

# Linear algebra

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(borrowed from *Math Tools for Neuroscience*, Prof. Jonathon Pillow,  
Princeton University)

# Linear algebra

“Linear algebra has become as basic and as applicable as calculus, and fortunately it is easier.”

- Gilbert Strang, *Linear algebra and its applications*

# Topics

- vectors
  - addition
  - scalar multiplication
- vector norm
- unit vectors
- dot product
- linear projection
- **orthogonality**

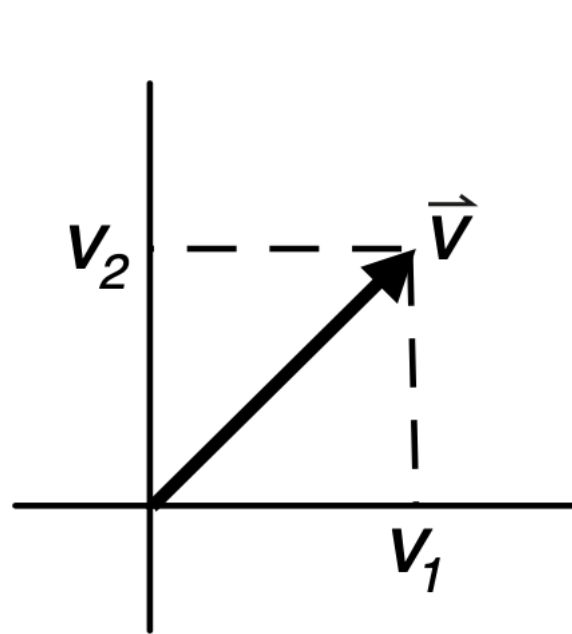
# Vectors

a binary word [0,0,1,1,1,1,0,1, ...]

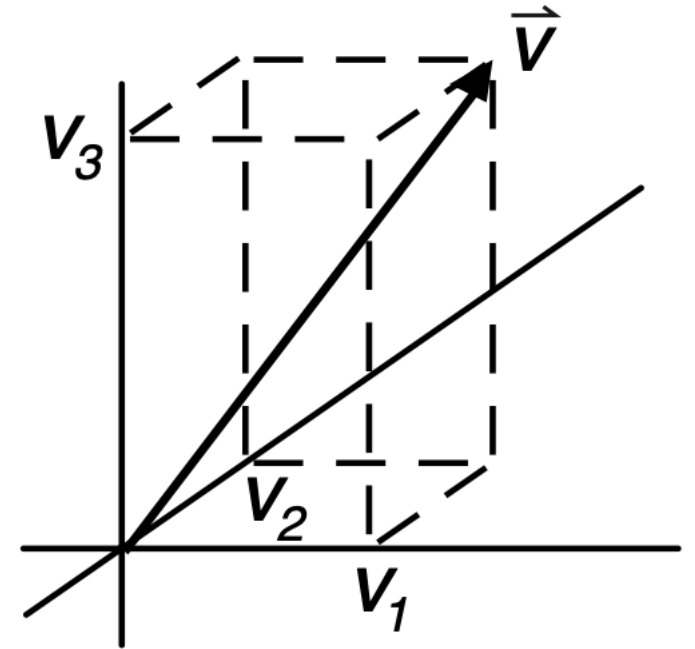
$$\xi = [1,1, -1,1,1, -1,1,1,1,1]$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_N \end{pmatrix}$$

(N numbers)



(just 2 numbers)



