

Quiz 1: Vectors (§13.1-13.4)

Name: _____

Score: _____ /10
Length: 15 minutes

Directions: Show work for full credit. Use proper notation. Clearly label final answers. You may use the back on this page if you need extra space.

1. For all parts, let $\vec{u} = \langle -1, 2, 3 \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle 2, 1, 1 \rangle$.

- (a) (1 point) Compute $2\vec{u} + \vec{v}$.

Solution: $2\vec{u} + \vec{v} = \langle 2(-1) + 2, 2(2) + 1, 2(3) + 1 \rangle = \boxed{\langle 0, 5, 7 \rangle}$

- (b) (1 point) Find the unit vector in the direction of \vec{u} .

Solution: $|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{(-1)^2 + 2^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{14}$. So, if \hat{u} denotes the unit vector in the direction of \vec{u} .

$$\hat{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}\vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{-1}{\sqrt{14}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}} \right\rangle$$

- (c) (4 points) Write \vec{u} as the sum of two vectors, one parallel to \vec{v} and one orthogonal to \vec{v} .

Solution:

$$\vec{u}^{\parallel} = \text{proj}_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\vec{v} = \frac{3}{6}\langle 2, 1, 1 \rangle = \left\langle 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle$$

$$\vec{u}^{\perp} = \vec{u} - \text{proj}_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \langle -1, 2, 3 \rangle - \left\langle 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right\rangle = \left\langle -2, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \right\rangle$$

$\vec{u} = \vec{u}^{\parallel} + \vec{u}^{\perp}$ where \vec{u}^{\parallel} is parallel to \vec{v} and \vec{u}^{\perp} is orthogonal to \vec{v} .

- (d) (4 points) Find the area of the parallelogram with adjacent sides \vec{u} and \vec{v} (use units² as your unit).

Solution:

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = (-1)\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - 5\vec{k}$$

The area of the parallelogram is

$$|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = \sqrt{(-1)^2 + 7^2 + (-5)^2} = \sqrt{75} = 5\sqrt{3} \text{ units}^2$$