

**W4 – Vectors in 3-Space**

MCV4U

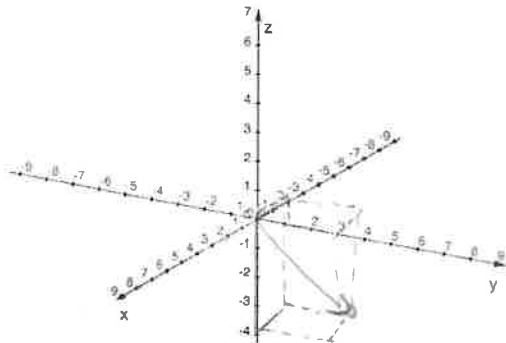
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Unit 5

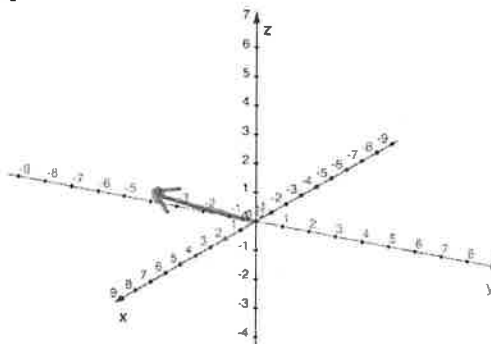
SOLUTIONS

1) Draw the position vectors.

a)  $[-2, 3, -4]$



b)  $[2, -3, 1]$

2) Express each vector as the sum of  $\hat{i}$ ,  $\hat{j}$  and  $\hat{k}$ .

a)  $[2, -1, 7]$

$$= 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$$

b)  $[-4, -6, 5]$

$$= -4\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$$

3) Express each vector in the form  $[a, b, c]$ .

a)  $3\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$

$$= [3, -4, 5]$$

b)  $2\hat{i} + 3\hat{k}$

$$= [2, 0, 3]$$

c)  $-8\hat{i} + 9\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$

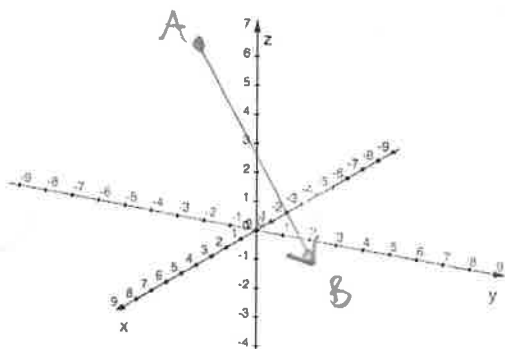
$$= [-8, 9, -4]$$

d)  $-8\hat{j} - 7\hat{k}$

$$= [0, -8, -7]$$

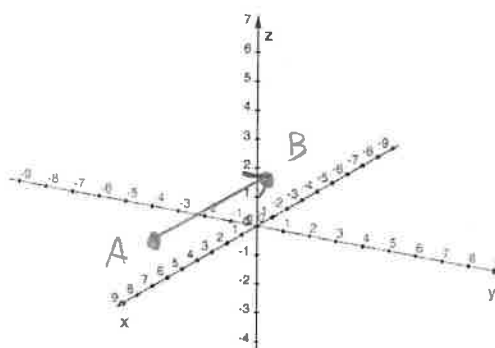
4) Draw vector  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  joining each pair of points. Then write the vector in the form  $[a, b, c]$ .

a) A(2, -1, 7) and B(0, 2, -1)



$$\overrightarrow{AB} = [-2, 3, -8]$$

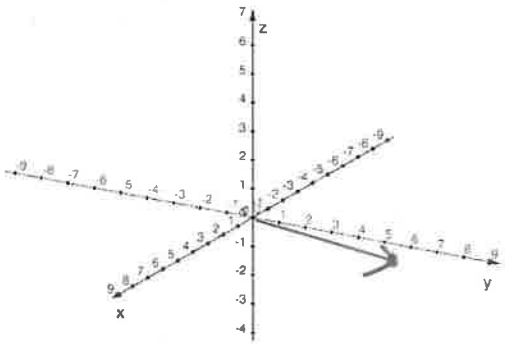
b) A(0, -4, -2) and B(-3, -1, 0)



$$\overrightarrow{AB} = [-3, 3, 2]$$

5) Draw each position vector. Then find its magnitude.