(just 3 numbers)

column vector

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_N \end{pmatrix}$$

```
# make a 3-component column vector  
v = np.array([[3], [1], [-7]])
```

transpose

$$\vec{v}^T = (v_1 \ v_2 \ \cdots \ v_N)$$

```
# transpose  
v.T
```

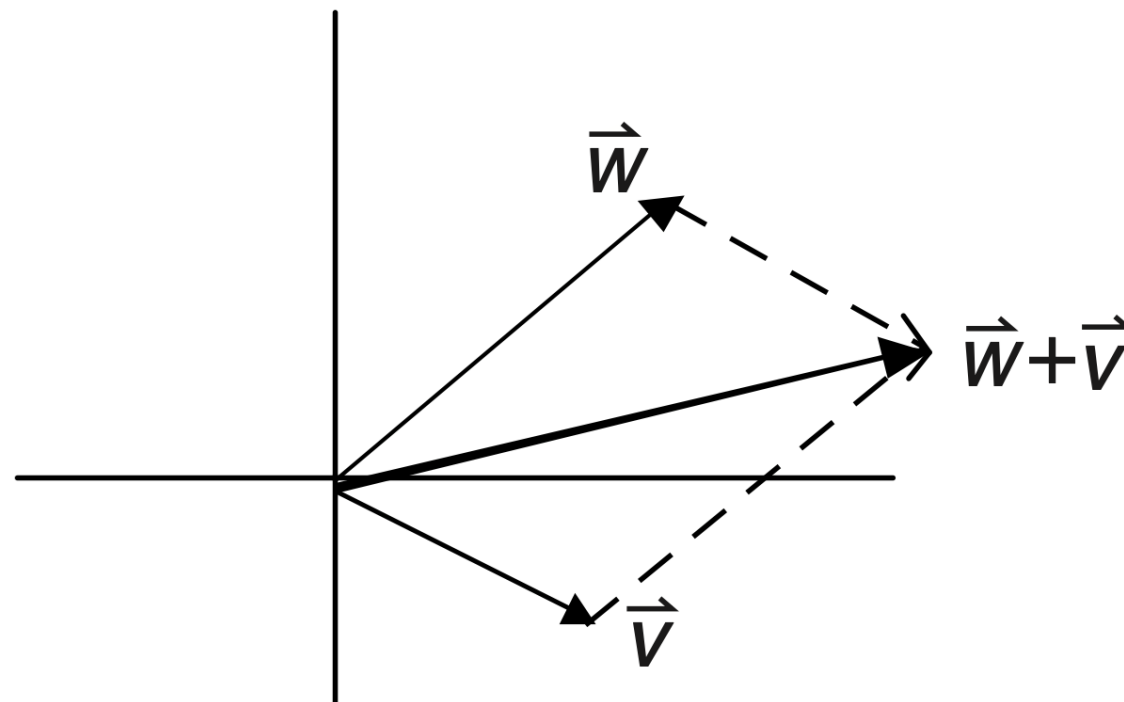
row vector

```
# create row vector directly  
v = np.array([[3,1,-7]]) # row vector  
# or  
v = np.array([3,1,-7]) # 1D vector
```

# Addition of vectors

$$\vec{v} + \vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 + w_1 \\ v_2 + w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider  $N = 2$

