

Math 22A

Kouba

Properties of Dot Product, Norm

THEOREM 3.2.1 If \mathbf{v} is a vector in \mathbb{R}^n , and if k is any scalar, then:

(a) $\|\mathbf{v}\| \geq 0$

(b) $\|\mathbf{v}\| = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$

(c) $\|k\mathbf{v}\| = |k|\|\mathbf{v}\|$

THEOREM 3.2.2 If \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} are vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , and if k is a scalar, then:

(a) $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u}$ [Symmetry property]

(b) $\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w}$ [Distributive property]

(c) $k(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = (k\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v}$ [Homogeneity property]

(d) $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} \geq 0$ and $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ if and only if $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ [Positivity property]

THEOREM 3.2.3 If \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} are vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , and if k is a scalar, then:

(a) $\mathbf{0} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{0} = 0$

(b) $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$

(c) $\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w}$

(d) $(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$

(e) $k(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{u} \cdot (k\mathbf{v})$

THEOREM 3.2.4 Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

If $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ are vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , then

$$|\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}| \leq \|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| \quad (22)$$

or in terms of components

$$|u_1v_1 + u_2v_2 + \dots + u_nv_n| \leq (u_1^2 + u_2^2 + \dots + u_n^2)^{1/2} (v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2)^{1/2} \quad (23)$$

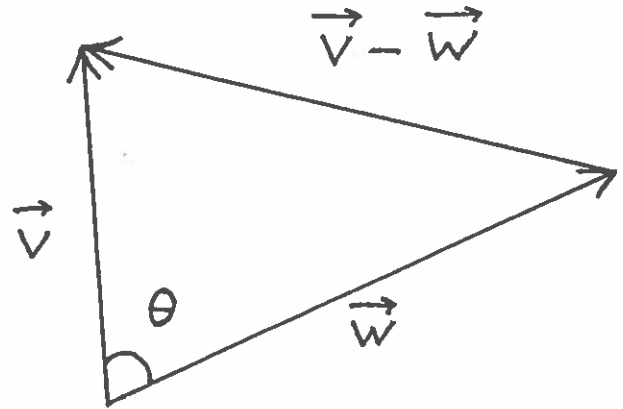
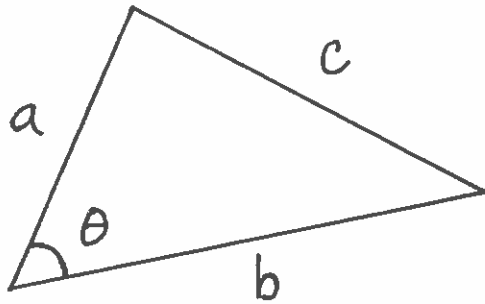
THEOREM 3.2.5 If \mathbf{u} , \mathbf{v} , and \mathbf{w} are vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , then:

(a) $\|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\| \leq \|\mathbf{u}\| + \|\mathbf{v}\|$ [Triangle inequality for vectors]

(b) $d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \leq d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w}) + d(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v})$ [Triangle inequality for distances]

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 Kouba
 An Alternate Formula for Dot Product

RECALL: (Law of Cosines) For any triangle $c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \theta$.



RECALL: If \vec{v} is a vector in R^n , then $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{v}\|^2$.

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Let \vec{v} and \vec{w} be two vectors in R^n , and consider the triangle formed by the three vectors \vec{v} , \vec{w} , and $\vec{v} - \vec{w}$. Let θ be the angle between the vectors \vec{v} and \vec{w} . By the Law of Cosines we get

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

$$(\vec{v} - \vec{w}) \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{w}) = \|\vec{v}\|^2 + \|\vec{w}\|^2 - 2\|\vec{v}\|\|\vec{w}\|\cos \theta \quad \rightarrow$$

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

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

$$-2(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}) = -2\|\vec{v}\|\|\vec{w}\|\cos \theta \quad \rightarrow$$

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

or

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