

# *Shape Modelling for Computer Graphics*



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# Unit materials



- Lecture notes
  - Seminar handouts
- are available at

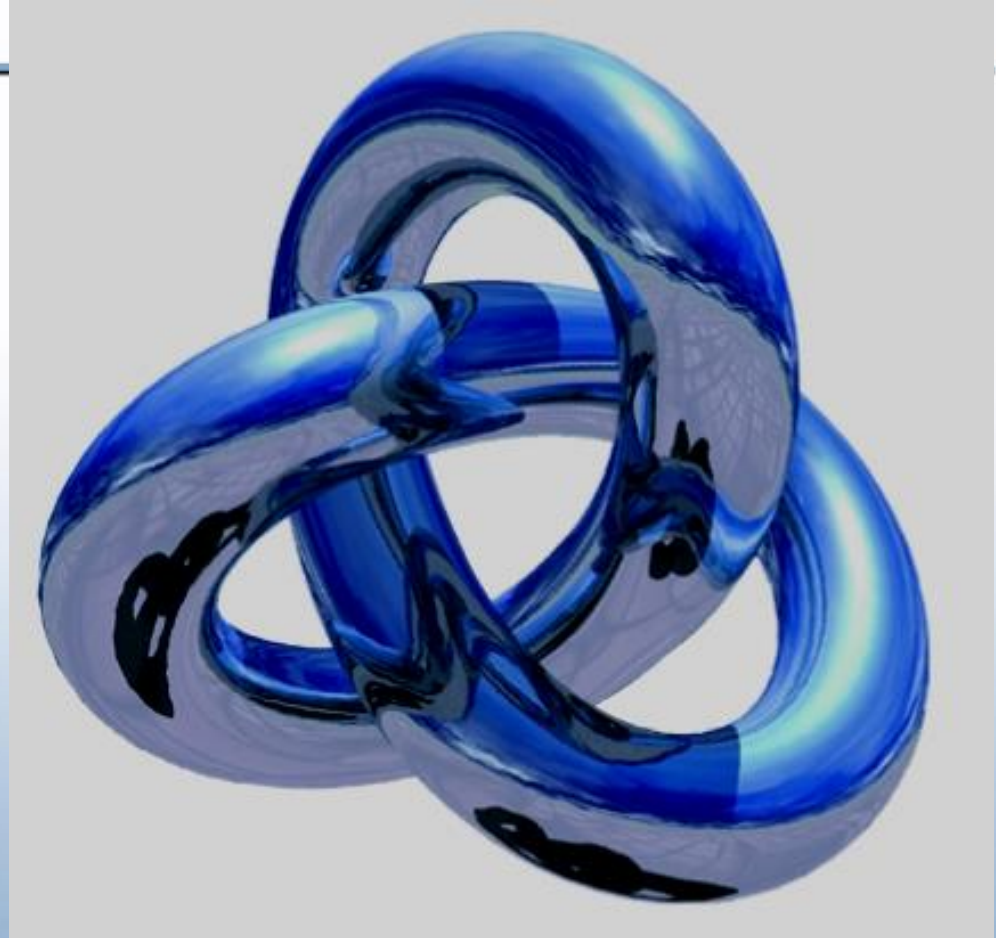
<http://gm.softalliance.net/>

Advice: download and print lecture notes  
before the next lecture



# Introduction to Shape Modelling

basic notions of linear  
algebra, analytical  
geometry and set theory





# Contents

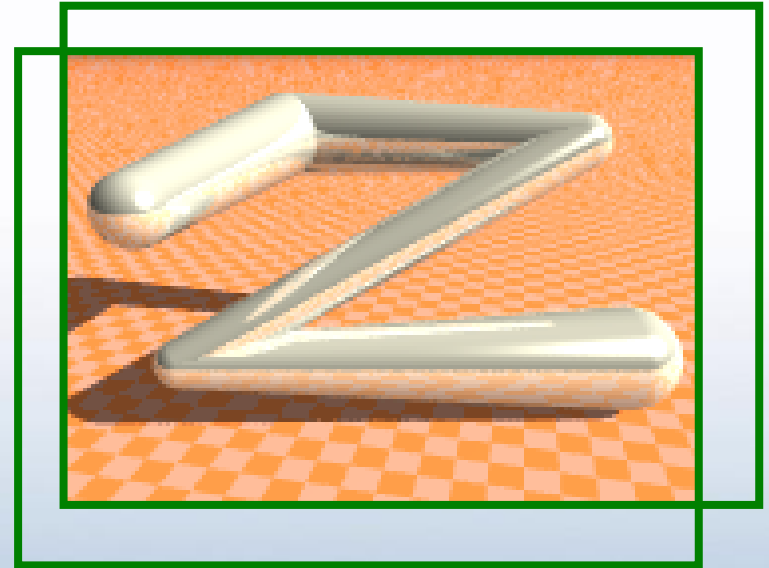
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- “Shape” term definitions
- Shape and point notions
- Vector and affine spaces
- Coordinates and metrics
- Shape dimension
- Defining a point set
- Reference materials



# Modelling Notions

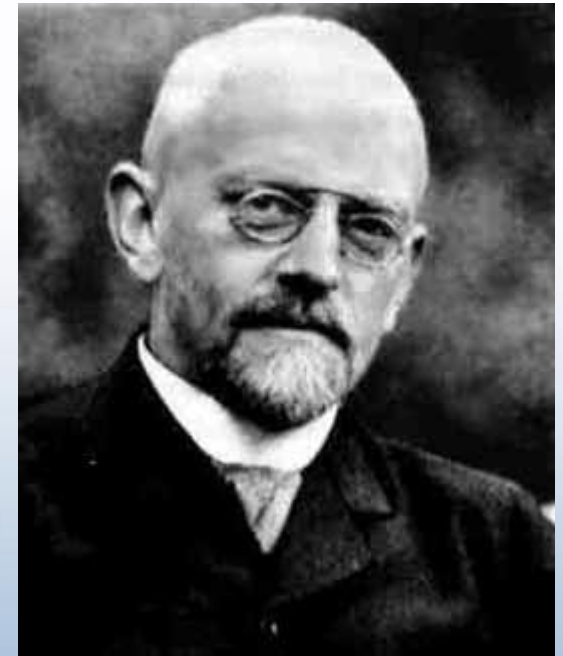
- Shape and point notions
- Spaces:
  - ✓ linear space
  - ✓ affine space
  - ✓ metric space
  - ✓ Euclidean space
    - space dimensions
  - ✓ vector space
    - dot product and cross product
- Affine and Cartesian coordinates
- Descartes' conception of geometry
- Point set





# Shape Definitions

- **Shape** means the outer **form** of something, that you **see or feel** (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English).
- **Geometry** is built “instead of points, straight lines, and planes – **tables, chairs, and beer mugs**” (D. Hilbert)
- **Shape** is the **spatial arrangement** of something as distinct from its substance (Princeton Word Net)



*David Hilbert*  
(1862-1943)



# Shape Definitions



***Felix Christian  
Klein  
(1849-1925)***

- A geometrical figure (**shape**) is a **set of points**.
- **Shape** is the geometric information invariant to a particular class of transformations (F. Klein).

In “Erlangen program” in 1872, Klein proposed a new unified approach to geometry by starting with a set, and a group of transformations of the set. The properties of the geometry are those properties which are invariant under the group.



- The **generative theory of shape** represents a given shape by a **program** that generates a point set. The program must be inferable (recoverable) from the point set (M. Leyton).

Shape acts as a memory store for the generative operations of the program:

**Geometry  $\equiv$  Memory storage**



A Generative  
Theory of Shape,  
2001





# EU AIM@SHAPE Project



Universiteit Utrecht





# Project AIM@SHAPE

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**Shape** = any individual object having a visual appearance which exists in some (two-, three- or higher- dimensional) space (pictures, sketches, images, 3D objects, videos, 4D animations, ...)

## Shapes

- ✓ have a **geometry** (the spatial extent of the object)
- ✓ can be described by **structures** (object features and part-whole decomposition)
- ✓ have **attributes** (colours, textures, names, attached to an object, its parts and/or its features)
- ✓ have a **semantics** (meaning, purpose)
- ✓ may also have **interaction with time** (history, shape morphing, animation, video)



# Shape and Point Notions

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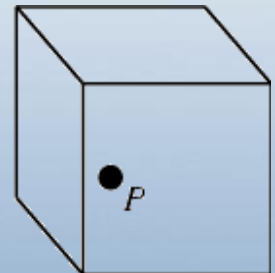
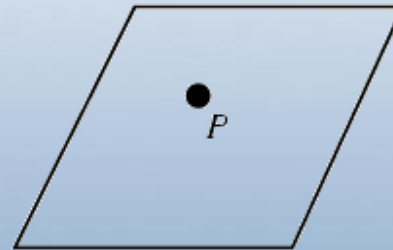
We will consider a **shape** as a **point set** in  $n$ -dimensional geometric space, for example, in Euclidean space.



# Shape and Point Notions

Two approaches to  
**point definition:**

- Geometric (Euclid)
- Algebraic  
(linear algebra and  
analytical geometry)





# Geometric Point Notion

**Euclid** “Elements Book 1.  
Definitions, Postulates and  
Common Notions”:

Definition 1. **A point is that  
which has no part.**

Euclid treats a point as having  
no width, length, or breadth,  
but as an indivisible location.



**Euclid**  
(325BC-265BC)

*A point is undefined fundamental term of geometry*



# Algebraic Point Notion

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A point is considered an element of an affine space.

An affine space is a set with every ordered pair of points associated with an element of some linear space (vector space).

A linear space is a set closed under operations of element addition and scalar multiplication, satisfying certain conditions.