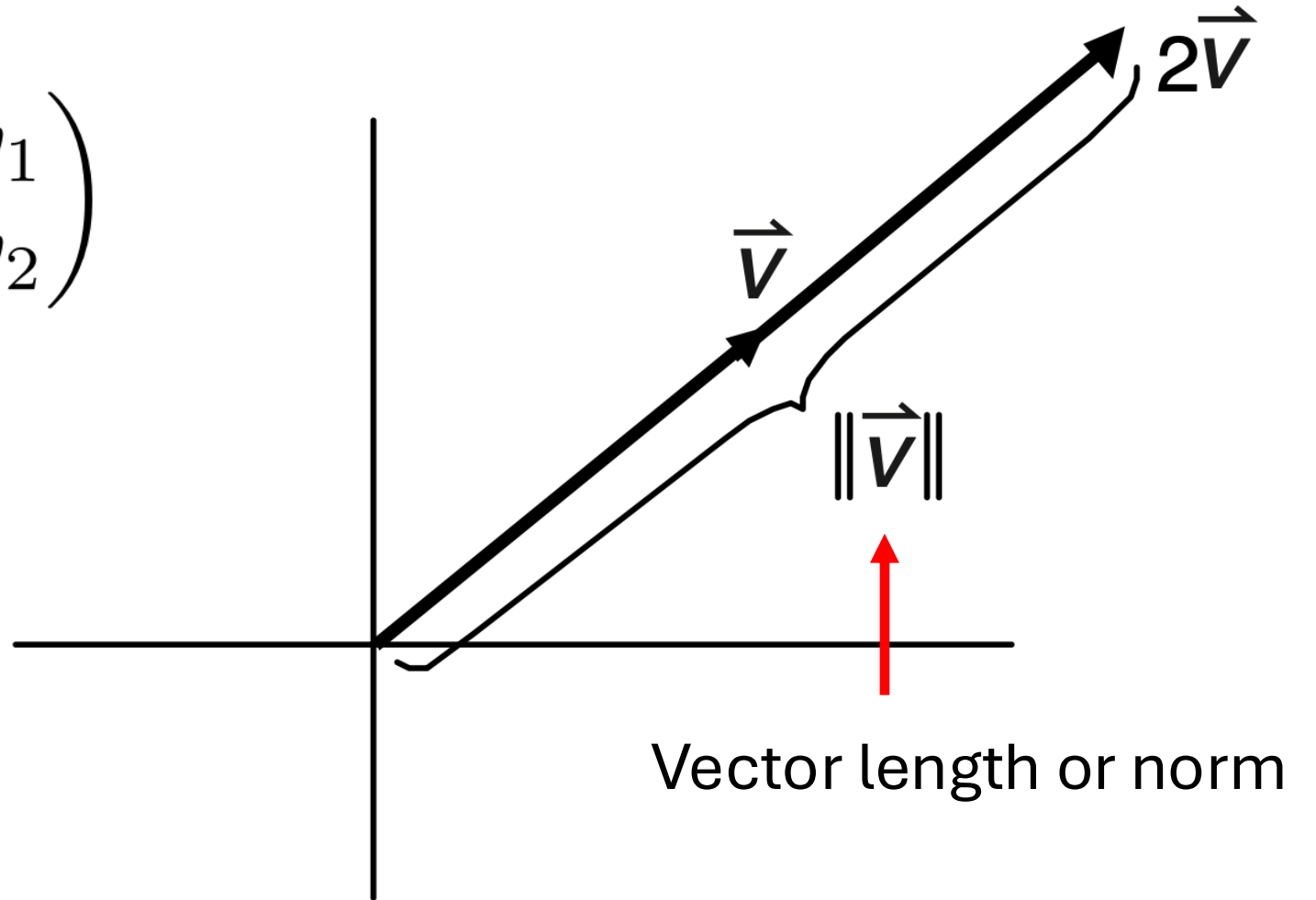


# Scalar multiplication

Example  $a = 2$

$$a\vec{v} = a \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} av_1 \\ av_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider  $N = 2$



