

Vector

Lecturer: Prof. Ven-Chung Lee

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1. Representation of vector $\vec{A}$ by basis vector $\hat{e}_i$

$$\vec{A} = \sum_{i=1}^3 A_i \cdot \hat{e}_i \quad , \quad \hat{e}_i : \text{basis vector, } |\hat{e}_i| = 1$$

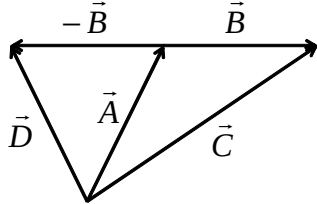
if $\hat{e}_1 = \hat{i}, \hat{e}_2 = \hat{j}, \hat{e}_3 = \hat{k}$ along the x, y , and z axis respectively.
then

$$\vec{A} = A_x \cdot \hat{i} + A_y \cdot \hat{j} + A_z \cdot \hat{k}$$

A_x : projection or component of $\vec{A}$ on x -axis, etc.

$$|\vec{A}| \equiv A = (A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{magnitude of the vector}$$

2. Sum and Difference vector

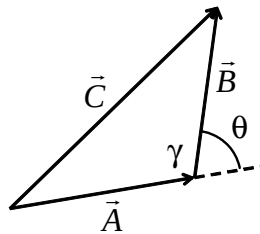


$$\vec{C} = \vec{A} + \vec{B} \quad , \quad \vec{D} = \vec{A} - \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{C} = \sum_{i=1}^3 C_i \cdot \hat{e}_i = \sum A_i \cdot \hat{e}_i + \sum B_i \cdot \hat{e}_i = \sum_{i=1}^3 (A_i + B_i) \cdot \hat{e}_i \quad \therefore C_i = A_i + B_i$$

$$\vec{D} = \sum_i (A_i - B_i) \cdot \hat{e}_i \quad , \quad \therefore D_i = A_i - B_i$$

3. Scalar product



$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A \cdot B \cdot \cos \theta$$

$$|\vec{A}| = (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{A})^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

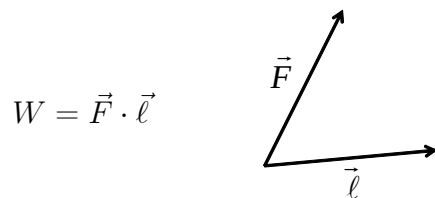
$$(\vec{A} + \vec{B})^2 = \vec{C}^2 = C^2 = (\vec{A} + \vec{B}) \cdot (\vec{A} + \vec{B}) = A^2 + B^2 + 2\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$$

By cosine theorem $A^2 + B^2 - 2A \cdot B \cdot \cos \gamma = C^2$

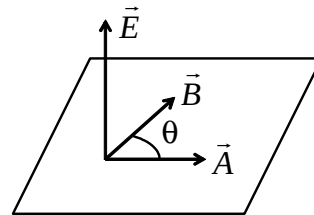
$$\because \theta = \pi - \gamma \quad \therefore \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = -A \cdot B \cos \gamma = A \cdot B \cos \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} &= \left(\sum_i A_i \cdot \hat{e}_i \right) \cdot \left(\sum_j B_j \cdot \hat{e}_j \right) \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j A_i \cdot B_j \hat{e}_i \cdot \hat{e}_j \\ &= \sum_i A_i \cdot B_i \quad (\because \hat{e}_i \cdot \hat{e}_j = 1 \text{ if } i = j, \text{ otherwise } = 0) \end{aligned}$$

Example: work W done by a force $\vec{F}$ along a displacement $\vec{\ell}$



4. Vector product



$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \vec{E} \quad \text{then} \quad E = A \cdot B \cdot \sin \theta$$

and $\vec{E} \perp$ (coplane of $\vec{A}$ & $\vec{B}$) as shown

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E} &= \left(\sum_i A_i \cdot \hat{e}_i \right) \times \left(\sum_j B_j \cdot \hat{e}_j \right) = \sum_i \sum_j A_i \cdot B_j \hat{e}_i \times \hat{e}_j \\ &= (A_1 \cdot B_2 - A_2 \cdot B_1) \cdot \hat{e}_3 + (A_2 \cdot B_3 - A_3 \cdot B_2) \cdot \hat{e}_1 + (A_3 \cdot B_1 - A_1 \cdot B_3) \cdot \hat{e}_2 \\ &(\because \hat{e}_1 \times \hat{e}_2 = \hat{e}_3, \quad \hat{e}_2 \times \hat{e}_1 = -\hat{e}_3, \quad \hat{e}_1 \times \hat{e}_1 = 0, \quad \text{etc.}) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1 Force $\vec{F}$ on a q charged particle moving with velocity $\vec{v}$ in a magnetic field $\vec{B}$

