

Vector Operations

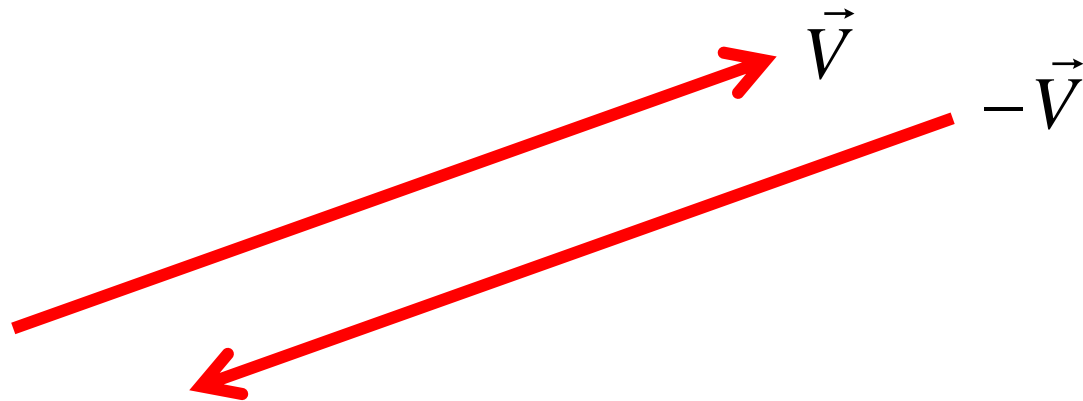
Lecture 2

Vector properties

- We'll look at a number of Vector Operations
- Ways of looking at each:
 - **Symbolically:** With a symbol.
 - **Numerically:**
 - The steps to “do” this operation
 - The way you'll implement it in Python
 - **Graphically:** With a picture
 - Usually the most complicated / useful
 - Often many interpretations (watch for the point / vector distinction)

Vector Negation (2.5)

- **Symboblically:** $-\vec{v}$
- **Numerically:**
 - Negate all of the components to produce a *new* vector
 - Define the `__neg__` method in Python:
 - Should return a new VectorN.
- **Graphically:**



Vector-scalar multiplication (2.6)

- **Symbolically** (all of these are equivalent):

- $k\vec{v}$
- $\vec{v}k$ (quiz: what's the term connecting this and the previous?)
- $k * \vec{v}$
 - (try not to use the \bullet or 'x' symbol sometimes used in scalar multiplication – it means something different with vectors)
- $\vec{v} * k$