# Vector norm (“L2 norm”)

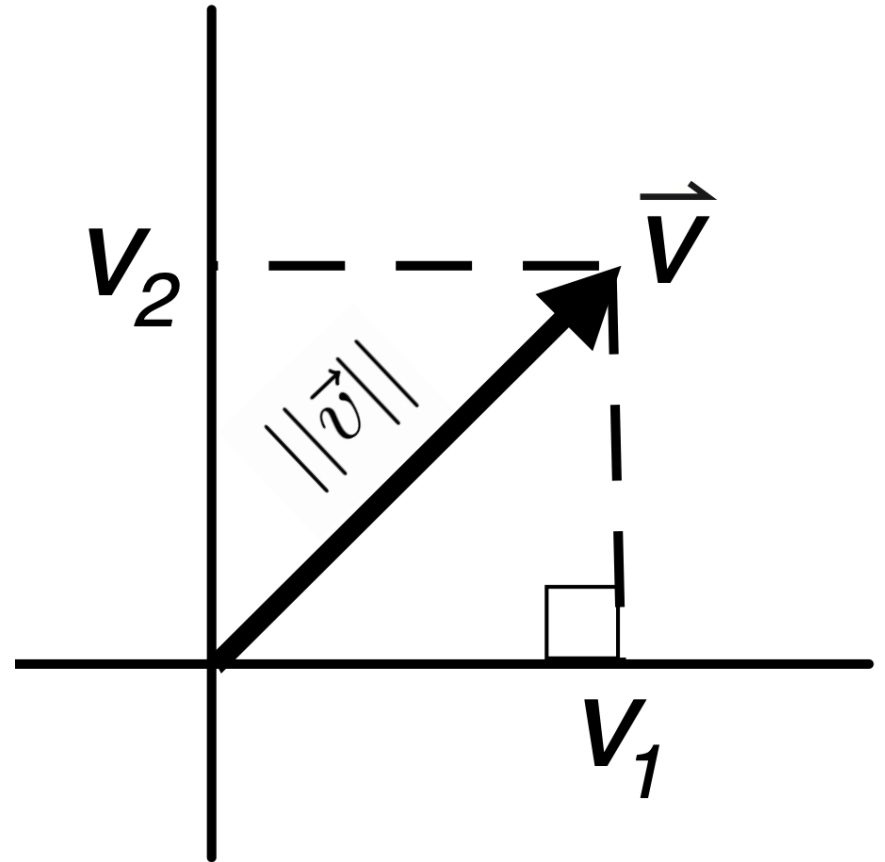
- vector length in Euclidean space

In 2-D:

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2}$$

In  $n$ -D:

$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + \dots + v_n^2}$$



# Vector norm (“L2 norm”)

Exercises compute the vector length (norm of each of the following vectors):

- a)  $[7, 7]$
- b)  $[5, 5, 5, 5]$
- c)  $[10, 1]$
- d)  $[5, 5, 7]$

# Vector norm (“L2 norm”) in Python

```
# make a vector
v = np.array([1, 7, 3, 0, 1])

# many equivalent ways to compute norm
np.linalg.norm(v)           # built-in function
np.sqrt(np.dot(v,v))        # sqrt of dot product
np.sqrt(v.T @ v)           # sqrt of v-transpose times v
np.sqrt(sum(v * v))         # sqrt of sum of elementwise product
np.sqrt(sum(v ** 2))        # sqrt of v elementwise-squared

# note use of @ and * and **
# @ - gives matrix multiply
# * - gives elementwise multiply
# ** - gives exponentiation (“raising to a power”)
```

