

Closing Tues: 12.1,12.2,12.3

Closing Thurs: 12.4(1),12.4(2),12.5(1)

### **Summary: Vector operations so far**

#### *Scalar multiplication*

$c\mathbf{v}$  = “vector parallel to  $\mathbf{v}$  with length scaled by factor of  $c$ ”

#### *Vector Addition*

$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$  = “if  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are drawn tail-to-head, then  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$  is the vector that goes from the tail of  $\mathbf{a}$  to the head of  $\mathbf{b}$ ”

(resultant/combined force)

### **12.3 Dot Products (new)**

If  $\mathbf{a} = \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \langle b_1, b_2, b_3 \rangle$

Then we define the dot product by:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3$$

*Note:* The dot product gives a number (scalar).

*Entry Task:*  $\mathbf{a} = \langle 3, 1, 2 \rangle$ ,  $c = 4$

$$\mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$$

Compute

1.  $c\mathbf{a}$
2. unit vector in the direction of  $\mathbf{a}$ .
3.  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$
4.  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$

## Basic fact list:

- Manipulation facts

*(like regular multiplication):*

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}$$

$$c(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) = (c\mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \cdot (c\mathbf{b})$$

$$(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) = ???$$

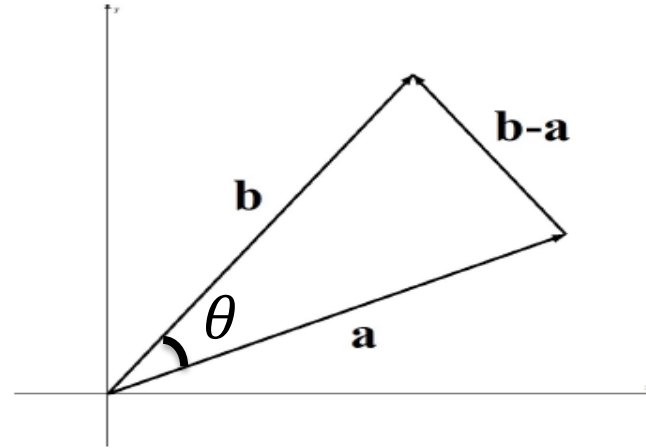
- Helpful fact:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2$$

**The most important fact:**

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos(\theta),$$

where  $\theta$  is the smallest angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ . ( $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ )



*Proof* (not required):

(1) By the Law of Cosines:

$$|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}|^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2 + |\mathbf{b}|^2 - 2|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos(\theta)$$

(2) The left-hand side expands to

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}|^2 &= (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \\ &= \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b} - 2\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} \\ &= |\mathbf{b}|^2 - 2\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + |\mathbf{a}|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting  $|\mathbf{a}|^2 + |\mathbf{b}|^2$  from both sides of (1) yields:

$$-2\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = -2|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos(\theta).$$

Divide by -2 to get the result. (QED)