# Contents

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- “Shape” term definitions
- Shape and point notions
- **Vector and affine spaces**
- Coordinates and metrics
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# Vector space

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- Two types of elements:
  - Scalars (real numbers):  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$
  - Vectors (n-tuples):  $u, v, w, \dots$
- Operations on vectors:
  - Multiplication by scalar
  - Addition
  - Subtraction





# Scalars

- Scalars:  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$
- Addition and multiplication ( $+$  and  $\bullet$ ) operations defined
- Scalar operations are
  - Associative:  $\alpha + (\beta + \gamma) = (\alpha + \beta) + \gamma$
  - Commutative:  $\alpha + \beta = \beta + \alpha$
  - $\alpha \bullet \beta = \beta \bullet \alpha$
  - Distributive:  $\alpha \bullet (\beta \bullet \gamma) = (\alpha \bullet \beta) \bullet \gamma$
  - $\alpha \bullet (\beta + \gamma) = (\alpha \bullet \beta) + (\alpha \bullet \gamma)$



– Additive Identity = 0

$$\alpha + 0 = 0 + \alpha = \alpha$$

– Multiplicative Identity = 1

$$\alpha \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot \alpha = \alpha$$

– Additive Inverse =  $-\alpha$

$$\alpha + (-\alpha) = 0$$

– Multiplicative Inverse =  $\alpha^{-1}$

$$\alpha \cdot \alpha^{-1} = 1$$



# Vector Operations

## Vector addition:

$$u + v = w$$

### ✓ Commutative

$$u + v = v + u$$

### ✓ Associative

$$(u + v) + w = u + (v + w)$$

### ✓ Additive identity

There is a vector  $0$ , such that for all  $u$ ,

$$0 + u = u = u + 0$$

### ✓ Inverse

For any  $u$  there is a vector  $-u$  such that

$$u + (-u) = 0$$

### ✓ Scalar multiplication

$$\alpha u, \alpha = \text{const}$$



In order for  $V$  to be a vector space, the following conditions must hold for all elements  $u, v, w \in V$  and any scalars  $r, s$  :

1. Commutativity:  $u + v = v + u$
2. Associativity of vector addition:  $(u + v) + w = u + (v + w)$
3. Additive identity: For all  $u$ ,  $0 + u = u = u + 0$
4. Existence of additive inverse: For any  $u$ , there exists a  $-u$  such that
$$u + (-u) = 0$$
5. Associativity of scalar multiplication:  $r (s u) = (r s) u$
6. Distributivity of scalar sums:  $(r + s) u = r u + s u$
7. Distributivity of vector sums:  $r (u + v) = r u + r v$
8. Scalar multiplication identity:  $1 \cdot u = u$



# Basis vectors and coordinates of vector

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Two vectors are linearly dependent when one is a multiple of the other.

A basis of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space is defined as a set of  $n$  vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  that are linearly independent.

Every vector  $\mathbf{v}$  in space can be written as a linear combination of the basis vectors

$$\mathbf{v} = a_1\mathbf{v}_1 + a_2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + a_n\mathbf{v}_n,$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are called coordinates of the vector  $\mathbf{v}$ .



# Space Dimension

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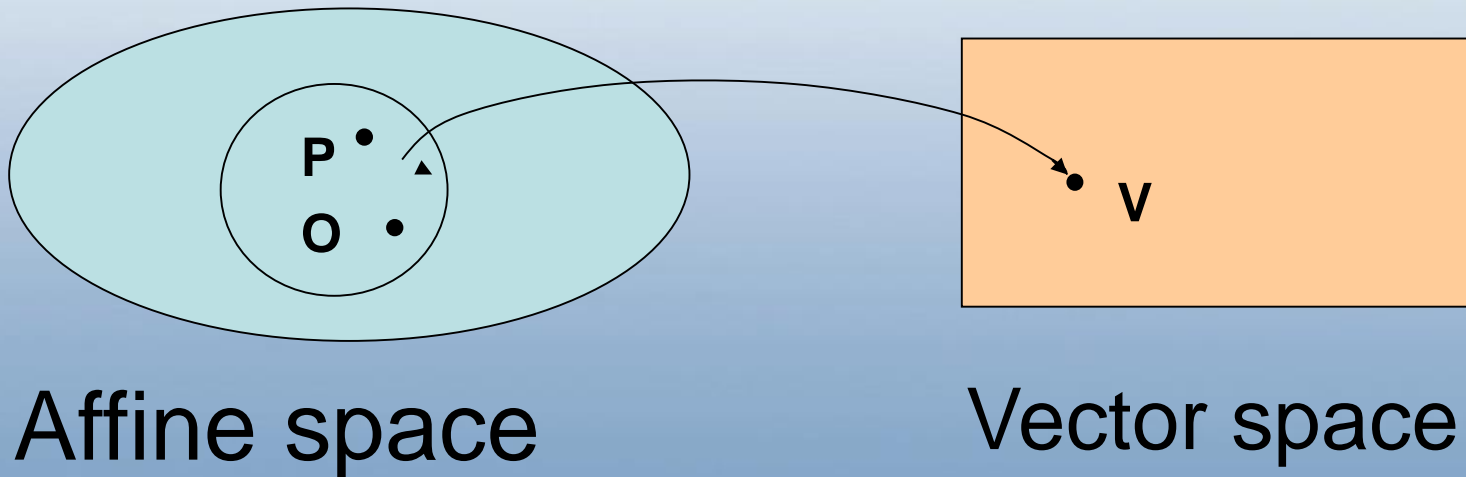
**Dimension of affine space** is equal to dimension of associated linear space.

**Dimension of linear space** is equal to maximal number of linearly independent vectors.

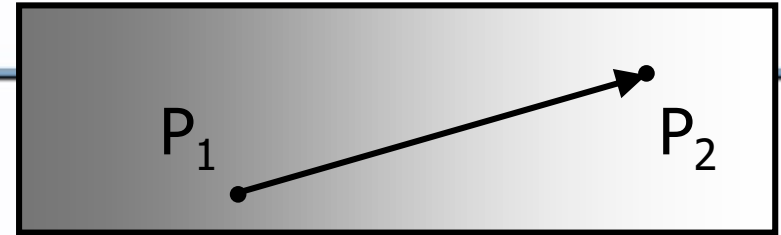


# Affine Coordinates

In the associated affine space we can select one point  $O$  as an origin. Then for any point  $P$ , coordinates of the vector  $\mathbf{v}$  associated with the pair  $(O, P)$  are called **affine coordinates**.



# Vector



- An element of a vector (linear) space
- A quantity in which both the magnitude and the direction must be stated
- Can be represented as a directed straight line segment
- Consider all locations in relationship to one central reference point, called **origin**.
- Vector has direction according to origin and length in  $nD$  space
- Can be defined by
  - 1) Two linear scalar arrays as start and end points or
  - 2) One linear scalar array (end point) with  $(0,0,\dots,0)$  as start point by default





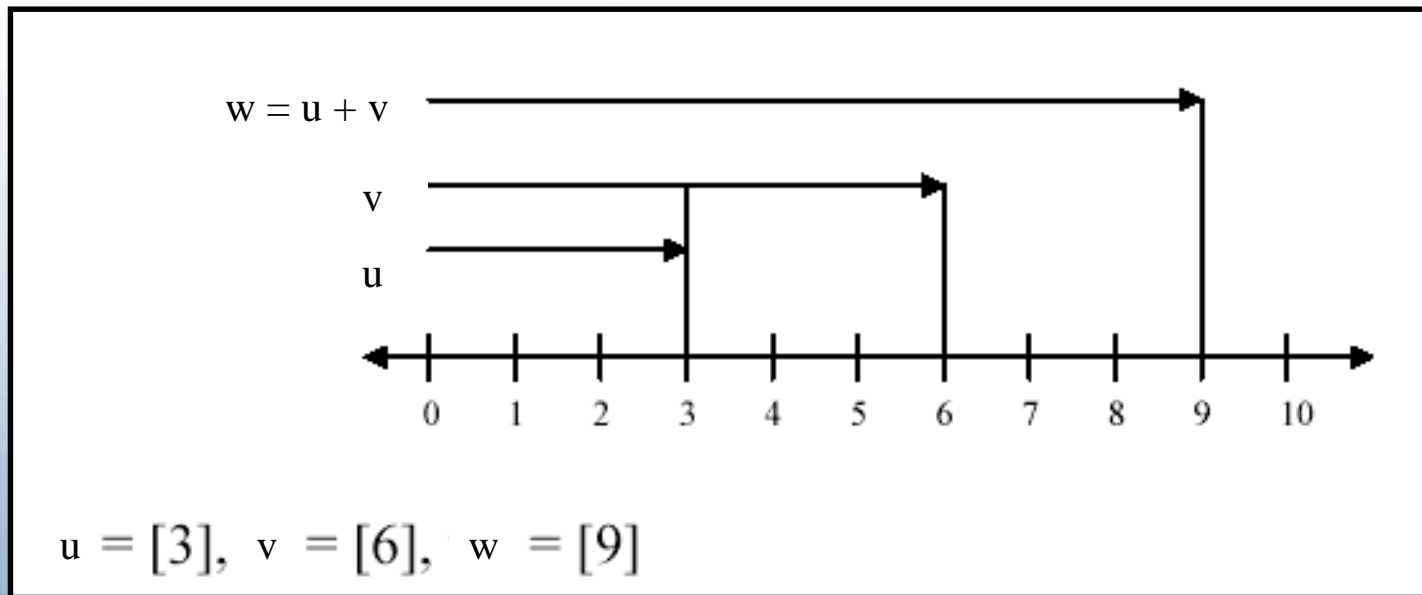
Vectors are used extensively in computer graphics to:

- represent positions of vertices of objects
- determine orientation of a surface in space (“surface normal”)
- represent relative distances and orientations of lights, objects, and viewers in a 3D scene (vectors from light sources to surfaces)
- represent force, velocity, flow, etc.