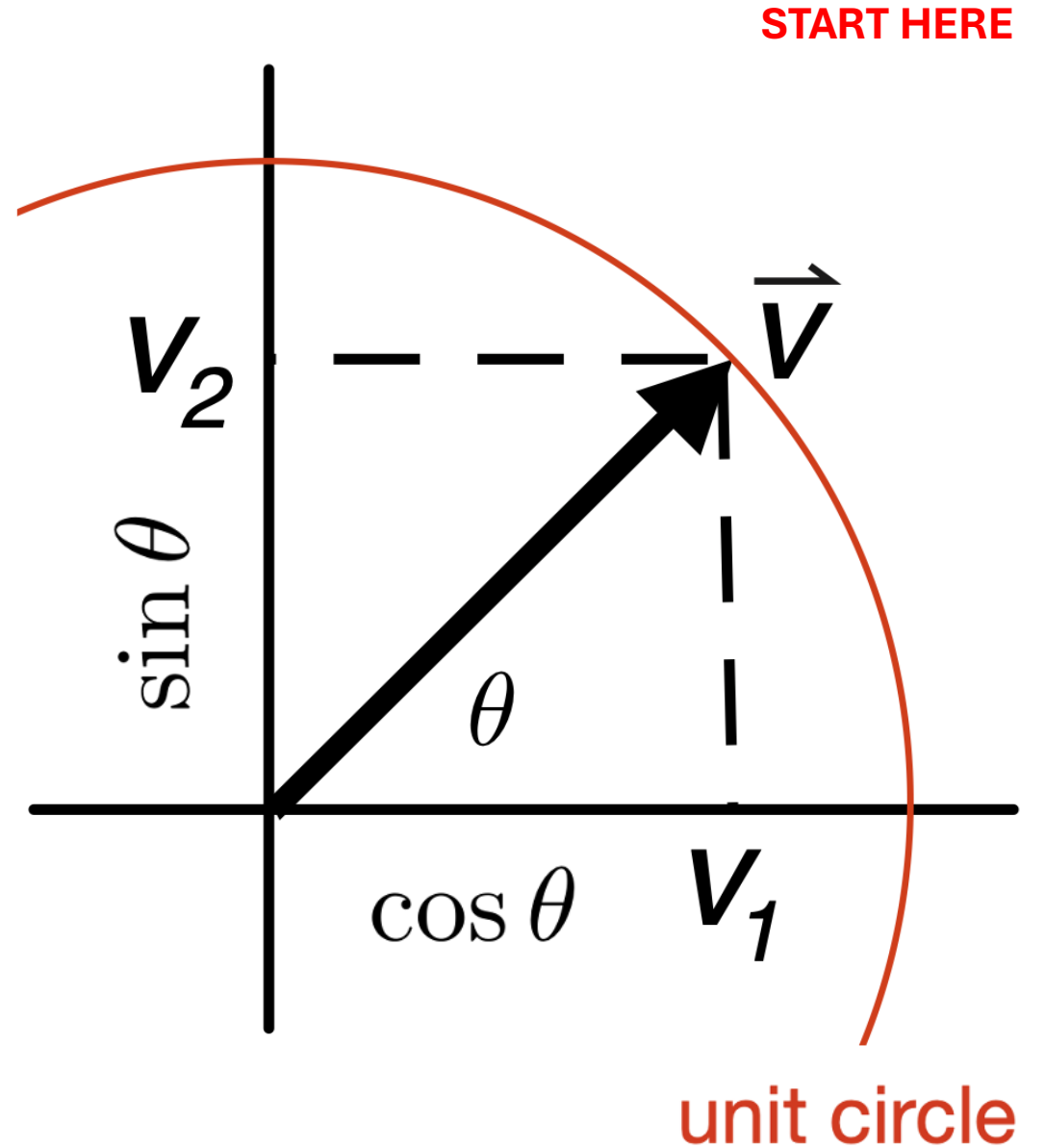
# Unit vector

vector such that  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$

in 2 dimensions

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1$$



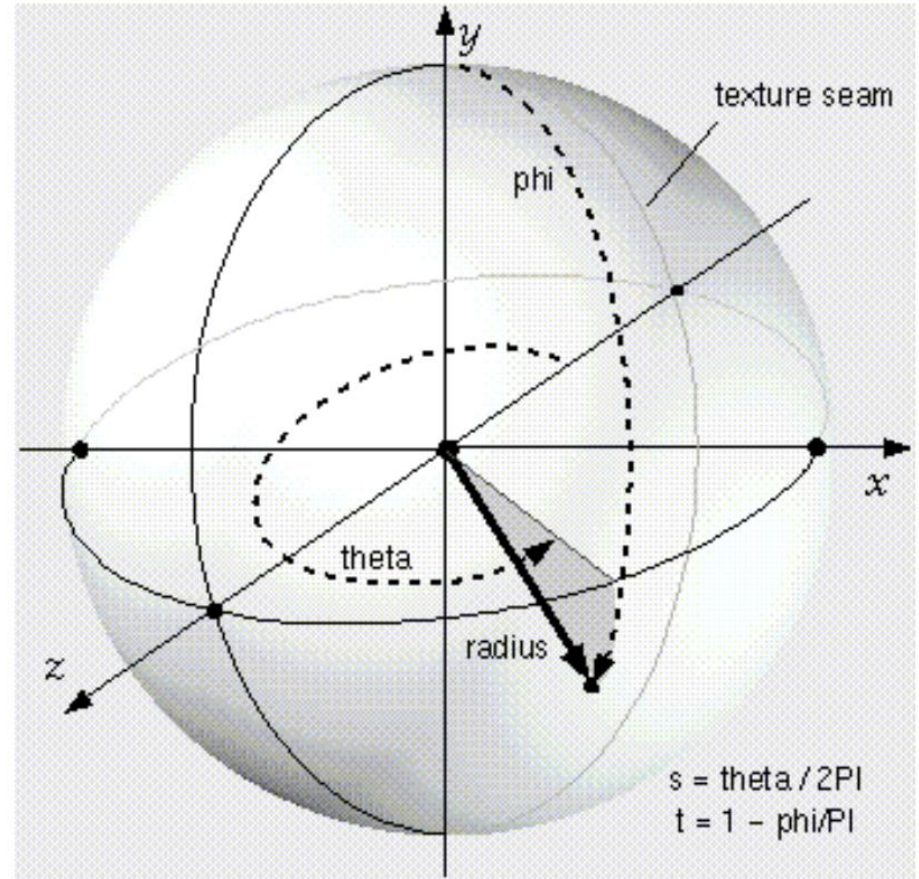
# Unit vector

vector such that  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$

in  $n$  dimensions

$$v_1^2 + v_2^2 + \dots + v_n^2 = 1$$

