

Closing Tue, Apr. 4: 12.1,12.2,12.3
Closing Thu, Apr. 6: 12.4(1)(2),12.5(1)
Please check out the online review
and summary sheets. Also, WS 1
solutions are online.

12.2 Vectors Intro

Goal: Introduce vector basics.

Def'n: A **vector** is a quantity with
magnitude and direction.

We depict a vector with an arrow;
the length is the magnitude. The
`tail' of arrow is called the initial
point and the `head' is called the
terminal point.

If the vector is drawn with the tail at
the origin and that results in the
head being at the point (v_1, v_2, v_3) ,
then we denote the vector by

$$\mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$$

Basic fact list:

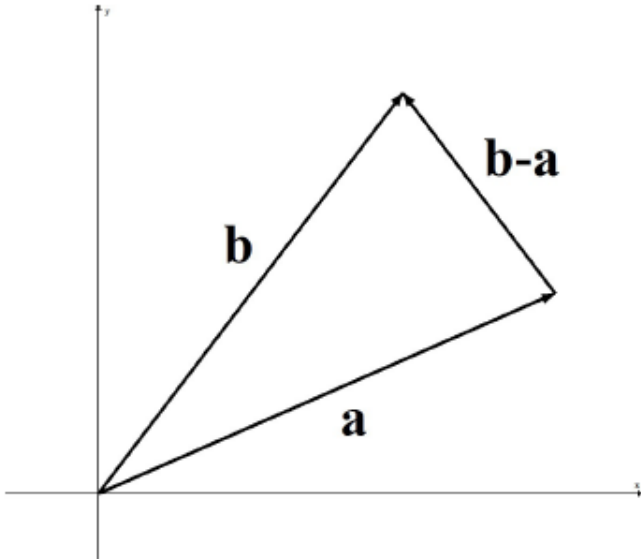
- Two vectors are equal if all components are equal.

- We denote **magnitude** by

$$|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2}$$

- To denote the **vector from**
A(a₁,a₂,a₃) to B(b₁,b₂,b₃), we write

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \langle b_1 - a_1, b_2 - a_2, b_3 - a_3 \rangle$$

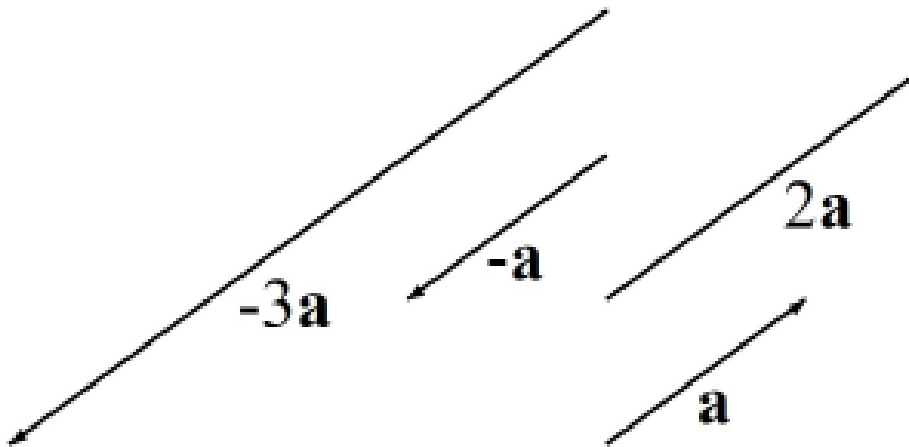


- **Scalar Multiplication**

If c is a constant, then we define

$$c\mathbf{v} = \langle c v_1, c v_2, c v_3 \rangle,$$

which scales the magnitude by a factor of c .



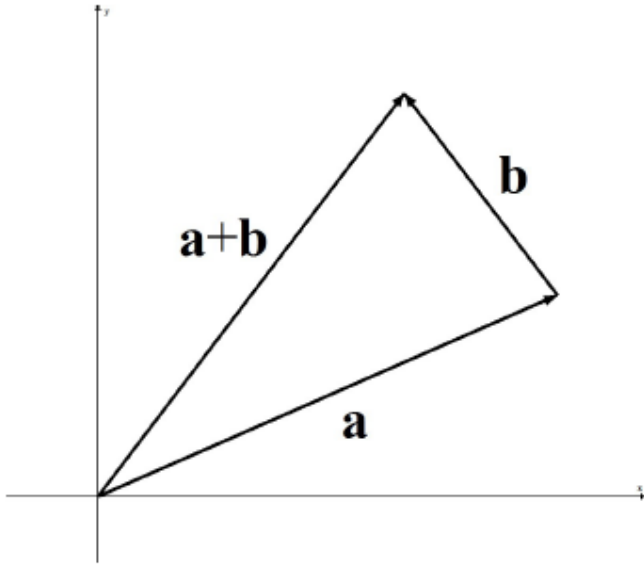
- A **unit vector** has length one.

