

# MA 203 LINEAR ALGEBRA:

COURSE TEXT: LINEAR ALGEBRA & ITS APPLICATIONS.

Assessment: 70% EXAM

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30% CA (3 CLASS TESTS  
BASED ON TUTORIAL  
SHEETS.)

TUTORIALS: WED 10 & THURS 1.

COURSE Outline: We will cover chapters 1 to 3 (& some of chapter 4) of the course text.

Introduction: Geometric Background  
ie Vectors and the dot product.

Recall  $\mathbb{R}$  denotes the set of all real numbers &  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of natural numbers, ie  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

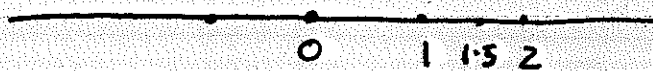
Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\mathbb{R}^n := \{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \mid x_i \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

An element  $v = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a vector.

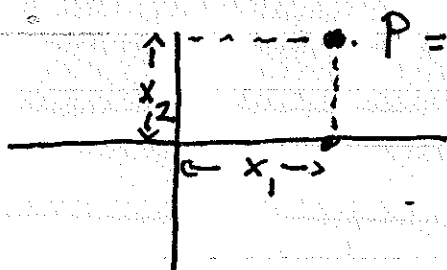
PICTURES

(n=1)



$$n=2 \quad \mathbb{R}^2 = \{ (x_1, x_2) \mid x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \}$$

Picture: (a) As the Cartesian plane

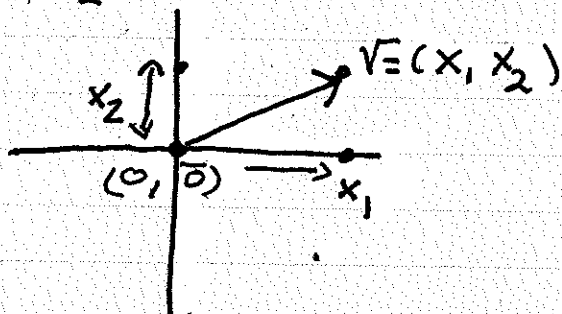


(Also called 2-dim  
Euclidean space)

OR

Picture

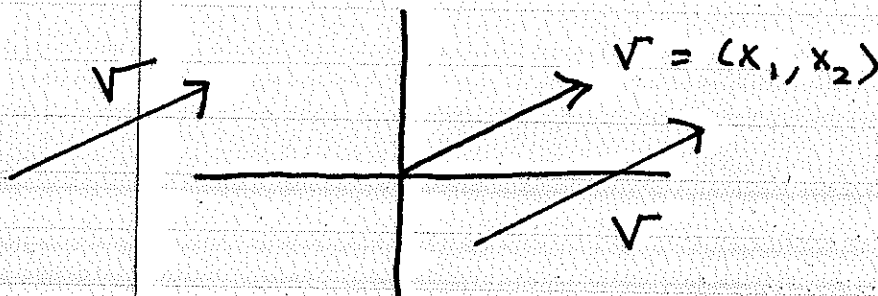
(b) as a 2 dimensional vector  $v = (x_1, x_2)$  is the directed line segment from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(x_1, x_2)$  in the Cartesian Plane



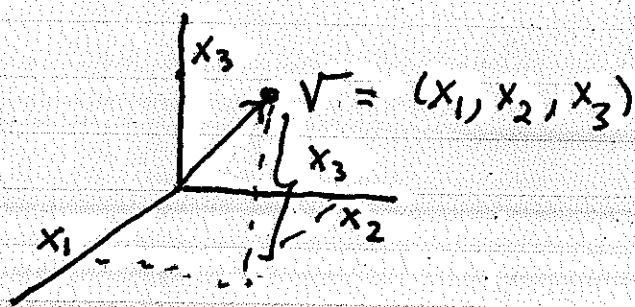
(so its a quantity with direction & magnitude or length)

OR

Picture (c) Base the vector picture at any point in the plane



$n=3$



Any element  $v = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is called an  $n$ -dimensional vector

OPERATIONS on VECTORS.

