

**Lecture 1: Overview+Review of vector operations.**

**What is the multivariable calculus course about?**

Curves in space  $(x(t), y(t), z(t))$ , e.g. path of a particle.

Vectors and vector operations, e.g. the dot and the cross product.

Equations of lines and planes. (using vectors)

The the velocity  $\mathbf{v}(t) = (x'(t), y'(t), z'(t))$ , tangent vector to the particle.

Functions of several variables  $f(x, y, z)$ , e.g. temperature at each point in space.

Derivatives of functions of several variables:

E.g. if  $f$  represent the temperature then the gradient vector  $\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)$

represents the direction in which the temperature increases the most.

Multiple integrals: Double integrals over domains in the plane and triple or volume integrals over domains in space. Polar coordinates.

Ch 1: Vectors and vector operations.

Ch 2: Derivatives of functions of several variables.

Ch 3: **Vector fields**  $\mathbf{v}(x, y, z) = ((v_1(x, y, z), v_2(x, y, z), v_3(x, y, z)))$ , at each point in space we are given a vector, and the **divergence** and **curl** of them.

The gravitational field is a vector field; at each point in space we are given a vector.

The vector field of a continuum of fluid particles is a vector field. At each point in space we are given the velocity of the particles at that point.

Each component of a vector field can be differentiated in each direction.

The divergence and curl are special derivatives with physical meaning.

Ch 4: Mx/min in several variables.

Ch 5 Double and Triple Integrals and the **change of variable theorem** in multiple integrals.

Ch 6 Line Integrals and Green's theorem. Generalization of the fundamental theorem of calculus  $\int_a^b f'(x) dx = f(b) - f(a)$  to several variables: E.g.  $F = (F_1, F_2, 0)$  a vector function and  $D$  a domain in the  $x - y$  plane with boundary  $C$  then

$$\int_C F_1 dx + F_2 dy = \iint_D (\partial F_2 / \partial x - \partial F_1 / \partial y) dx.$$

Ch 7 **Surface area and surface Integrals flow through surface** and Stoke's and Gauss's theorems.

Ch 8: **Differential forms.**

Surface integrals is the hardest part. Thinking geometrically and physically helps understanding concepts but is not needed to do problems

## Section 1.1 Vectors.

Recall that a **point** in space can be represented by an ordered triplet  $(x, y, z)$  of real numbers called the **Cartesian or rectangular coordinates**, that measure the lengths of the projections on the three coordinate axis.

A **vector**  $\mathbf{a}$  is a directed line segment or arrow; it has a length  $\|\mathbf{a}\|$  and a direction. Its components  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  are the coordinates of the endpoint if it starts at the origin. In the notes vectors will be denoted by boldface letters  $\mathbf{a}$  and in the lectures by  $\vec{a}$ .

**Addition** of vectors is geometrically defined by the triangle law and algebraically by  $(a_1, a_2, a_3) + (b_1, b_2, b_3) = (a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, a_3 + b_3)$ .

**Scalar multiplication**  $\alpha \mathbf{a}$  is a vector in the same direction as  $\mathbf{a}$  with length  $|\alpha| \|\mathbf{a}\|$  and its algebraically given by  $\alpha(a_1, a_2, a_3) = (\alpha a_1, \alpha a_2, \alpha a_3)$ .

The **length** of the vector is  $\|\mathbf{a}\| = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2}$ , by the Pythagorean theorem.

A **unit vector** (i.e. of length one) in the direction of the vector  $\mathbf{a}$  is given by  $\frac{\mathbf{a}}{\|\mathbf{a}\|}$ .

## Section 1.2: Basis and what we can do with vectors?

**Standard basis:** If  $\mathbf{i} = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{j} = (0, 1, 0)$  and  $\mathbf{k} = (0, 0, 1)$  then  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, a_3) = a_1(1, 0, 0) + a_2(0, 1, 0) + a_3(0, 0, 1) = a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}$ .

If  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $P_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$  are points in space then the vector represented by the directed line segment  $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2}$  is  $(x_2 - x_1)\mathbf{i} + (y_2 - y_1)\mathbf{j} + (z_2 - z_1)\mathbf{k}$ .

**Ex** Find the parametric equations of a line passing through  $(0, 1, 2)$  and  $(1, 2, 4)$ .

**Sol** The vector  $\mathbf{v} = (1, 2, 4) - (0, 1, 2) = (1, 1, 2)$  is parallel to the line and so is any multiple  $t\mathbf{v}$ . The points on the line are therefore given by

$$(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 2) + t(1, 1, 2) = (t, 1 + t, 2 + 2t).$$

**Section 1.3: Inner product** (or scalar or dot product) of two vectors is

$$(1) \quad \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = (a_1, a_2, a_3) \cdot (b_1, b_2, b_3) = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3$$

The geometric interpretation is  $\|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta$ , where  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ . Note that  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \|\mathbf{a}\|^2$  and that  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are perpendicular. Note that  $\|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta$  is the component of  $\mathbf{b}$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{a}$ .

The orthogonal projection  $\mathbf{p}$  of  $\mathbf{b}$  on  $\mathbf{a}$  is given by  $\mathbf{p} = \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta \frac{\mathbf{a}}{\|\mathbf{a}\|} = \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{\|\mathbf{a}\|^2} \mathbf{a}$ .

**Ex.** Decompose  $\mathbf{b} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$  into a vector  $\mathbf{b}_{\parallel}$  parallel to  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$  and a vector  $\mathbf{b}_{\perp}$  perpendicular to  $\mathbf{a}$ .

**Sol.**  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 2 - 2 + 4 = 4$ ,  $\|\mathbf{a}\| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{3}$  so  $\mathbf{b}_{\parallel} = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{a} / \|\mathbf{a}\|^2 = 4(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})/3$  and  $\mathbf{b}_{\perp} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b}_{\parallel} = (2 - 4/3)\mathbf{i} - (1 + 4/3)\mathbf{j} + (4 - 4/3)\mathbf{k}$ .

**Section 1.4.** The **vector or cross product** is the vector

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

The geometric interpretation is  $\|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$ , where  $\mathbf{n}$  is a unit vector,  $\|\mathbf{n}\| = 1$ , that is perpendicular to both  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  and pointing in the direction so that  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  form a positively oriented system.

Note that  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are parallel.

To remember the definition of vector product we introduce so called **determinants**.

A **determinant of order 2** is defined by

$$(2) \quad \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc$$

Its magnitude is the **area** of the parallelogram with vectors  $(a, b)$  and  $(c, d)$  as edges.

A **determinant of order 3** is defined by

$$(3) \quad \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = a_1 \begin{vmatrix} b_2 & b_3 \\ c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} - a_2 \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} + a_3 \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}$$

Its magnitude is the **volume** of the parallelepiped with vectors  $\mathbf{a} = a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j} + b_3\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{c} = c_1\mathbf{i} + c_2\mathbf{j} + c_3\mathbf{k}$  as edges.

The cross product (2) is

$$(4) \quad \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} - \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{j} + \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k}$$

Because of the similarity with (3), to remember this we symbolically write

$$(5) \quad \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$