Note:

$\frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}|} \mathbf{v}$ = “unit vector in the same direction as \mathbf{v} ”.

- We define the **vector sum** by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} &= \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle + \langle w_1, w_2, w_3 \rangle \\ &= \langle v_1 + w_1, v_2 + w_2, v_2 + w_2 \rangle\end{aligned}$$



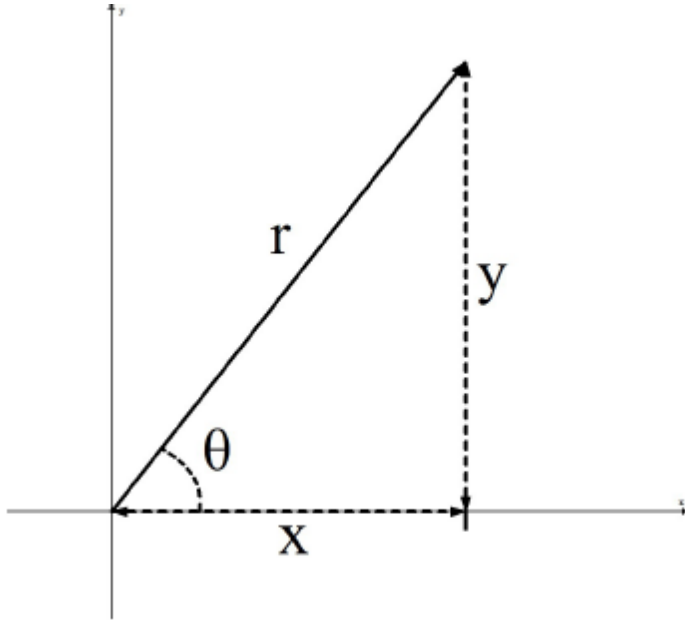
- Standard unit basis vectors:

$$\mathbf{i} = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{j} = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{k} = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$$

- In 2D, you may be given the angle, θ , and length, r , as shown



Remember,

$$x = r \cos(\theta), y = r \sin(\theta), x^2 + y^2 = r^2.$$

- In 2D, if you want a vector that is **parallel to a line with slope m** , then the vector $\langle 1, m \rangle$ works.

12.3 Dot Products

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:

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

Basic fact list:

- Manipulation facts

(works like regular multiplication):

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

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

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

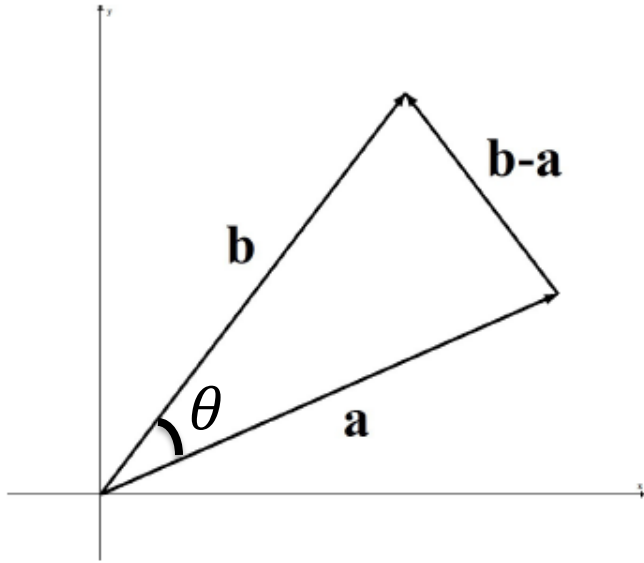
$$(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) = ???$$

- Helpful fact:

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

The most important fact:

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



Proof (not required):

By the Law of Cosines:

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

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 gives

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

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

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

or

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

Projections:

