

# VECTORS IN $\mathbb{R}^3$ [SST 9.2]

## VECTORS & SCALARS:

- A **3-D vector**  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  is a quantity that **has both magnitude and direction**. (Hand-write vector  $\mathbf{v}$  as  $\vec{v}$ )
  - e.g. displacement, velocity, force, angular momentum, ...
- A **scalar**  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  is a quantity that **only has magnitude**.
  - e.g. time, temperature, distance, speed, volume, electric charge, ...

## VECTOR NOTATION:

- **Component form** of a vector:  $\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$
- **Standard basis form** of a vector:  $\mathbf{v} = v_1\hat{\mathbf{i}} + v_2\hat{\mathbf{j}} + v_3\hat{\mathbf{k}}$  or  $\mathbf{v} = v_1\hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + v_2\hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + v_3\hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$ 
  - ★  $\hat{\mathbf{i}} = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$
  - ★  $\hat{\mathbf{j}} = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$
  - ★  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3 = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$
- The vector starting at point  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and ending at point  $Q(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  is  $\mathbf{PQ} = \langle x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1, z_2 - z_1 \rangle$ 
  - Point  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  is called the **initial point of vector PQ**
  - Point  $Q(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  is called the **terminal point of vector PQ**
- Vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  are **equal** if and only if their components are equal:  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_3 = v_3$ .
- **Zero vector:**  $\mathbf{0} := \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$
- The vector **opposite of vector**  $\mathbf{v}$  is  $-\mathbf{v}$ .
- The **norm** of a vector  $\mathbf{v}$ , denoted  $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ , is the length of the vector.
- A **unit vector**, denoted  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ , is a vector with **norm one**.
- A **direction vector** for a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is a unit vector with the same direction as  $\mathbf{v}$ .

## BASIC OPERATIONS WITH VECTORS:

- Vector Addition:  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle + \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = \langle u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, u_3 + v_3 \rangle$
- Vector Subtraction:  $\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{v}) = \langle u_1 - v_1, u_2 - v_2, u_3 - v_3 \rangle$
- Scalar Multiplication:  $t\mathbf{v} = t\langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = \langle tv_1, tv_2, tv_3 \rangle$
- Norm of a Vector:  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$
- Direction Vector:  $\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$
- Linear Combination of Two Vectors:  $s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{v} = \langle su_1 + tv_1, su_2 + tv_2, su_3 + tv_3 \rangle$
- **BEWARE:** The notion of "multiplying or dividing two vectors" is NOT DEFINED!!

## PROPERTIES OF VECTORS:

(Let vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and scalars  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ )

Vector Commutativity:	$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}$	Vector Associativity: $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w})$
Additive Identity:	$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{u}$	Additive Inverse: $\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{0}$
Vector Distribution:	$(s + t)\mathbf{u} = s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{u}$	Scalar Distribution: $s(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = s\mathbf{u} + s\mathbf{v}$
Scalar Multiplication Associativity:	$(st)\mathbf{u} = s(t\mathbf{u})$	

**EX 9.2.1:** Let  $\mathbf{u} = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, -1, -1 \rangle$ , and  $\mathbf{w} = -3\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{j}} - \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ .

(a) Compute  $3(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v}$ .

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(b) Compute  $\|\mathbf{u}\| + \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 - 3\|\mathbf{w}\|^2$ .

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(c) Find the **terminal point** of vector  $\mathbf{u}$  if the **initial point** is  $(-2, 3, -4)$ .

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(d) Find the unit vector  $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ .

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(e) Find the **unit vector** that is in the **same direction** as  $\langle 10, 5, -2 \rangle$ .

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(f) Find the **unit vector** that is in the **opposite direction** as  $3\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 5\hat{\mathbf{j}} - \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ .

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