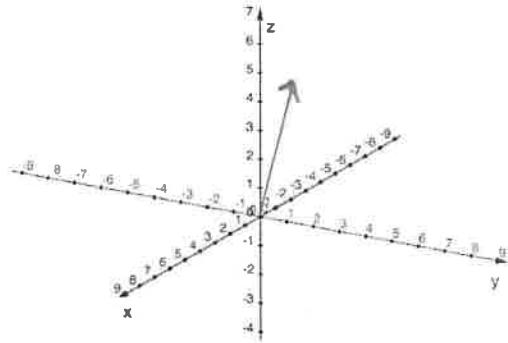
a)  $[-1, 5, -2]$



$$\text{Magnitude} = \sqrt{(-1)^2 + (5)^2 + (-2)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{30}$$

b)  $[-2, 0, 4]$



$$\text{Magnitude} = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + (0)^2 + (4)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{20}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{5}$$

6) Find  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $\vec{u} = [a, 3, 6]$  and  $\vec{v} = [-8, 12, b]$  are collinear.

x:

$$a = -8k$$

$$a = -8\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$a = -2$$

y:

$$3 = 12k$$

$$k = \frac{1}{4}$$

z:

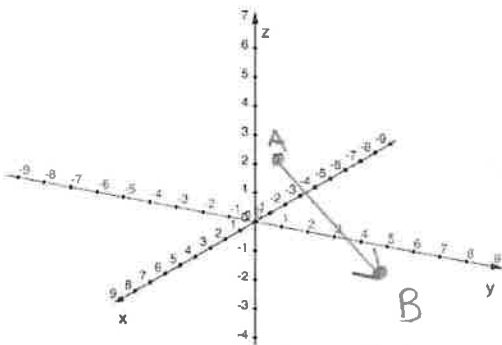
$$6 = bk$$

$$6 = b\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$b = 24$$

7) Draw the vector  $\vec{AB}$  joining each pair of points. Write the vector in the form  $[x, y, z]$ . Then determine the exact magnitude of the vector.

a)  $A(2, 1, 3)$  and  $B(5, 7, 1)$

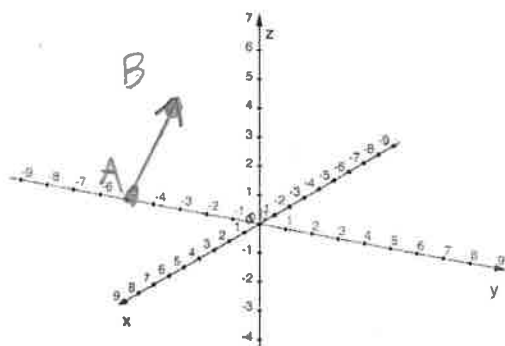


$$\vec{AB} = [3, 6, -2]$$

$$|\vec{AB}| = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (6)^2 + (-2)^2}$$

$$|\vec{AB}| = 7$$

b)  $A(3, -4, 1)$  and  $B(6, -1, 5)$



$$\vec{AB} = [3, 3, 4]$$

$$|\vec{AB}| = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (3)^2 + (4)^2}$$

$$|\vec{AB}| = \sqrt{34}$$

8) Evaluate each given the vectors  $\vec{a} = [-2, 1, 8]$ ,  $\vec{b} = [3, 1, -2]$ , and  $\vec{c} = [2, -3, 4]$ .

