

# Chapter 1 Vectors, matrices, and applications

## Sec 1.1 Vectors

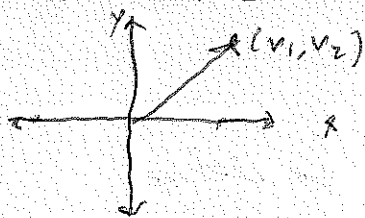
- A vector is an ordered pair in  $\mathbb{R}^2$   $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$   
" " triple in  $\mathbb{R}^3$   $\langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$   
" " n-tuple in  $\mathbb{R}^n$   $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle$

• Notation:  $\vec{v} = \mathbf{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$

•  $\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = [v_1, v_2]^T$

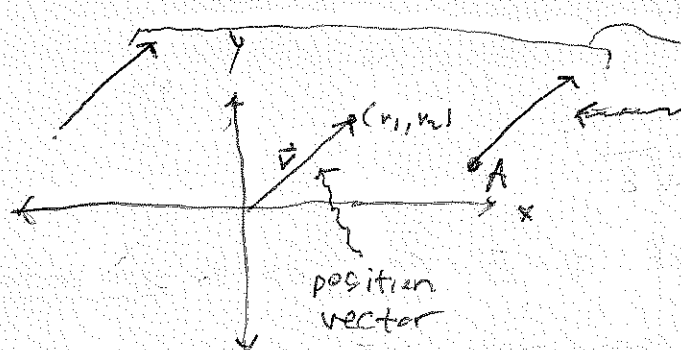
• In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = v_1 \hat{i} + v_2 \hat{j} + v_3 \hat{k}$

- $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$  can be visualized as:



• a position vector = directed line segment from the origin to  $(v_1, v_2)$ .

- For convenience, we'd like to move vectors around:



all the "same" vector

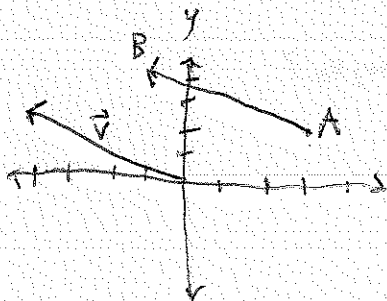
"representative" of  $\vec{v}$  that starts at the point A.

- $\vec{AB}$  is the vector from point A to point B.

Example:  $A = (3, 2)$ ,  $B = (-1, 4)$

$$\vec{v} = \langle b_1 - a_1, b_2 - a_2 \rangle = \langle -1 - 3, 4 - 2 \rangle = \langle -4, 2 \rangle$$

is a representative for  $\vec{AB}$



- Length of a vector (or magnitude or norm) will be denoted by  $\|\vec{v}\|$  or  $|\vec{v}|$  or  $d(A, B)$

- For  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle = \langle b_1 - a_1, b_2 - a_2, b_3 - a_3 \rangle$  we define

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2} = \sqrt{(b_1 - a_1)^2 + (b_2 - a_2)^2 + (b_3 - a_3)^2}$$

and analogously for  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, \dots, v_n \rangle$ .

Example  $\vec{v} = \langle -2, 2 \rangle$

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + (2)^2} = \sqrt{8}$$

- Notice:  $\|\vec{v}\| = 0$  if and only if  $\vec{v} = \vec{0} = \langle 0, \dots, 0 \rangle$  = the zero vector.

- $\alpha \|\vec{v}\| = |\alpha| \|\vec{v}\|$   $\alpha > 0$  : same direction as  $\vec{v}$   
 $\alpha < 0$  : opposite direction

- If  $\vec{v}$  has length 1,  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$ ,  $\vec{v}$  is called a unit vector.

- In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $\hat{i} = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ ,  $\hat{j} = \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle$ ,  $\hat{k} = \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$  are the standard basis vectors.