- **Numerically:**

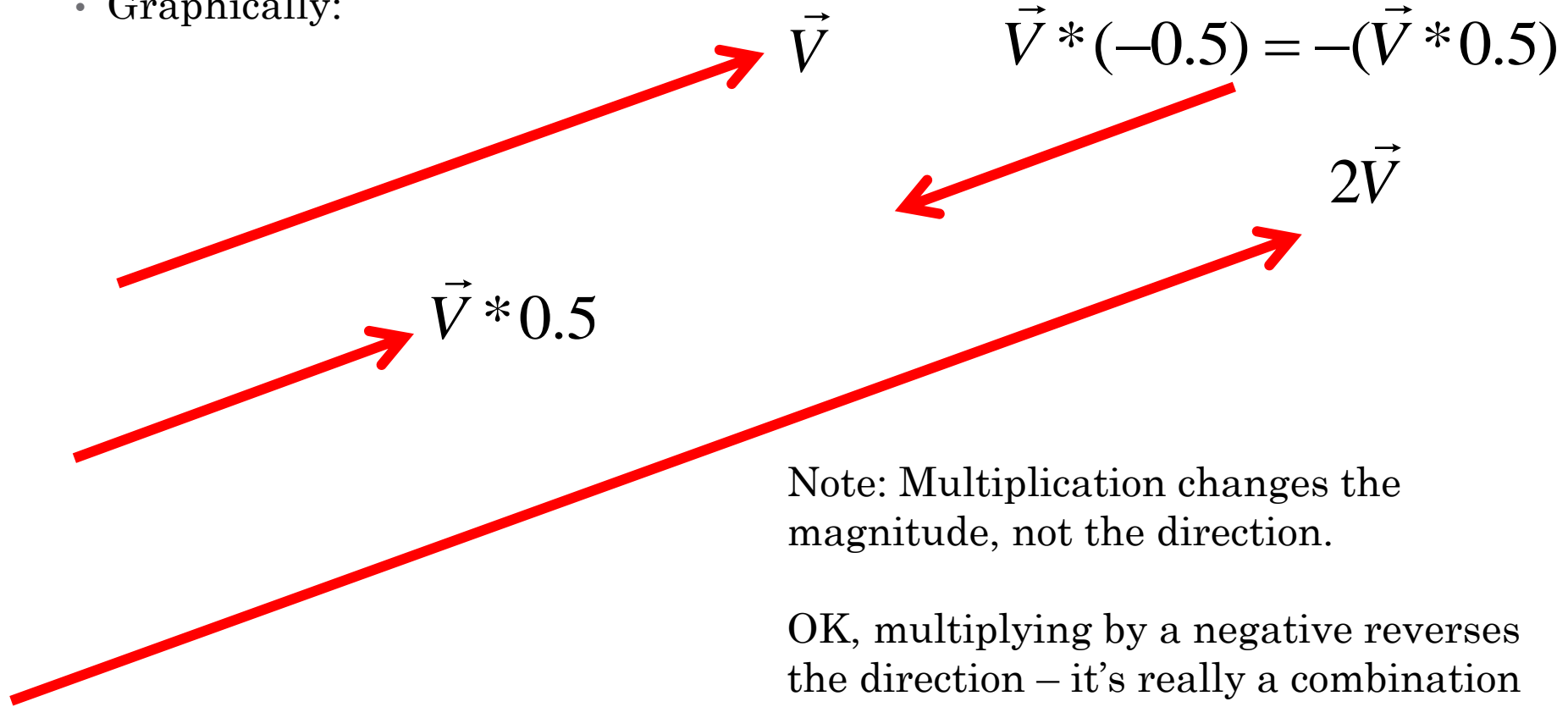
- Just multiply the components by the scalar to get a new vector.
- E.g.:

$$\begin{aligned} & [4 \quad 7 \quad -2] * 3 \\ &= [4 * 3 \quad 7 * 3 \quad -2 * 3] \\ &= [12 \quad 21 \quad -6] \end{aligned}$$

- In python, define the `__mul__` method and the `__rmul__` method (why `rmul`?)

Vector-scalar multiplication, cont.

- Graphically:



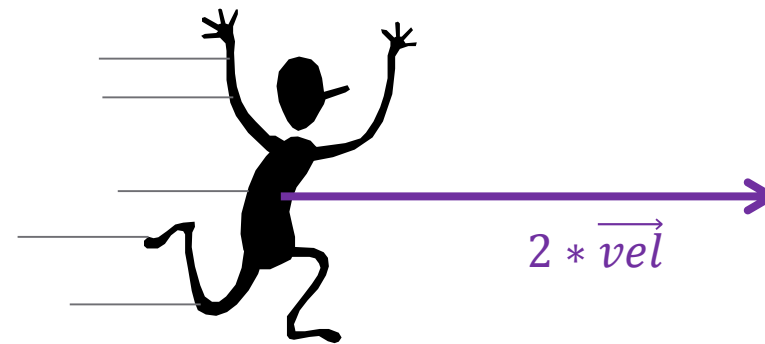
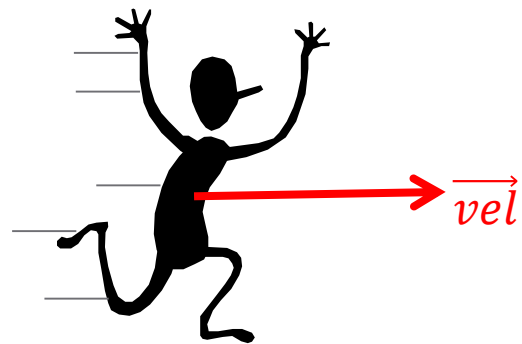
Note: Multiplication changes the magnitude, not the direction.

OK, multiplying by a negative reverses the direction – it's really a combination multiplication & negation

Note2: Point multiplication doesn't really have a (useful) application.

