

Def. Vector Addition, Vector Subtraction, and Scalar Multiplication. A scalar is a real number. Consider vectors: $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$ in \mathbb{R}^3 . Consider a scalar $k \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\bullet \vec{u} + \vec{v} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2, u_3 + v_3 \rangle \quad (\text{Vector Addition})$$

$$\bullet k\vec{u} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle ku_1, ku_2, ku_3 \rangle \quad (\text{Scalar Multiplication})$$

$$\bullet \vec{u} - \vec{v} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \vec{u} + ((-1)\vec{v}) \stackrel{\text{so}}{=} \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle + \langle -v_1, -v_2, -v_3 \rangle \stackrel{\text{so}}{=} \langle u_1 - v_1, u_2 - v_2, u_3 - v_3 \rangle$$

o. A typical format of an exam problem.

Instructions for **1** and **2**. Put your solution IN the box. Show your work BELOW/NEAR the box.

Find the following vectors. Express answer in component form, e.g., $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$ or $\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$.

1. Let $\vec{u} = \langle 4, 3 \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle 1, -2 \rangle$.

1.1. $\frac{1}{2}\vec{u} =$

1.2. $-\vec{v} =$

1.3. $\vec{u} + \vec{v} =$

1.4. $\vec{u} - \vec{v} =$

1.5. $\vec{u}\vec{v} =$ Silly Prof! We can NOT multiply vectors !!

2. Let $\vec{u} = \langle 2, 2, 1 \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle -2, -1, 1 \rangle$.

2.1. $\frac{1}{2}\vec{u} =$

2.2. $-\vec{v} =$

2.3. $\vec{u} + \vec{v} =$

2.4. $\vec{u} - \vec{v} =$

Def. The vector \vec{v} is a unit vector if and only if $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$.

Def. Standard unit (basis) vectors

\mathbb{R}^3 . In \mathbb{R}^3 , the standard unit vectors are:

$$\vec{i} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{j} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{k} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle.$$

Any vector $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$ can be written as a linear combination of the standard unit vectors as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v} &= \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle \\ &= \langle v_1, 0, 0 \rangle + \langle 0, v_2, 0 \rangle + \langle 0, 0, v_3 \rangle \\ &= v_1 \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle + v_2 \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle + v_3 \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle \\ &= v_1 \vec{i} + v_2 \vec{j} + v_3 \vec{k}. \end{aligned}$$

The scalar v_1 is the i-component and v_2 is the j-component and v_3 is the k-component of the vector \vec{v} .

Note $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ while $\vec{i}, \vec{j}, \vec{k}$ are vectors.

\mathbb{R}^2 . Similarly, in \mathbb{R}^2 , the standard unit vectors are:

$$\vec{i} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle 1, 0 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{j} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle 0, 1 \rangle.$$

and any vector in \mathbb{R}^2 is a linear combination of the standard unit vectors: $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle = v_1 \vec{i} + v_2 \vec{j}$.

Rmk. If $\|\vec{v}\| \neq 0$, it is often helpful to write/think-of \vec{v} as:

$$\vec{v} = \underbrace{\|\vec{v}\|}_{\text{the length of } \vec{v}} \underbrace{\frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}}_{\text{a unit vector in the direction of } \vec{v} \text{ and is called the direction of } \vec{v}} \quad (1)$$

Ex. Find the direction of the vector \vec{AB} where the point $A = (1, 2, 3)$ and the point $B = (6, 5, 4)$. Express your answer as a linear combination of the standard unit vectors.

Soln: The direction of \vec{AB} is

⚠. The direction of the vector \vec{AB} is the unit vector in the same direction as \vec{AB} , which is $\frac{\vec{AB}}{\|\vec{AB}\|}$ by (1).

Note $\vec{AB} = \langle 6 - 1, 5 - 2, 4 - 3 \rangle = \langle 5, 3, 1 \rangle$. So $\|\vec{AB}\| = \sqrt{5^2 + 3^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{25 + 9 + 1} = \sqrt{35}$.

$$\text{So } \frac{\vec{AB}}{\|\vec{AB}\|} = \frac{\langle 5, 3, 1 \rangle}{\sqrt{35}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{35}} \langle 5, 3, 1 \rangle = \left\langle \frac{5}{\sqrt{35}}, \frac{3}{\sqrt{35}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{35}} \right\rangle = \frac{5}{\sqrt{35}} \vec{i} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{35}} \vec{j} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{35}} \vec{k}$$

Rmk. Properties of Vector (algebraic) Operations.

Let \vec{u} , \vec{v} , and \vec{w} be vectors. Let a and b be scalars (i.e., real numbers).

$$(1) \vec{u} + \vec{v} = \vec{v} + \vec{u}$$

$$(5) 0 \vec{u} = \vec{0}$$

$$(2) (\vec{u} + \vec{v}) + \vec{w} = \vec{u} + (\vec{v} + \vec{w})$$

$$(6) 1 \vec{u} = \vec{u}$$

$$(3) \vec{u} + \vec{0} = \vec{u}$$

$$(7) a(b\vec{u}) = (ab)\vec{u}$$

$$(4) \vec{u} + (-\vec{u}) = \vec{0}$$

$$(8) a(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = a\vec{u} + a\vec{v}$$

and

$$(9) (a + b)\vec{u} = a\vec{u} + b\vec{u}$$