Example Find the unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{v}$

Example Find the unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{v} = \langle 1, -2, 1 \rangle = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle - 2 \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle + \langle 0, 0, 1 \rangle$   
 $= \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$

Soln Divide  $\vec{v}$  by its norm (normalize  $\vec{v}$ )

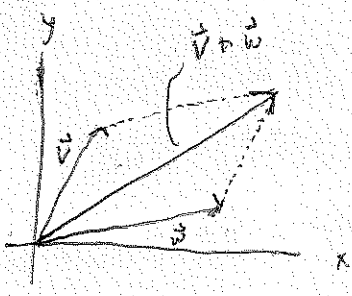
$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-2)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{6}$ , so the vector we want is

$$\frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

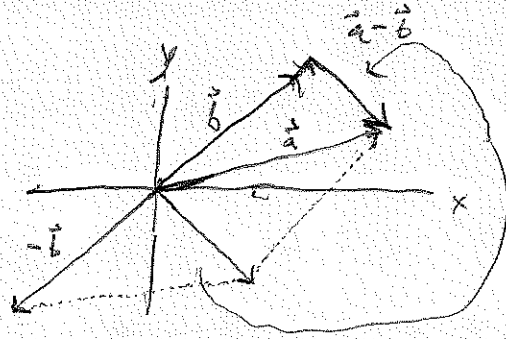
• Vector addition:  $\vec{v} = \langle a_1, b_1 \rangle, \vec{w} = \langle a_2, b_2 \rangle$

subtraction  $\vec{v} \pm \vec{w} = \langle a_1 \pm a_2, b_1 \pm b_2 \rangle$

• Addition:



• Subtraction: think  $\vec{a} + (-\vec{b})$



starts at end of  $-\vec{b}$   
ends at end of  $\vec{a}$

Sec 1.3 The dot product

• Let  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle, \vec{w} = \langle w_1, w_2, w_3 \rangle$ . The dot product (or scalar product or inner product) of  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is a real number given by

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = v_1 w_1 + v_2 w_2 + v_3 w_3$$

• Notice that  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = [v_1 \ v_2 \ v_3] \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

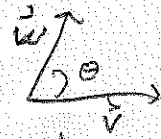
• Notice that  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{v}\|^2$ , so  $\sqrt{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}} = \|\vec{v}\|$ .

Example  $\langle 4, 3, -7 \rangle \cdot \langle 2, 3, 1 \rangle = 0(2) + 3(3) + (-7)(1) = 2$ .

• Other properties:  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}$  (distributivity)  
 $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{v}$  (commutativity)  
 $(c\vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{v} \cdot (c\vec{w}) = c(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w})$

- Geometric version of the dot product

The angle  $\theta$  between  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is understood to be the smaller of the two angles, so  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$

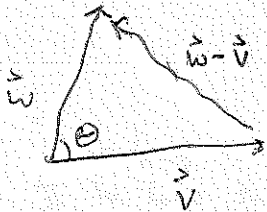


If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are parallel, then  $\theta = 0$  if they have the same direction  
 $\theta = \pi$  if they have opposite directions.

- If  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , then

$$\boxed{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta}, \text{ or equivalently, } \boxed{\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|}}$$

(Partial) proof: Use the law of cosines



$$\|\vec{v} - \vec{w}\|^2 = \|\vec{v}\|^2 + \|\vec{w}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS is } (\vec{v} - \vec{w}) \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{w}) &= \vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} - 2(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) + \vec{w} \cdot \vec{w} \\ &= \|\vec{v}\|^2 - 2(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) + \|\vec{w}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So we have } \cancel{\|\vec{v}\|^2} - 2(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) + \cancel{\|\vec{w}\|^2} &= \cancel{\|\vec{v}\|^2} + \cancel{\|\vec{w}\|^2} - 2\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta \\ \rightarrow \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} &= \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta. \end{aligned}$$

- $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are orthogonal/perpendicular if the angle between them is  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  rad =  $90^\circ$ .

- Test for orthogonality: Let  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  be two nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  or  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Then  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are orthogonal if and only if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .

proof: If  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , then  $\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| (0) = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .

If  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ , then  $\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta = 0$ ,

so  $\cos \theta = 0$  (since  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are nonzero vectors)

$$\rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (\text{since } 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi).$$

- Similarly,  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are parallel ( $\theta = 0$  or  $\pi$ ) if and only if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \pm \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|$ .

Example Are  $\vec{v} = 4\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{w} = \vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$  orthogonal, parallel, or neither?

Soln  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 4(0) + (-1)(1) + 1(3) = 2 \neq 0 \rightarrow$  not orthogonal

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{4^2 + (-1)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{18}$$

$$\|\vec{w}\| = \sqrt{0^2 + 1^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{10}$$

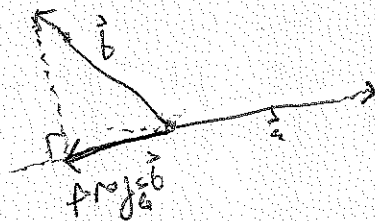
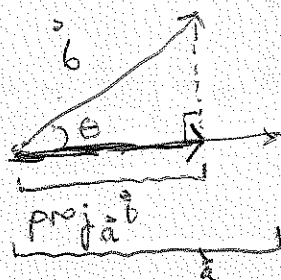
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 2 \neq \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \rightarrow \text{not parallel}$$

$\rightarrow$  neither. In fact,  $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|}$ , so the angle between  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is  $\arccos\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{18}\sqrt{10}}\right) \approx 1.42$  rad.

### Projections

The (orthogonal) projection of  $\vec{b}$  onto  $\vec{a}$  is defined as

$$\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \vec{a}$$



Drop down from end of  $\vec{b}$  until you hit the line parallel to  $\vec{a}$ , forming a right angle.

Geometrically,  $\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b}$  is the vector that is:

- parallel to  $\vec{a}$

- starts at the common initial point of  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

- ends where the dashed line above hits the line parallel to  $\vec{a}$ .

Given this geometric interpretation, why does  $\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \vec{a}$ ?

$$\text{With } \theta \text{ as above, } \cos \theta = \frac{\text{adj}}{\text{hyp}} = \frac{\|\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b}\|}{\|\vec{b}\|}$$

$$\rightarrow \|\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b}\| = \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta$$

$$\rightarrow \|\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b}\| = \|\vec{b}\| \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\|} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|}$$

Now we have the length, which we multiply by the unit vector

$\frac{\vec{a}}{\|\vec{a}\|}$  in the direction of  $\vec{a}$ :

$$\rightarrow \text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|^2} \vec{a} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\|} \left( \frac{\vec{a}}{\|\vec{a}\|} \right)$$

• Its norm  $\|\text{proj}_{\vec{a}} \vec{b}\|$  is called the scalar projector of  $\vec{b}$  onto  $\vec{a}$ .

## Sec 1.5 The cross product

• The cross product of  $\vec{v} = v_1 \vec{i} + v_2 \vec{j} + v_3 \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{w} = w_1 \vec{i} + w_2 \vec{j} + w_3 \vec{k}$

is the vector  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} v_2 & v_3 \\ w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix} \vec{i} - \begin{vmatrix} v_1 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_3 \end{vmatrix} \vec{j} + \begin{vmatrix} v_1 & v_2 \\ w_1 & w_2 \end{vmatrix} \vec{k}$ .