# Vector operations illustrated

## Vector addition in $\mathbb{R}^1$



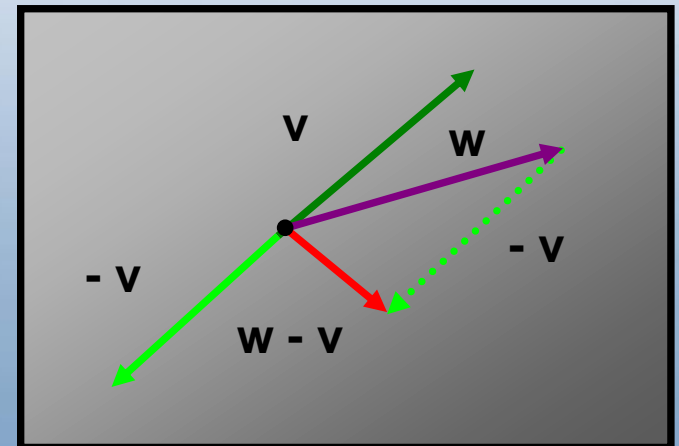
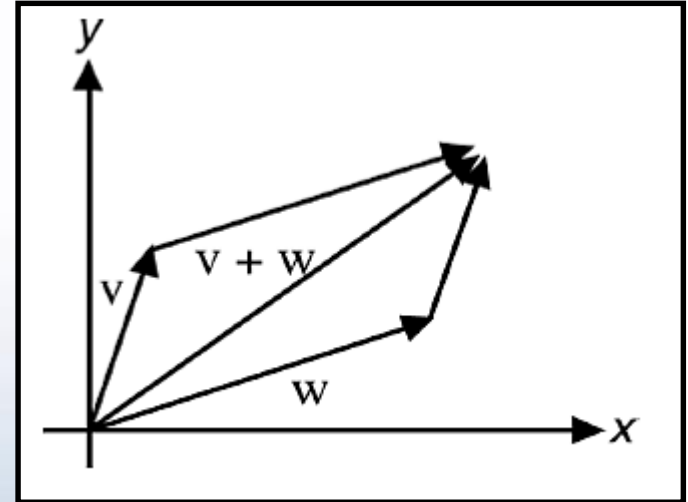
Like as addition of real numbers

# Vector operations illustrated



Vector  $w$  added  
(or subtracted) to vector  $u$ ,  
using the **parallelogram rule**:

- drawing the vector  $v$ , then
- drawing the vector  $w$ , taking care to place the tail of vector  $w$  at the head of vector  $v$ , and finally
- drawing a vector  $v + w$  from the free tail of vector  $v$  to the free head of vector  $w$



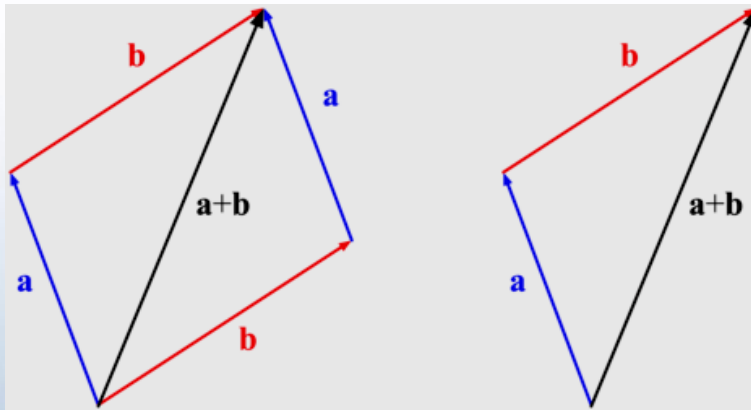
$$V + W = W + V$$



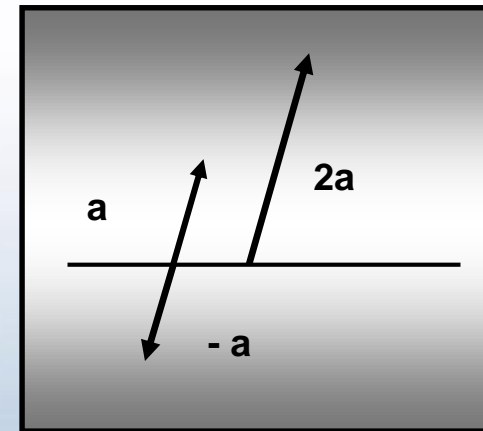
# Vector operations illustrated

Let  $\mathbf{a} = a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j} + b_3\mathbf{k}$

The **sum** of  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is:



## Scalar multiplication



$$r\mathbf{a} = (ra_1)\mathbf{i} + (ra_2)\mathbf{j} + (ra_3)\mathbf{k}$$

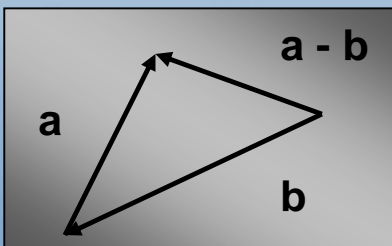
The length of  $r\mathbf{a}$  is  $|r||\mathbf{a}|$

$$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = (a_1 + b_1)\mathbf{i} + (a_2 + b_2)\mathbf{j} + (a_3 + b_3)\mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = (a_1 - b_1)\mathbf{i} + (a_2 - b_2)\mathbf{j} + (a_3 - b_3)\mathbf{k}$$

## Subtraction

$$\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} + (-1)\mathbf{b}$$





# Geometries

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- **Affine Geometry**
  - Scalars + Points + Vectors and their operations
- **Euclidian Geometry**
  - Affine Geometry lacks angles, distance
  - New operations: **Inner/ dot product**, which gives length, distance, normalization, angle, orthogonality.