(i) Scalar Multiplication (OR Scaling)

If  $v = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  &  $r \in \mathbb{R}$

$\Gamma v := (\Gamma x_1, \Gamma x_2, \dots, \Gamma x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a vector in the same direction as  $v$  (if  $\Gamma > 0$ )  
But  $\Gamma$  times as long.

(If  $\Gamma < 0$ , it is in the opposite direction to  $v$  but  $\Gamma$  times as long)

Ex  $v = (1, 2, 3)$        $\Gamma = 2$

$2v = (2, 4, 6)$



(ii) Addition of vectors:

Let  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  &  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$   
Then  $v + u := \begin{pmatrix} v_1 + u_1 \\ v_2 + u_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_n + u_n \end{pmatrix}$

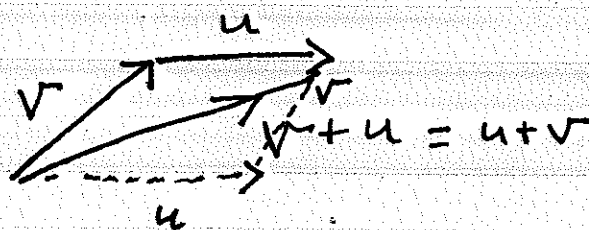
e.g. Note  $v + u = u + v$ . e.g.

$$v = (1, 2) \quad u = (2, 1)$$

$$v + u = (1+2, 2+1) = (3, 3)$$

$$u + v = (2+1, 1+2) = (3, 3)$$

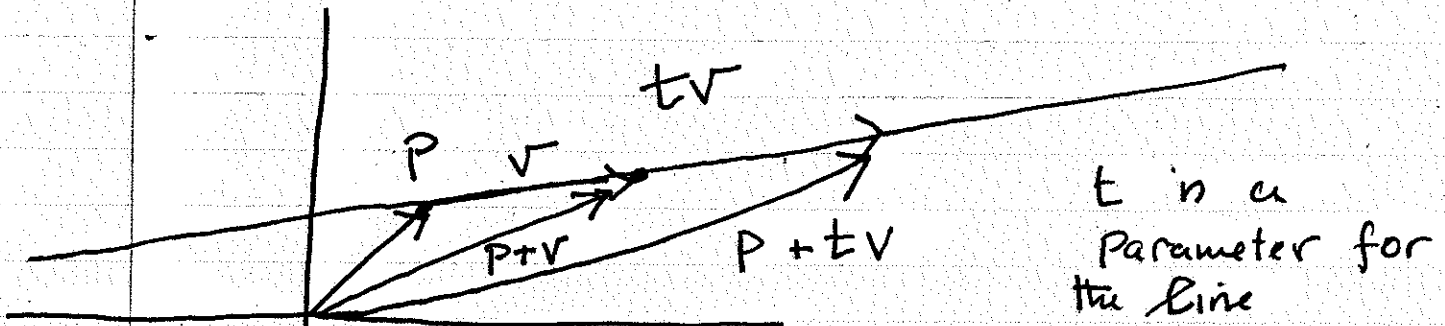
Geometric Picture: Place  $u$  at the tip of  $v$  &  $v + u$  is the vector from the base of  $v$  to the tip of  $u$



§ Application: The Parametric equation of a line in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

We will draw it in the case  $n = 2$

To describe a line we need to specify the direction of the line  $v \neq 0$  and a point  $P$  on the line



$$\text{So } L = \{ P + tv \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \}.$$

Ex Find the line (i.e. the parametric eqn) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  in the direction  $v = (1, 2, 3)$  passing through the point  $P = (2, 4, 6)$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \{ (2, 4, 6) + t(1, 2, 3) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \} \\ &= \{ (2, 4, 6) + (t, 2t, 3t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \} \\ &= \{ (2+t, 4+2t, 6+3t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $L$  consists of the points  $\underbrace{(x_1, x_2, x_3)}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  where

$$x_1 = 2+t, \quad x_2 = 4+2t \quad \& \quad x_3 = 6+3t$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{x_1 - 2}{1} = \frac{x_2 - 4}{2} = \frac{x_3 - 6}{3}$$

So In general If  $P = (P_1, P_2, P_3)$  &  $v = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$

