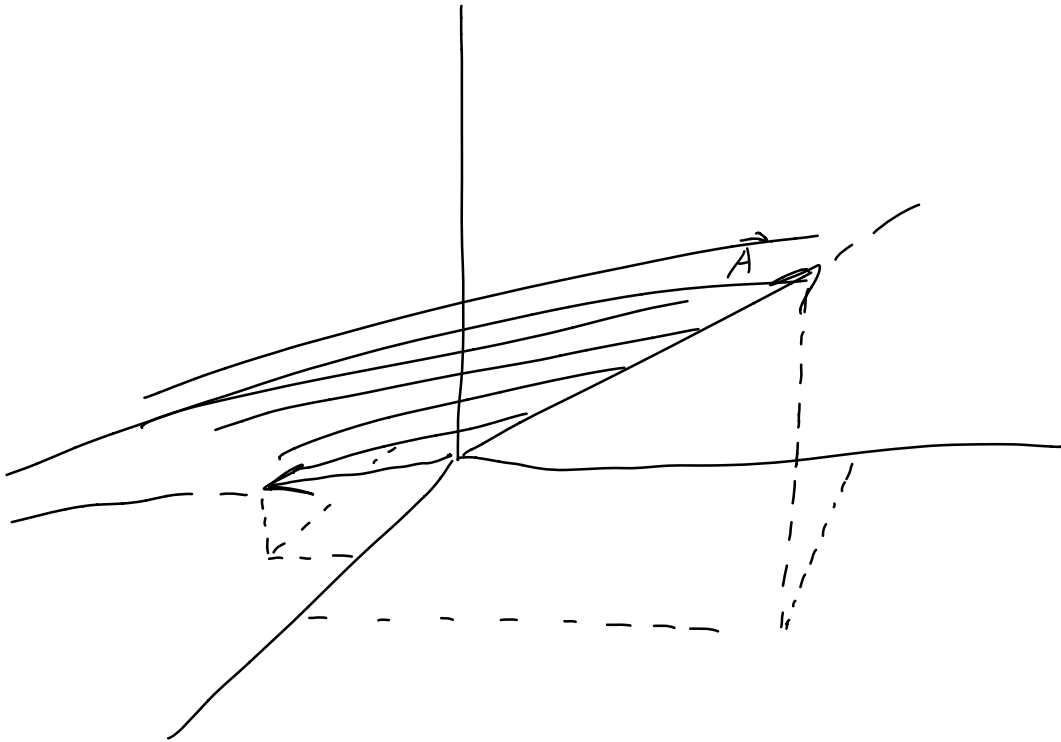
Define the x-y  
plane



An infinite sheet with  $z=0$  everywhere

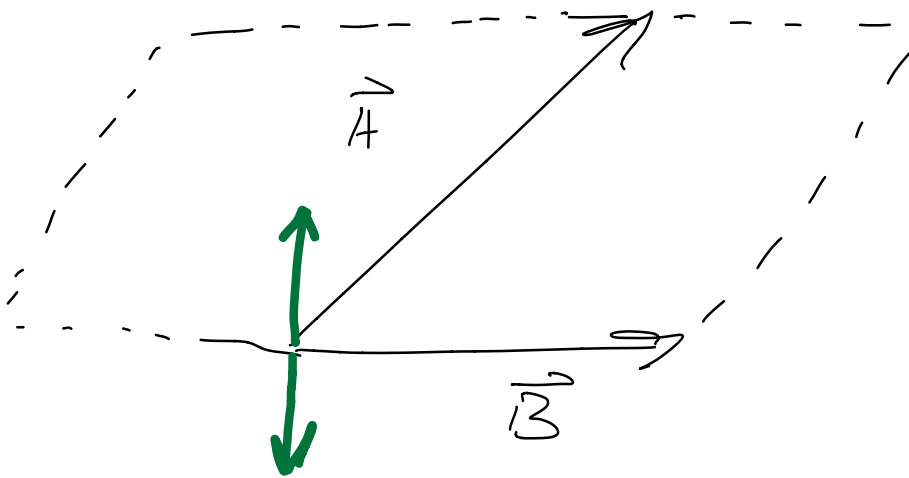


Any two vectors form a plane, not just  
 $\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z}$



Draw the vectors from the same  
Origin & the imagine stretching  
a sheet from one to the  
other

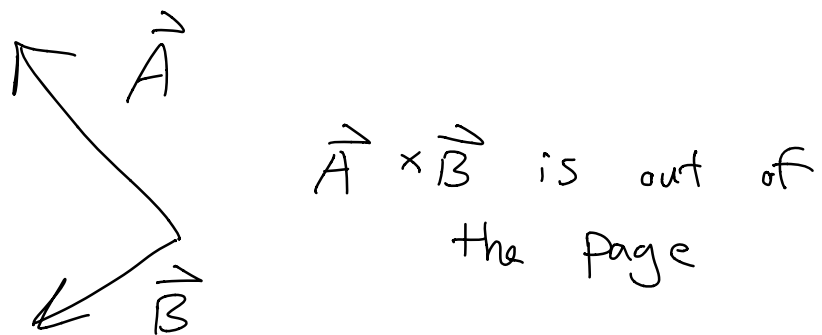
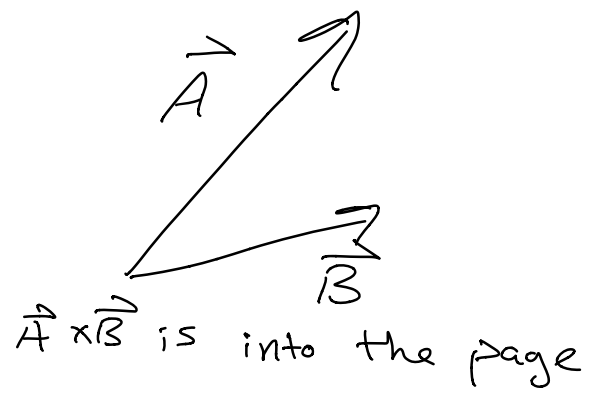
So: vectors  $\vec{A}$  &  $\vec{B}$  form a surface, the direction of  $\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$  is directly away from the surface (perpendicular)



Two possibilities  
up or down

Solution: Right hand rule

- Lay hand along  $\vec{A}$
- Curl fingers in direction of  $\vec{B}$
- Thumb is direction of  $\vec{A} \times \vec{B}$

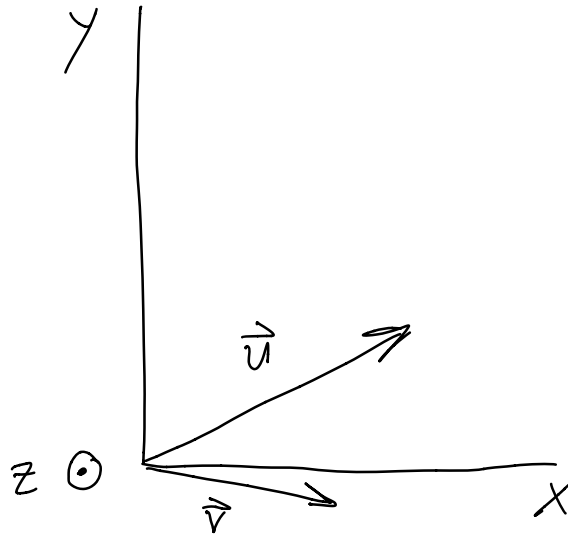


Ex:

$$\vec{u} = 5\hat{x} + 3\hat{y}$$

$$\vec{v} = 4\hat{x} - 2\hat{y}$$

What is  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$



Direction?  $(-\hat{z})$

Side note:

$\odot$  = "out of page"

$\otimes$  = "into page"



$$|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = |\vec{u}| |\vec{v}| \sin \theta$$

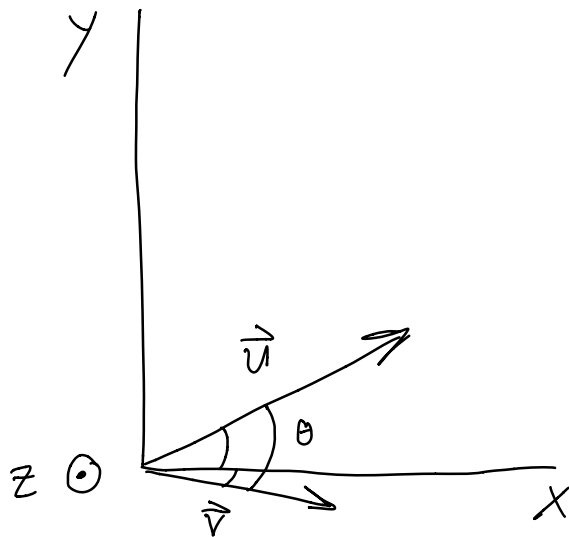
$$\vec{u} = 5 \hat{x} + 3 \hat{y}$$

$$\vec{v} = 4 \hat{x} - 2 \hat{y}$$

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 3^2} = 5.8$$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{4^2 + 2^2} = 4.5$$

What is  $\theta$ ?



$$\theta = \theta_{xv} + \theta_{xu}, \quad \hat{u} = \langle \cos \theta_{xu}, \cos \theta_{yu} \rangle$$

$$\hat{v} = \langle \cos \theta_{xv}, \cos \theta_{yv} \rangle$$



To find  $\theta$ , find  $\hat{u}$  then use to find  $\theta_{xu}$

$\hat{v}$

$\theta_{xv}$

$$\theta = \theta_{xv} + \theta_{xu}$$

An easier way:

Recall:

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_x v_x + u_y v_y + u_z v_z = |\vec{u}| |\vec{v}| \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|} \right)$$

$$\vec{u} = 5 \hat{x} + 3 \hat{y}$$

$$\vec{v} = 4 \hat{x} - 2 \hat{y}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 5 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot (-2) = 14$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{14}{5.8 \cdot 4.5} \right) = 57.6^\circ$$

$$|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = (5.8)(4.5) \sin 57.6^\circ$$

$$= 21.9$$

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \langle 0, 0, -21.9 \rangle = -21.9 \hat{z}$$

$$(\vec{v} \times \vec{u}) = 21.9 \hat{z}$$


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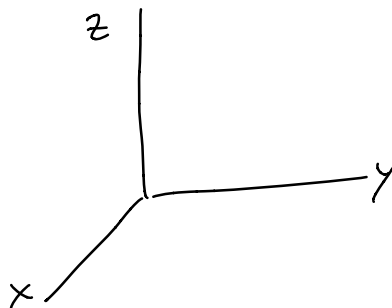
In general:

What is  $\hat{x} \times \hat{y}$ ?

$$\langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle \times \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$$

$$|\hat{x} \times \hat{y}| = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \sin 90^\circ$$

Dir:  $\hat{z}$



$$\hat{x} \times \hat{y} = \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{x} \times \hat{y} = \hat{z}$$

$$\hat{x} \times \hat{x} = ?$$

$$1 \cdot 1 \cdot \sin 0$$

$$= 0$$

$$\hat{y} \times \hat{x} = ?$$

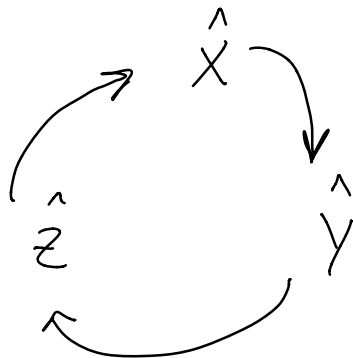
$$= -\hat{z}$$

$$\hat{x} \times \hat{z} = -\hat{y}$$

$$\hat{z} \times \hat{x} = \hat{y}$$

- The cross product of any two of  $(\hat{x}, \hat{y}, \hat{z})$  gives  $\pm$  the third

- Cyclic



$$\hat{y} \times \hat{z} ?$$

$$\hat{x} \times \hat{z} ?$$

$$\vec{A} = \langle A_x, A_y \rangle$$

$$\vec{B} = \langle B_x, B_y \rangle$$

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = (A_x \hat{x} + A_y \hat{y}) \times (B_x \hat{x} + B_y \hat{y})$$

$$= A_x \hat{x} \times B_x \hat{x} + A_x \hat{x} \times B_y \hat{y}$$

$$+ A_y \hat{y} \times B_x \hat{x} + A_y \hat{y} \times B_y \hat{y}$$

$$= A_x B_x (\hat{x} \times \hat{x}) + A_x B_y (\hat{x} \times \hat{y})$$

$$+ A_y B_x (\hat{y} \times \hat{x}) + A_y B_y (\hat{y} \times \hat{y})$$

$$= 0 + A_x B_y \hat{z} - A_y B_x \hat{z} + 0$$

$$= (A_x B_y - A_y B_x) \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{A} = \langle A_x, A_y, A_z \rangle$$

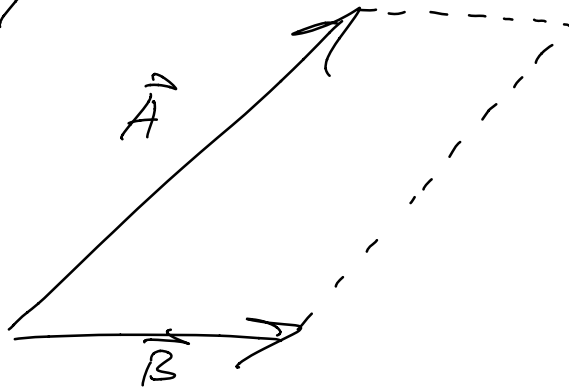
$$\vec{B} = \langle B_x, B_y, B_z \rangle$$

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} =$$

$$\langle A_y B_z - A_z B_y, A_z B_x - A_x B_z, A_x B_y - A_y B_x \rangle$$

$$|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}| = |\vec{A}| |\vec{B}| \sin \theta$$

Geometry:



$$\text{Area of parallelogram} = |\vec{A} \times \vec{B}|$$