# Dot Product

Dot product of two vectors is a **real value**,

**not a vector!**

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n$$

Example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{bmatrix} = ax + by + cz + dw$$



- The dot product of two vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  (**inner product** or, since its result is a scalar, the **scalar product**) is also defined as:

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\| \cos \theta$$

- where  $\|\mathbf{u}\|$  and  $\|\mathbf{v}\|$  denote the norm (or length) of  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ , and  $\theta$  is the measure of the angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ .
- **Geometrically**, this means that  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are drawn with a common start point and then the length of  $\mathbf{u}$  is multiplied with the length of that component of  $\mathbf{v}$  that points in the same direction as  $\mathbf{u}$ .



# Uses of the dot product

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- Define length or magnitude of a vector
- Normalize vectors (generate vectors whose length is 1, called unit vectors)
- Measure angles between vectors
- Determine if two vectors are perpendicular
- Find the length of a vector projected onto a coordinate axis





# Length of a Vector

The dot product of a vector with itself,  $(\mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v})$ , is the square of the length of the vector:

We define the norm of a vector (i.e., its length) to be

$$\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v}}$$

Thus,  $(\mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v}) \geq 0$  for all  $\mathbf{v}$ , with  $(\mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v}) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$

$\mathbf{v}$  called a unit vector if  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v}} = 1$  is denoted  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$

To make an arbitrary vector  $\mathbf{v}$  into a unit vector, i.e. to “normalize” it, divide by the length (norm) of  $\mathbf{v}$ , which is denoted  $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ . Note that if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ , then its unit vector is undefined. So in general (with the 0 exception) we have:

$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \mathbf{v}$$



# Standard basis vectors

- The unit vectors (i.e., whose length is one) on the x and y-axes are called the standard basis vectors of the plane
- The collection of all scalar multiples of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  gives the first coordinate axis
- The collection of all scalar multiples of  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  gives the second coordinate axis
- Then any vector  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$  can be expressed as the sum of scalar multiples of the unit vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We call these two vectors **basis vectors** because any other vector can be expressed in terms of them



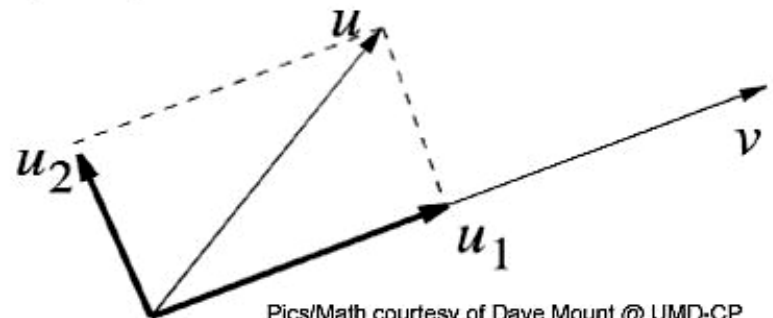
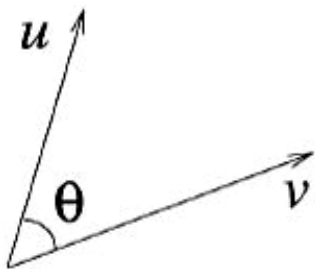
# Projection and angle between two vectors

- *Angle between vectors,  $\theta$*

$$\theta = \text{ang}(\vec{u}, \vec{v}) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|} \right) = \cos^{-1}(\hat{u} \cdot \hat{v}).$$

- *Projection of vectors*

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v})}{(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v})} \vec{v} \qquad \vec{u}_2 = \vec{u} - \vec{u}_1.$$



Pics/Math courtesy of Dave Mount @ UMD-CP



# Orthogonality

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Scalar product of two vectors  $x$  and  $y$ :

$$x \cdot y = x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 + \dots + x_ny_n$$

Two vectors are orthogonal (perpendicular) if

$$x \cdot y = 0$$

In 3D space, three vectors can be mutually orthogonal and linearly independent.

Two subspaces  $A$  and  $B$  of vector space are called orthogonal subspaces if each vector in  $A$  is orthogonal to each vector in  $B$ .



# Cross Product

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The **cross product** (also **vector product** or **outer product**) of two vectors is **a vector**.

The cross product is only meaningful **in three dimensions**.

The cross product  $u \times v$  is a vector perpendicular to both  $u$  and  $v$  and is defined as:

$$u \times v = \|u\| \|v\| \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

where  $\theta$  is the measure of the angle between  $u$  and  $v$ , and  $\mathbf{n}$  is a unit vector perpendicular to both  $u$  and  $v$ .



# Cross product

- Given two non-parallel vectors,  $A$  and  $B$
- $A \times B$  calculates third vector  $C$  that is orthogonal to  $A$  and  $B$

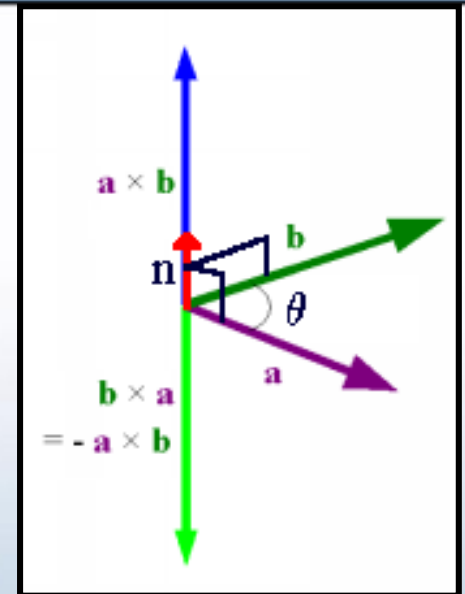
$$A \times B = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{x} & \vec{y} & \vec{z} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{vmatrix}$$

$$A \times B = (a_y b_z - a_z b_y, a_z b_x - a_x b_z, a_x b_y - a_y b_x)$$

# Cross Product



- The problem is that there are **two** unit vectors perpendicular to both **b** and **a**. Which vector is the correct one depends upon the *orientation* of the vector space, on the **handedness** of the vector triple.
- The **vector triple** **i, j, k** is called **right handed**, if the three vectors are situated like the thumb, index finger and middle finger (pointing straight up from your palm) of your right hand.





# Metric space

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A non-negative function  $g(x,y)$  describing the "distance" between two points for a given set is called **a metric**.

It satisfies the triangle inequality:

$$g(x,y) + g(y,z) \geq g(x,z)$$

and is symmetric:  $g(x,y) = g(y,x)$

also satisfies:  $g(x,x) = 0$

An affine space with a metric is called **a metric space**.





# Euclidean space

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The Euclidean metric is the function  $d(x,y)$  that assigns to any two points  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  of affine space the number

$$d(x,y) = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - y_n)^2}$$

and gives the "standard" distance between any two points.

Example: Euclidean space  $E^n$  is the space of all  $n$ -tuples of real numbers  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  with the Euclidean metric.



# Euclidean distance

*Euclidian Distance from  $(x,y)$  to  $(0,0)$*

$\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  in general:  $\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$

which is just:  $\sqrt{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}}$

This is also the length of vector  $\underline{v}$ :

$||\underline{v}||$  or  $|\underline{v}|$

*Normalization of a vector:*  $\hat{v} = \frac{\vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$

*Orthogonal vectors:*  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$



# Descartes' conception of geometry



**René Descartes**  
(1596-1650)

The term "**Cartesian**" is used to refer to **René Descartes'** conception of geometry ("*Discourse on Method*" and "*La Géométrie*" 1637), which is based on the representation of points in the plane by ordered pairs of real numbers - Cartesian coordinates.

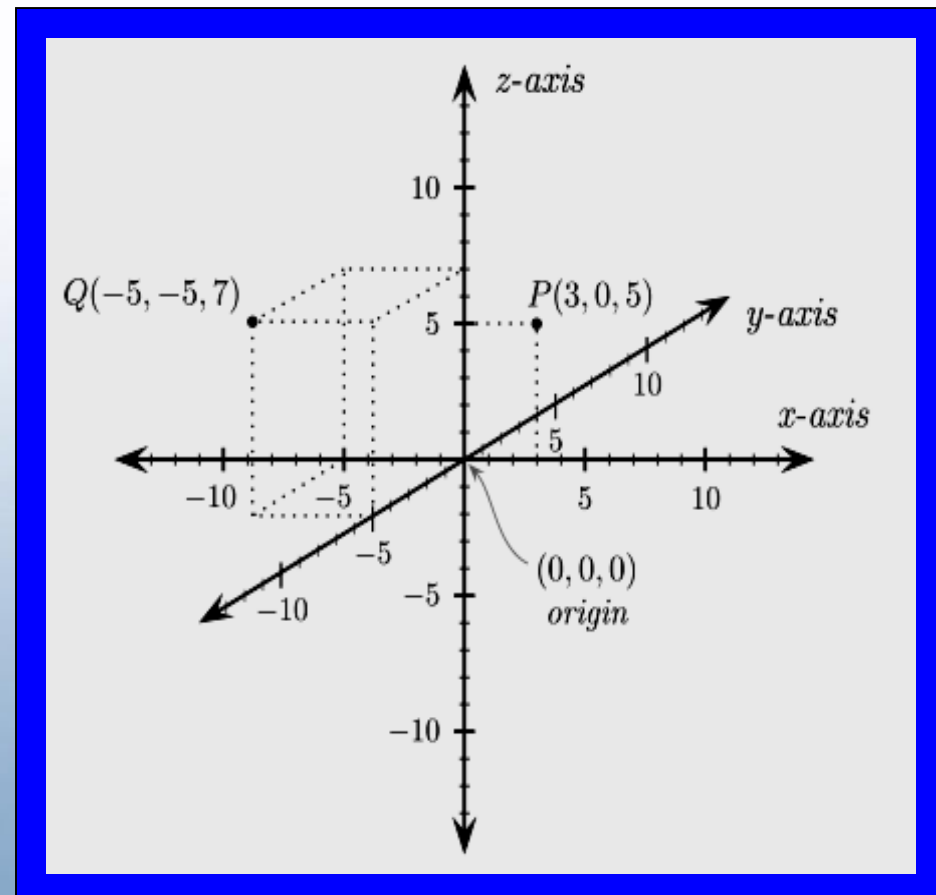
This idea allows geometric relations in analytical geometry to be expressed by means of algebraic equalities.