sits on the surface of an  $n$ -dimensional hypersphere



# Unit vector

vector such that  $\|\vec{v}\| = 1$

We can make any vector into a unit vector

$$\vec{v} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}\|} \vec{v}$$

# Inner product (aka “dot product”)

- produces a scalar from two vectors

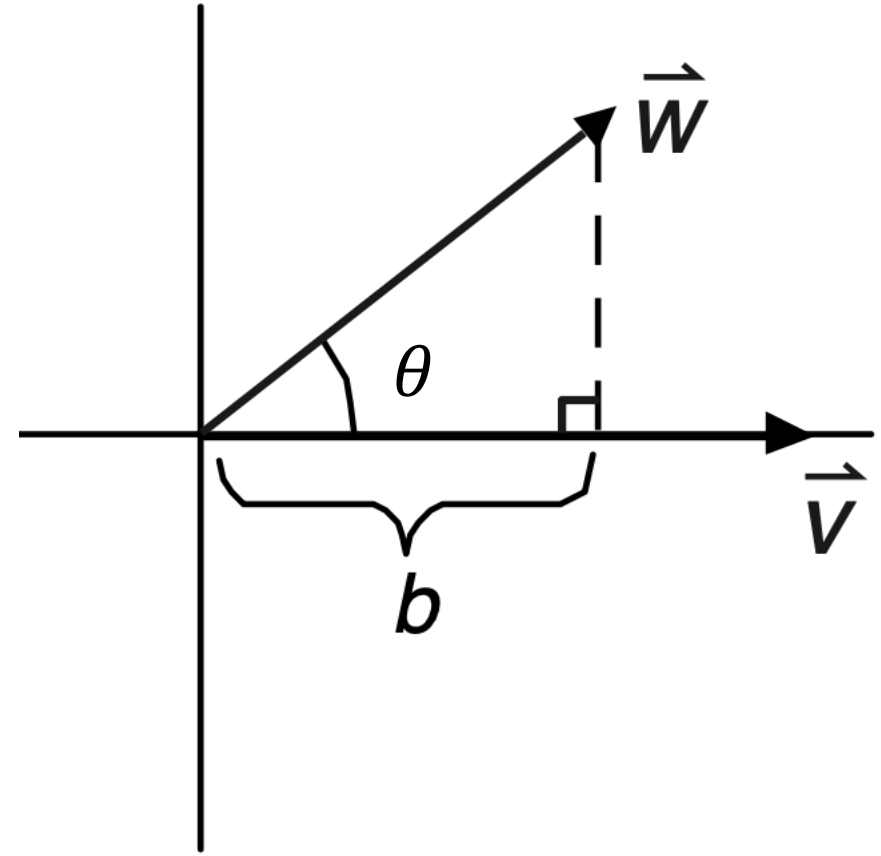
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}$$

$$\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle$$

$$v_1 w_1 + v_2 w_2 + \cdots + v_n w_n$$

$$\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\| \cos \theta$$

$$\vec{v}^T \vec{w} = (v_1 \quad \cdots \quad v_n) \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_n \end{pmatrix}$$



# Inner product (aka “dot product”)

Exercises:

$$v_1 = [1, 2, 3]$$

$$v_2 = [3, 2, -1]$$

$$v_3 = [10, 0, 5]$$

Compute:

$$v_1 \cdot v_2, v_1 \cdot v_3, v_2 \cdot v_3$$

# Linear projection

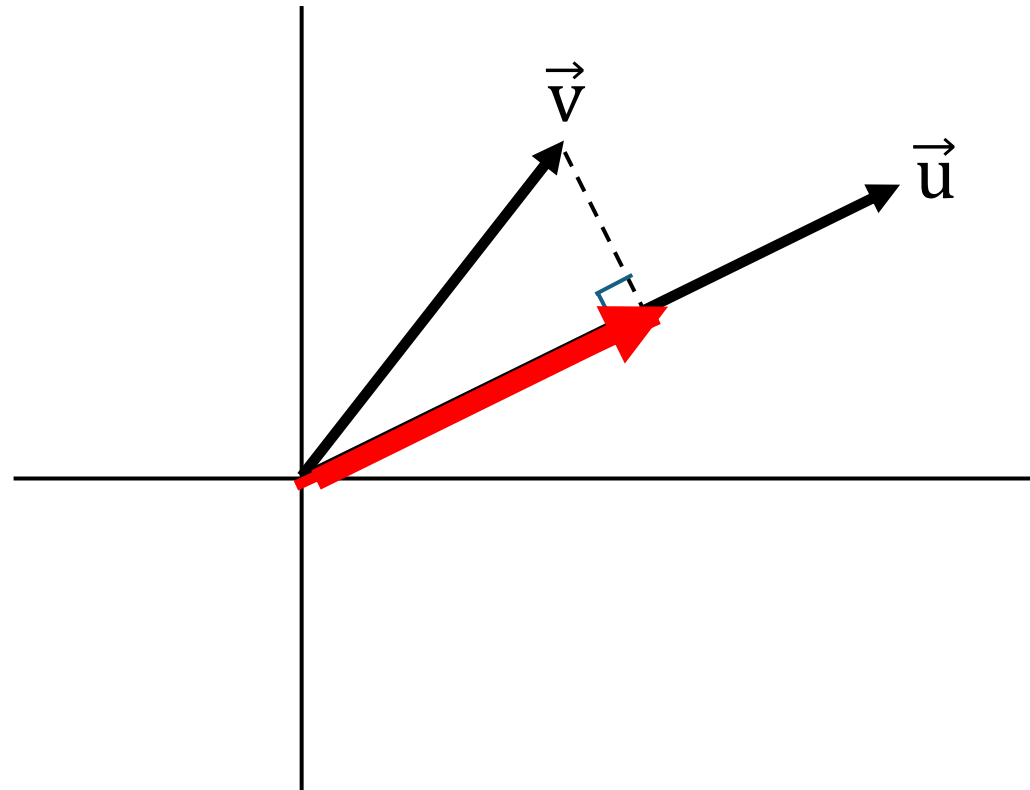
Intuitively, drop a vector down onto a line (or linear surface) at a right angle.

