

# MA 265 Lecture 25

## Section 5.1 Length and Direction in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and $\mathbb{R}^3$

### Length of Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^2$

Let  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix}$  be a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . The \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ of  $\mathbf{v}$ , denoted by  $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ , is

The distance between vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is defined as

### Length of Vectors in $\mathbb{R}^3$

Let  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix}$  be a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The **length** of  $\mathbf{v}$  is defined as

The distance between vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is defined as

## Direction

We consider the **angle**  $\theta$ ,  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  between two vectors.

In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we plot the angle of two vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ :

By **law of cosines**:

we have

Similarly, if  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , the angle between vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is

**Example 1.** Let  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the angle  $\theta$  between these vectors.

The **inner product**, or **dot product** of vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) are defined by

**Remark**

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**Definition** Two vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are called

**Example 2.** The vectors  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  are orthogonal.

Let  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $c$  be a scalar. The inner product satisfies:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## Unit Vector

A vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose length is 1 is called

If  $\mathbf{v}$  is any nonzero vector, then a unit vector in the direction of  $\mathbf{v}$  is

**Example 3.** Let  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find a unit vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which

1. is in the same direction as  $\mathbf{v}$
2. is in the opposite direction as  $\mathbf{v}$
3. is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{v}$
4. has an angle of  $60^\circ$  between  $\mathbf{v}$ .