

Last day : dot product & projection

- vector projection of  $\vec{b}$  onto  $\vec{a}$

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

- scalar projection  $\frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}|}$

Note : example last day didn't work  
↳ need a vector  $\perp$  to the plane  
↳ hold that thought!

## § 10.4 Cross Product

def'n:  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} u_2 v_3 - u_3 v_2 \\ u_3 v_1 - u_1 v_3 \\ u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1 \end{bmatrix}$

Mnemonic  $\begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{vmatrix}$

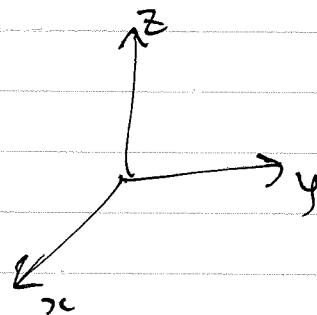
"matrix" determinant

Es  $\vec{i} \times \vec{j} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0\vec{i} - 0\vec{j} + 1\vec{k} = \vec{k}$

Similarly:  $\vec{j} \times \vec{k} = \vec{i}$ ,  $\vec{k} \times \vec{i} = \vec{j}$

Properties

— Right-hand rule



①\*  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = -\vec{v} \times \vec{u}$

anticommutative

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

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

$$\textcircled{3} \quad c(\vec{u} \times \vec{w}) = (c\vec{u}) \times \vec{w} = \vec{u} \times (c\vec{w})$$

$$\textcircled{4}^* \quad \text{orthogonality} \quad \vec{u} \times \vec{v} \perp \vec{u} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} \perp \vec{v}$$

(try with dot)

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \vec{u} \times \vec{u} = \vec{0}$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \vec{u} \times \vec{0} = \vec{0}$$

$$\textcircled{7}^* \quad \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w}$$

Triple Scalar Product.

Geometry: volume of a parallelepiped  
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$$\begin{vmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

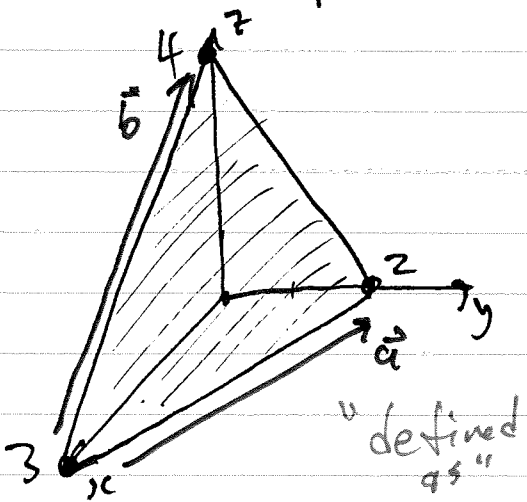
## Angles and the cross product

$$|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = |\vec{u}| |\vec{v}| \sin \theta$$

From this,  $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{0}$  if and only if  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are parallel.

↳ see text for  $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$  case.

Ex Find a unit vector  $\hat{n}$  normal to a plane thru  $(3, 0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 2, 0)$ ,  $(0, 0, 4)$



$$\vec{a} = \langle 0, 2, 0 \rangle - \langle 3, 0, 0 \rangle \\ = \langle -3, 2, 0 \rangle$$

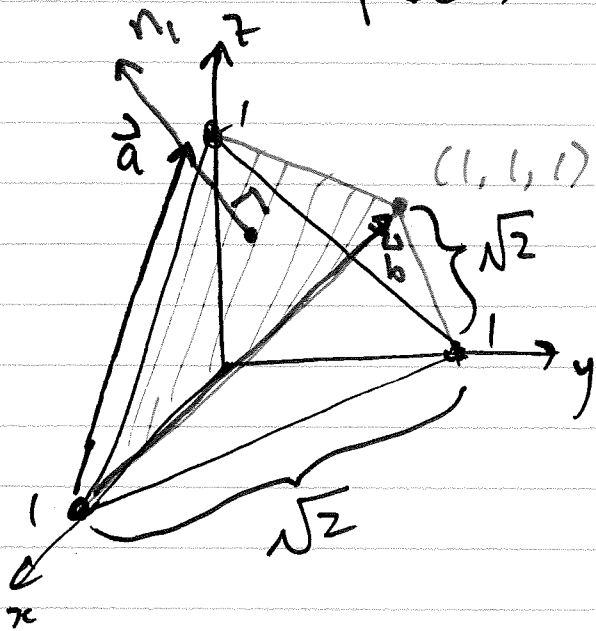
$$\vec{b} = \langle -3, 0, 4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{u} := \text{cross}(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = \dots = \langle 8, 12, 6 \rangle$$

$$\hat{n} := \frac{\vec{u}}{|\vec{u}|} = \frac{\langle 4, 6, 3 \rangle}{\sqrt{61}}$$

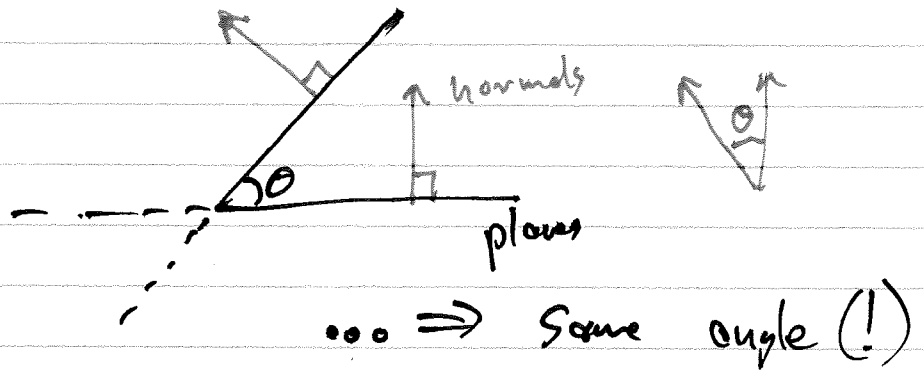
did these calculations in Matlab/Octave

Example: Find the angles b/w the faces of a regular tetrahedron.



① check all 4  $\Delta$ s have same side lengths

② Instead, find angles b/w normals of faces



Take:  $\vec{a} := \langle -1, 0, 1 \rangle$ ,  $\vec{b} := \langle -1, 0, 1 \rangle$   
 $\langle 0, 1, 1 \rangle$

$$\vec{n}_1 = \vec{b} \times \vec{a} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \dots$$

$$= \langle 1, -1, 1 \rangle$$

Next day, find  $\vec{n}_2$ , etc.