Example  $\vec{v} = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$  and  $\vec{w} = 2\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} + \vec{k}$

$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \vec{i} - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \vec{j} + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \vec{k} = -10\vec{i} - 5\vec{j}$$

• Properties:  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = -(\vec{w} \times \vec{v})$

$$\vec{v} \times \vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

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

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

$$c(\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = (c\vec{v}) \times \vec{w} = \vec{v} \times (c\vec{w})$$

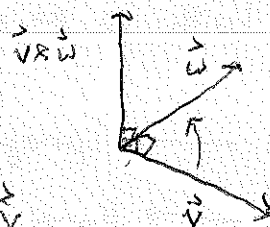
$$\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w}$$

• Interesting properties:

•  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$

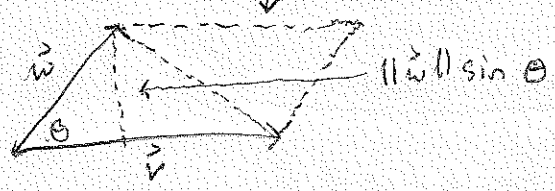
•  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \sin \theta$

• Right hand rule: place right hand in direction of  $\vec{v}$   
curl your fingers from  $\vec{v}$  to  $\vec{w}$   
your thumb points in the direction of  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$



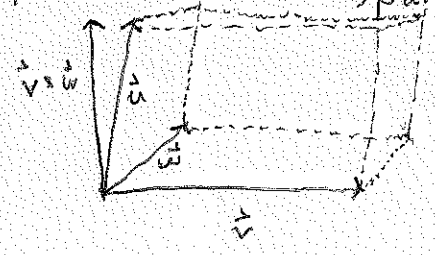
• Test for parallel vectors: nonzero vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are parallel if and only if  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \vec{0}$  (Why?)

•  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = \text{area of parallelogram spanned by } \vec{v} \text{ and } \vec{w}$   
 (so  $\frac{1}{2}\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = \text{area of the triangle below}$ )



•  $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})$  is called a scalar triple product, and

$|\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})| = \text{volume of parallelepiped spanned by } \vec{u}, \vec{v}, \text{ and } \vec{w} = \text{abs} \begin{vmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}$



• Intuition for dot and cross product:

$\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\| = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \sin \theta$   
 $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta$

Unit vectors are: parallel perpendicular  
 if  $\|\text{cross product}\|$  is 0  $\longrightarrow$  1  
 if dot product is 1  $\longrightarrow$  0

So in a sense,  $\|\vec{v} \times \vec{w}\|$  measures "how perpendicular" vectors are, and  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}$  measures "how parallel" vectors are.

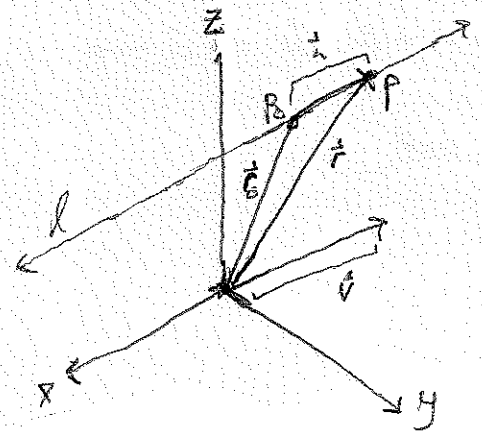
Sec 1.2, 1.3, 1.5 Equations of lines and planes

Given: a point  $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  on the line  $l$  and a vector  $\vec{v}$  parallel to  $l$ , say  $\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$ .

Let  $P = (x, y, z)$  be any point on  $l$

We see that  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + \vec{a}$ .

$\vec{a} \parallel \vec{v}$ , so  $\vec{a} = t\vec{v}$  for some  $t$ .



• Equation of line (vector form): (through  $P_0$  in the direction of  $\vec{v}$ ) 8

$$\boxed{\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v}}$$
, where  $\vec{r}_0$  is ~~position~~ the position vector for  $P_0$ .