**Most important consequence:**

If **a** and **b** are orthogonal, then

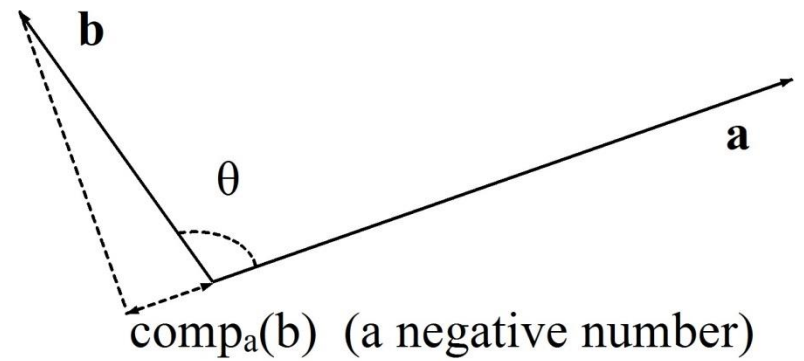
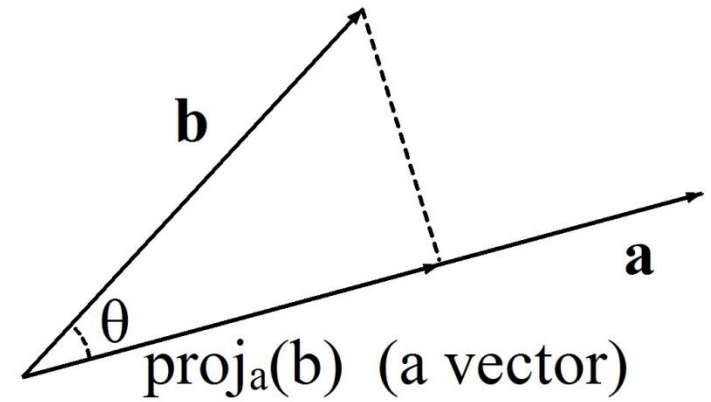
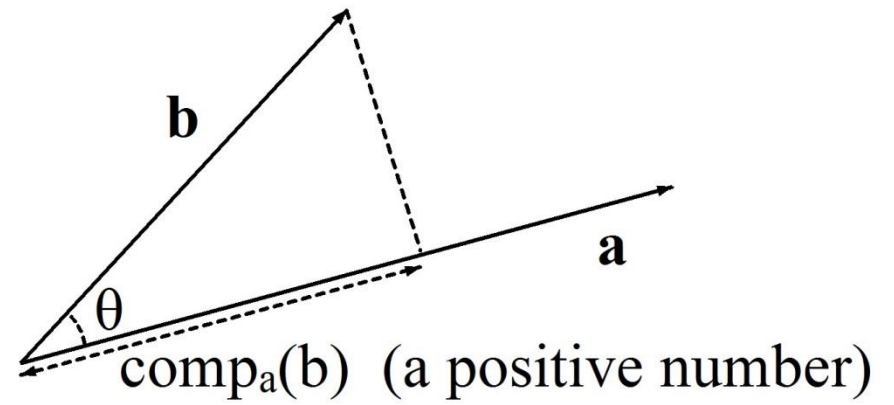
$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0.$$

*Also:* If **a** and **b** are parallel, then

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \text{ or } \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = -|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|.$$

*Example:* Find a vector that is orthogonal to the tangent line to  $y = x^3 e^{(2x-2)}$  at  $x = 1$ .

*Projections:*



## 12.4 The Cross Product

We define the cross product, or vector product, for two 3-dimensional vectors,

$$\mathbf{a} = \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \langle b_1, b_2, b_3 \rangle,$$

by

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} - \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{j} + \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k}$$

$$= (a_2b_3 - a_3b_2)\mathbf{i} - (a_1b_3 - a_3b_1)\mathbf{j} + (a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)\mathbf{k}$$

$$\text{Ex: } \mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 2, 0 \rangle \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \langle -1, 3, 2 \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$( \quad - \quad )\mathbf{i} - ( \quad - \quad )\mathbf{j} + ( \quad - \quad )\mathbf{k}$$

*You do:*  $\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 3, -1 \rangle$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \langle 2, 1, 5 \rangle$ .

Compute  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$

**Most important fact:**

The vector  $\boldsymbol{v} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$  is  
orthogonal to *both*  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .



## *Right-hand rule*

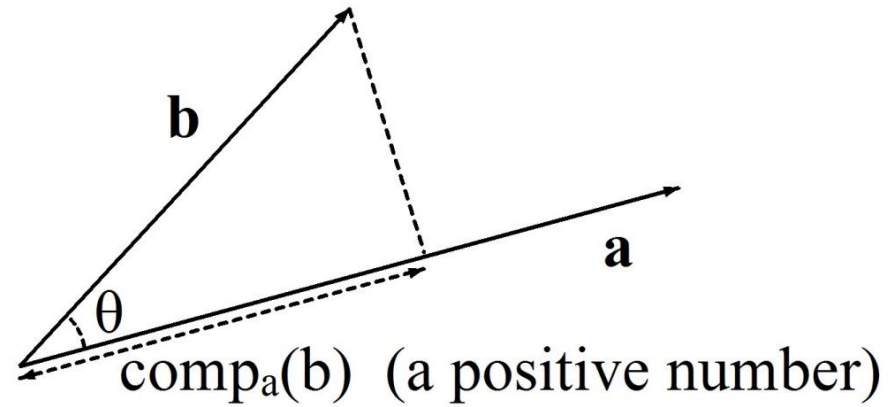
If the fingers of the right-hand curl from **a** to **b**, then the thumb points in the direction of **a** × **b**.

*The magnitude of  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ :*

Through some algebra and using the dot product rule, it can be shown that

$$|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \sin(\theta)$$

where  $\theta$  is the smallest angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ . ( $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ )



*Note:*  $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \sin(\theta)$   
is the area of the parallelogram  
formed by  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$