Projection of  $\vec{v}$  onto  $\vec{u}$

Length:  $\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}}$

Direction:  $\vec{u}$

component of  $\mathbf{v}$   
in direction of  $\mathbf{u}$   $\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \vec{u}$



# Linear projection exercises

$$v = [2, 2]$$

$$u = [3, 1]$$

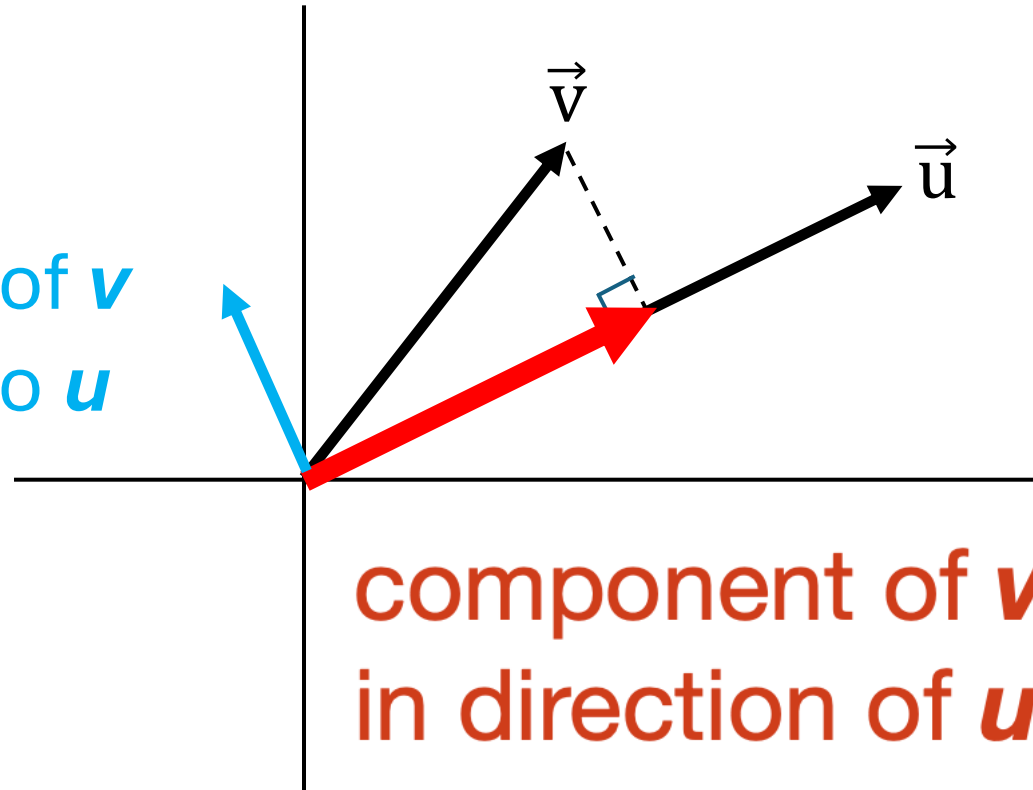
Compute projection of  $v$  onto  $u$ .

# Orthogonality

Two vectors are orthogonal (or *perpendicular*) if their dot product is 0.

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

component of  $\mathbf{v}$   
orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}$



$$\vec{w} = \vec{v} - \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \vec{u}$$

component of  $\mathbf{v}$   
in direction of  $\mathbf{u}$

$$\frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}}{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}} \vec{u}$$

Can decompose any vector  $\mathbf{v}$  into its component along  $\mathbf{u}$  and its orthogonal component.

# Orthogonality exercises

Find a vector orthogonal to  $x = [1,0]$  ?

Let

$$v = [2,2]$$

$$u = [3,1]$$

Find the component of  $v$  orthogonal to  $u$ .

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