# 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,  $\ldots$
- 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  $\mathbf{v} = v_1 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_1 + v_2 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_2 + v_3 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_3$ 
  - $\star \ \widehat{\mathbf{i}} = \widehat{\mathbf{e}}_1 = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$
  - $\star \ \widehat{\mathbf{j}} = \widehat{\mathbf{e}}_2 = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$
  - $\star \widehat{\mathbf{k}} = \widehat{\mathbf{e}}_3 = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$
- 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 **v** is a unit vector with the same direction as **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:  $s\mathbf{u} + t\mathbf{v} = \langle su_1 + tv_1, su_2 + tv_2, su_3 + tv_3 \rangle$
- <u>BEWARE:</u> 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:	$\mathbf{u} + 0 = \mathbf{u}$	Additive Inverse:	$\mathbf{u} + (-\mathbf{u}) = 0$
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:	$(st)\mathbf{u} = s(t\mathbf{u})$		

**<u>EX 9.2.1</u>**: 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  $3(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v}$ .

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

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

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

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

(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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