The Eqn is  $(t = ) \quad \frac{x_1 - P_1}{v_1} = \frac{x_2 - P_2}{v_2} = \frac{x_3 - P_3}{v_3}$

Question: To be answered later. By solving simultaneous linear equations

$$\text{Let } l_1 : \frac{x_1 - 3}{4} = \frac{x_2 - 1}{2} = \frac{x_3 + 1}{3}$$

$$\& \quad l_2 : \frac{x_1 - 1}{2} = \frac{x_2 - 2}{4} = \frac{x_3 - 1}{2}$$

Do  $l_1$  &  $l_2$  intersect & if so find their intersection.

In Parametric form we have

$$l_1 : (3, 1, -1) + t(4, 2, 3) \quad \&$$

$$l_2 : (1, 2, 1) + s(1, 4, 2) \quad \text{so where}$$

They meet the  $x_1, x_2$  &  $x_3$  coordinates must be the same i.e.

$$3 + 4t = 1 + s$$

$$1 + 2t = 2 + 4s \quad \&$$

$$-1 + 3t = 1 + 2s$$

$$\text{OR} \quad 4t - s = -2$$

$$2t - 4s = 1$$

$$3t - 2s = 2$$

We don't expect any solns as: 3 Geometrically in general 2 lines in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  won't meet

& Too many eqns i.e. 3 eqns in 2 unknowns

§ THE DOT PRODUCT: (Encodes length and Angle Between vectors)

Defn: Let  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  &  $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$

Then the dot or scalar product of  $u$  &  $v$  is the real number denoted by  $u \cdot v$  & defined by

$$u \cdot v = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n := \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i$$

Ex  $u = (1, 2, 1)$        $v = (-1, 2, 2)$

$$u \cdot v = (1)(-1) + (2)(2) + (1)(2) = 5$$

$$\& v \cdot u = 5$$

Ex:  $u = (2, 3)$        $v = (-3, 2)$  then

$$u \cdot v = -6 + 6 = 0$$

&  $u \cdot u = 2^2 + 3^2 =$  the distance

squared from  $u = (2, 3)$  to  $(0, 0)$  is the

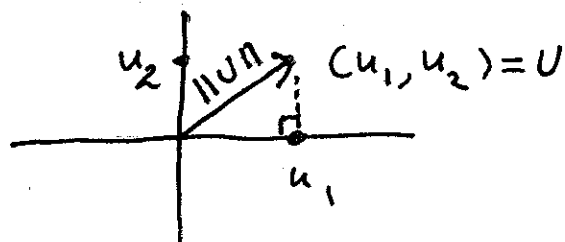
length  $\|u\|$  of the vector  $u$  squared.

In general By Pythagoras we have

if  $u = (u_1, u_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  then

$$\|u\|^2 = u_1 u_1 + u_2 u_2 = u_1^2 + u_2^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\|u\| = \sqrt{u_1^2 + u_2^2}$$



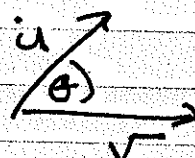
Defn: Let  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  
 the norm or length of  $v$  denoted  $\|v\|$   
 is defined to be  $\|v\| = \sqrt{v \cdot v} = \sqrt{v_1^2 + \dots + v_n^2}$ .

### Properties of the Dot Product

- (i)  $u \cdot v = v \cdot u \quad \forall u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- (ii)  $u \cdot (v+w) = u \cdot v + u \cdot w \quad \forall u, v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- (iii)  $(\gamma u) \cdot v = u \cdot (\gamma v) = \gamma(u \cdot v)$   
 $\forall u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$

(iv) In  $\mathbb{R}^2$  we will prove that  
 $u \cdot v = \|u\| \|v\| \cos \theta$  where

$\theta$  is the angle between  $u$  &  $v$



As in higher dimensions any 2 vectors define a 2-dimensional plane we also have the same notion of angle  $\theta$ .

Corollary:  $u \cdot v = 0 \iff \cos \theta = 0$   
 $\iff \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$

So  $u$  &  $v$  are perpendicular or orthogonal.

Defn: Given a vector  $n = (n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_n)$   
 in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  the hyperplane through