a)  $3\vec{b}$

$$= 3[3, 1, -2]$$

$$= [9, 3, -6]$$

b)  $\vec{b} - \vec{c}$

$$= [3, 1, -2] - [2, -3, 4]$$

$$= [1, 4, -6]$$

c)  $2\vec{a} - 3\vec{c} + 4\vec{b}$

$$= 2[-2, 1, 8] - 3[2, -3, 4] + 4[3, 1, -2]$$

$$= [-4, 2, 16] - [6, -9, 12] + [12, 4, -8]$$

$$= [-10, 11, 4] + [12, 4, -8]$$

$$= [2, 15, -4]$$

d)  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) - (\vec{a} + \vec{c})$

$$= ([-2, 1, 8] + [3, 1, -2]) - ([-2, 1, 8] + [2, -3, 4])$$

$$= [1, 2, 6] - [0, -2, 12]$$

$$= [1, 4, -6]$$

e)  $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}$

$$= 3(2) + 1(-3) + (-2)(4)$$

$$= 6 - 3 - 8$$

$$= -5$$

f)  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} - \vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}$

$$= -2(3) + 1(1) + 8(-2) - (-5)$$

$$= -6 + 1 - 16 + 5$$

$$= -16$$

Let  $\vec{a} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = 7\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - \hat{k}$  and  $\vec{c} = -2\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 9\hat{k}$ .

a)  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}$

$$= ([3, -2, 4] + [7, 4, -1]) \cdot [-2, 5, 9]$$

$$= [10, 2, 3] \cdot [-2, 5, 9]$$

$$= 10(-2) + 2(5) + 3(9)$$

$$= 17$$

b)  $2\vec{a} \cdot (4\vec{b} - 3\vec{c})$

$$= 2[3, -2, 4] \cdot (4[7, 4, -1] - 3[-2, 5, 9])$$

$$= [6, -4, 8] \cdot [34, 1, -31]$$

$$= 6(34) + (-4)(1) + 8(-31)$$

$$= -48$$

10) Determine the values of  $k$  such that  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are orthogonal.

a)  $\vec{u} = [2, k, -1]$  and  $\vec{v} = [3, -2, 7]$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$2(3) + k(-2) + (-1)(7) = 0$$

$$6 - 2k - 7 = 0$$

$$-2k = 1$$

$$k = -\frac{1}{2}$$

b)  $\vec{u} = [-3, 1, k]$  and  $\vec{v} = [4, -k, k]$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$-3(4) + 1(-k) + k(k) = 0$$

$$-12 - k + k^2 = 0$$

$$k^2 - k - 12 = 0$$

$$(k-4)(k+3) = 0$$

$$k_1 = 4 \quad k_2 = -3$$

11) Find a vector orthogonal to each vector.

a)  $[2, -1, 7]$

$$[0, 7, 1]$$

b)  $[8, -3, 4]$

$$[0, 4, 3]$$

12) Consider the vectors  $\vec{u} = [3, -5, 8]$  and  $\vec{v} = [3, 1, -2]$ .

a) Find  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &= 3(3) + (-5)(1) + 8(-2) \\ &= -12 \end{aligned}$$

b) Calculate the angle between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ .

$$\cos \theta = \frac{-12}{(\sqrt{98})(\sqrt{14})}$$

$$\theta \approx 108.9^\circ$$

13) Determine the projection of  $\vec{a}$  on  $\vec{b}$ .

a)  $\vec{a} = [2, 1, -3]$  and  $\vec{b} = [1, 7, 6]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proj}_{\vec{b}} \vec{a} &= \frac{2(1) + 1(7) + (-3)(6)}{(1)^2 + (7)^2 + (6)^2} [1, 7, 6] \\ &= \frac{-9}{86} [1, 7, 6] \\ &= \left[ \frac{-9}{86}, \frac{-63}{86}, \frac{-27}{43} \right] \end{aligned}$$

b)  $\vec{a} = [3, 4, 7]$  and  $\vec{b} = [2, -1, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proj}_{\vec{b}} \vec{a} &= \frac{3(2) + 4(-1) + 7(1)}{(2)^2 + (-1)^2 + (1)^2} [2, -1, 1] \\ &= \frac{9}{6} [2, -1, 1] \\ &= \left[ 3, -\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

formula:

$$\text{proj}_{\vec{b}} \vec{a} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}} (\vec{b})$$

14) The initial point of vector  $\vec{CD} = [2, -9, 1]$  is  $C(-3, 2, 2)$  determine the coordinates of  $D$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x - (-3) &= 2 & y - 2 &= -9 & z - 2 &= 1 \\ x + 3 &= 2 & y &= -7 & z &= 3 \\ x &= -1 & & & & \end{aligned}$$

$$D(-1, -7, 3)$$

15) Find 2 unit vectors that are parallel to  $\vec{a} = [9, -7, 2]$ .