• From  $\langle x, y, z \rangle = \vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v} = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle + t\langle a, b, c \rangle$  we have

Parametric form of the equation of a line:

$$x = x_0 + ta, \quad y = y_0 + tb, \quad z = z_0 + tc,$$

• Solving for  $t$ , we have the symmetric equations of a line:

$$\frac{x - x_0}{a} = \frac{y - y_0}{b} = \frac{z - z_0}{c} \quad (\text{for } a, b, c \neq 0)$$

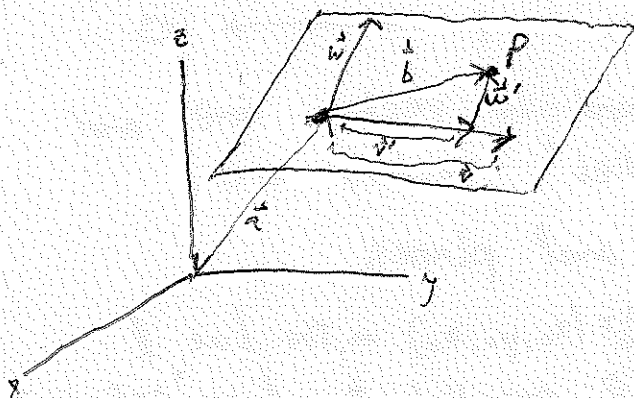
Example Equation of line passing through  $(3, 2, -2)$  in the direction of  $\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

Soln ①  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v} = \langle 3, 2, -2 \rangle + t\langle 1, -1, 2 \rangle$

②  $x = 3 + t, \quad y = 2 - t, \quad z = -2 + 2t$

③  $\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-2}{-1} = \frac{z+2}{2}$

• Planes



Plane spanned by  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$

Pick a point  $P = (x, y, z)$  on the plane. We can write position vector for  $P$  by scaling  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ :

$$\vec{p} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}, \quad \text{where } \vec{b} = \vec{v}' + \vec{w}' \quad \text{and} \\ \vec{v}' = t\vec{v}, \quad \vec{w}' = s\vec{w} \rightarrow$$

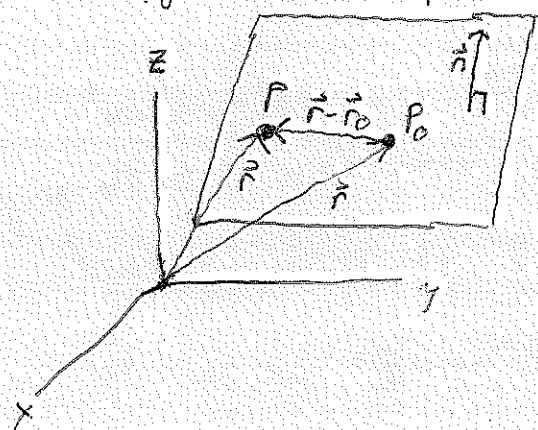
Parametric equation of plane spanned by  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ :

$$\boxed{\vec{p} = \vec{a} + t\vec{v} + s\vec{w}}$$



- A vector  $\vec{n}$  perpendicular to a plane is called a normal vector to the plane.

- Vector equation of a plane:  $\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$  where
  - $\vec{n}$  = a normal vector to the plane
  - $\vec{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$  is the position vector of any point on the plane
  - $\vec{r}_0 = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle$  is the position vector of a given point on the plane.



$\leftarrow \vec{n}$  and  $\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0$  are orthogonal, so  $\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$ .

- Compute this dot product to get the scalar equation of a plane:

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$$

or

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0, \text{ where } d = -ax_0 - by_0 - cz_0.$$

- Note: We can read off a normal vector  $\vec{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$  from any of these forms.

Example Find the equation of the plane containing the points  $A = (1, -2, 0)$ ,  $B = (3, 1, 4)$ ,  $C = (0, -1, 2)$ .

Soln Need a point and a normal vector. Two vectors in the plane are  $\vec{AB} = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$ ,  $\vec{AC} = \langle -1, 1, 2 \rangle$ , so  $\vec{n} = \vec{AB} \times \vec{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 2, -8, 5 \rangle$ .

So an equation of the plane is, using point A,

$$\langle 2, -8, 5 \rangle \cdot \langle x-1, y+2, z-0 \rangle = 0$$

(or  $2(x-1) - 8(y+2) + 5z = 0$ )  
(or  $2x - 8y + 5z - 18 = 0$ )