# Cartesian coordinates

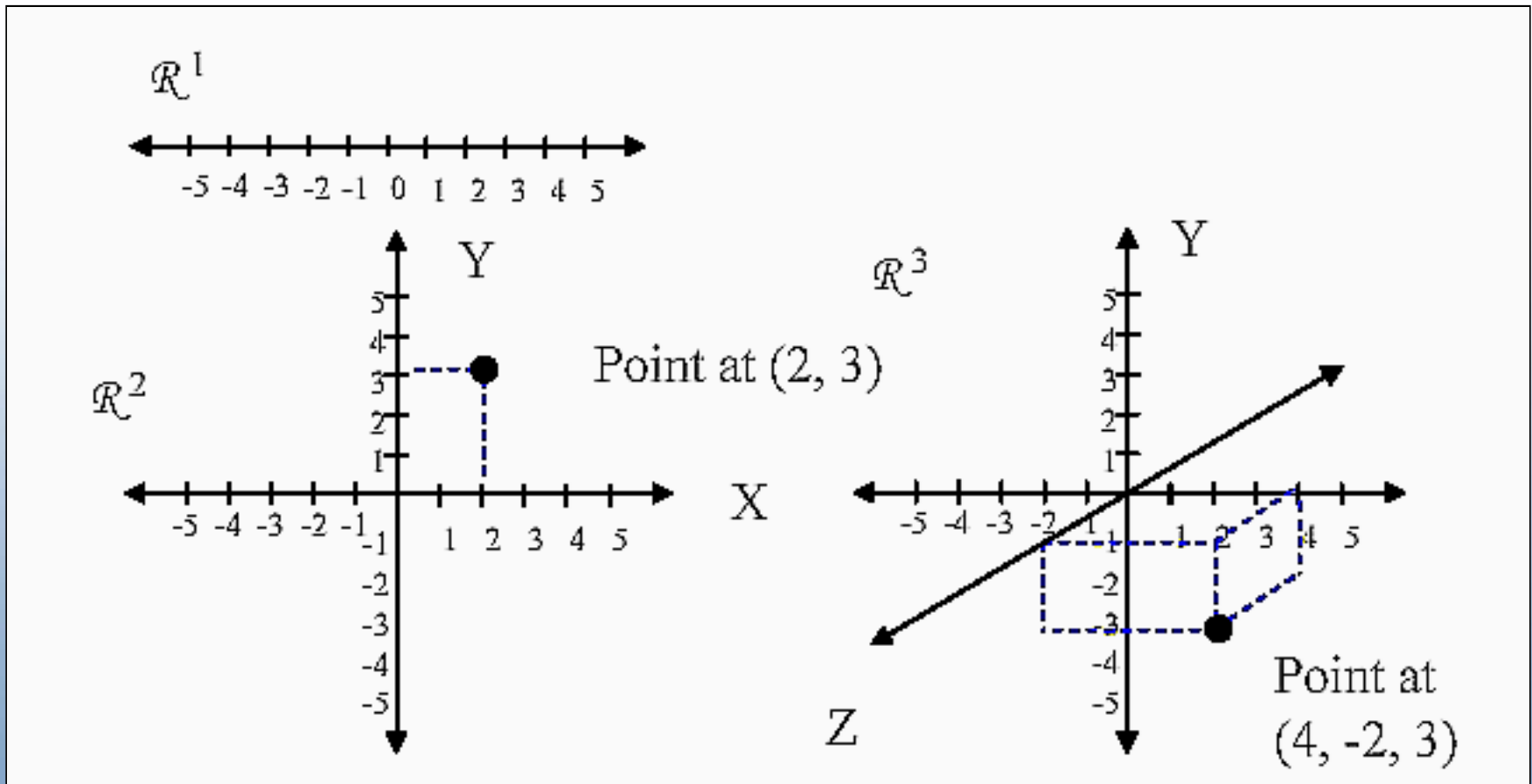
**Cartesian coordinates** in 2D or 3D space are defined by two or three mutually orthogonal lines (axes) intersecting in the origin.

**Point coordinates** are taken as distances from the origin along each axes.





## One, two and three dimensional real coordinate systems





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**Thank you for your attention!**