$$\pm \frac{1}{|\vec{a}|} \vec{a}$$

$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{(9)^2 + (-7)^2 + (2)^2}$$

$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{134}$$

The unit vectors are:

$$1) \frac{1}{\sqrt{134}} [9, -7, 2] = \left[ \frac{9}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{-7}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{134}} \right] \quad 2) \frac{-1}{\sqrt{134}} [9, -7, 2] = \left[ \frac{-9}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{7}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{-2}{\sqrt{134}} \right]$$

16) A triangle has vertices at the points  $D = (3, -2, -3)$ ,  $E(7, 0, 1)$  and  $F(1, 2, 1)$ . What type of triangle is  $\triangle DEF$ ? Explain.

$$\vec{DE} = [4, 2, 4] \quad |\vec{DE}| = 6$$

$$\vec{DF} = [-2, 4, 4] \quad |\vec{DF}| = 6$$

Isosceles

$$\vec{EF} = [-6, 2, 0] \quad |\vec{EF}| = \sqrt{40} = 2\sqrt{10}$$

$$\vec{DE} \cdot \vec{DF} = 4(-2) + 2(4) + 4(4) = 16$$

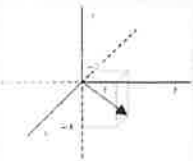
$$\vec{DE} \cdot \vec{EF} = 4(-6) + 2(2) + 4(0) = -20$$

No right angles.

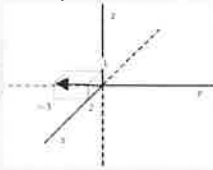
$$\vec{DF} \cdot \vec{EF} = -2(-6) + 4(2) + 4(0) = 20$$

**ANSWER KEY:**

1. a)



b)

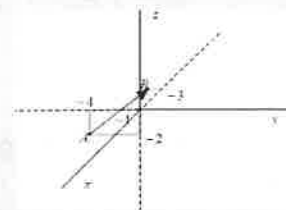
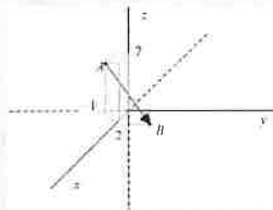


2. a)  $2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$  b)  $-4\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$

3. a)  $[3, -4, 5]$  b)  $[2, 0, 3]$  c)  $[-8, 9, -4]$  d)  $[0, -8, -7]$

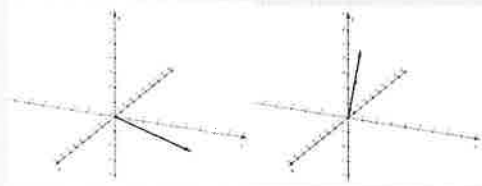
4. a)  $[-2, 3, -8]$

b)  $[-3, 3, 2]$



5) a)  $\sqrt{30}$

b)  $2\sqrt{5}$



6)  $a = -2, b = 24$

7) a)  $[3, 6, -2], 7$  b)  $[3, 3, 4], \sqrt{34}$

8) a)  $[9, 3, -6]$  b)  $[1, 4, -6]$  c)  $[2, 15, -4]$  d)  $[1, 4, -6]$  e)  $-5$  f)  $-16$

9) a)  $17$  b) ~~9~~  $-46$

10) a)  $k = -0.5$  b)  $k = 4, k = -3$

11) a)  $[4, 8, 0]$  b)  $[1, 0, -2]$

12) a)  $-12$  b)  $108.9^\circ$

13) a)  $[-0.10, -0.73, -0.63]$  b)  $[3, -1.5, 1.5]$

14)  $D(-1, -7, 3)$

15)  $[\frac{9}{\sqrt{134}}, -\frac{7}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{134}}]$  and  $[-\frac{9}{\sqrt{134}}, \frac{7}{\sqrt{134}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{134}}]$

16) This is a non-right isosceles triangle because 2 sides of the triangle are the same length but no 2 vectors that make up the sides of the triangle dot to 0, this tells us there are no perpendicular vectors and therefore no right angles.