An Example

- Suppose you're travelling along the ground to the East (where East is +z) at 10 mph: $(0,0,10)$
- You double your speed: Now your velocity is $(0,0,20)$

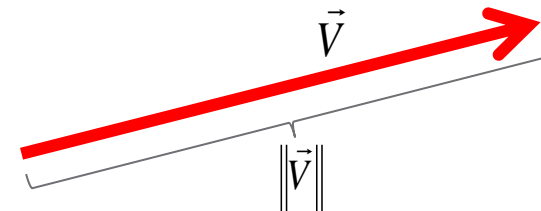


Vector-scalar division

- **Symbolically:** \vec{v}/k
 - Note: k/\vec{v} isn't defined
- **Numerically:**
 - $\frac{\vec{v}}{k} = \vec{v} * \frac{1}{k}$
 - Which is just vector-scalar multiplication
 - In python (3.x+), define the `__truediv__` method.
 - There is a `__rtruediv__` method we'll define, but we'll always raise an exception (why?)
- **Graphically:** Not much difference between this and vector*scalar...

Vector Length (2.8)

- I'll usually called it **magnitude**
 - So there's no confusion with the totally-unrelated len function (which tells us the dimension)
- **Symbolically:** $\|\vec{v}\|$
 - NOT absolute value
 - Magnitude is always a scalar value (regardless of dimension)
- **Numerically:**
 - The distance from the vector's tail to its head.
 - How do we do it in 2D?
 - Pythagorean Theroem!
 - It's the same form in any dimension.
$$\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2 + v_3^2 \dots + v_n^2}$$
 - In python, define a **magnitude** method
 - Because there's no "hook" for this symbol...



Vector addition & subtraction (2.7)

- **Symbolically:**

- $\vec{v} - \vec{w}$
- $\vec{v} + \vec{w}$

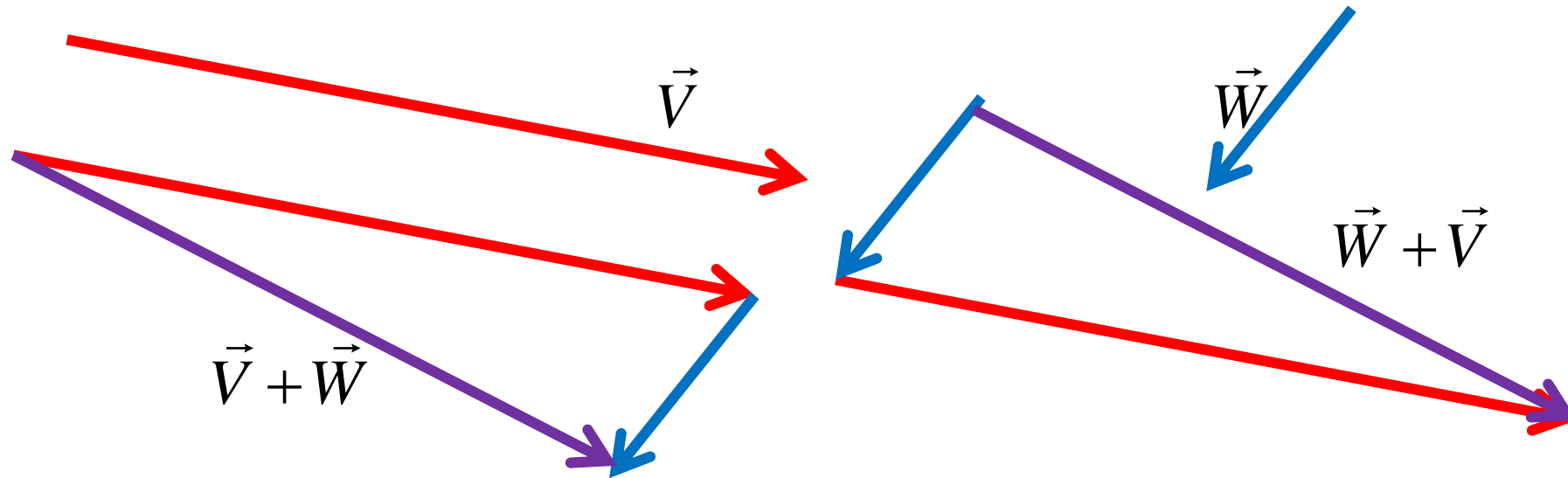
- **Numerically:**

- Addition: Just add the components to get a new vector (order is not important)
 - The `__add__` method in python
- Subtraction: Subtract the components to get a new vector (order **IS** important)
 - The `__sub__` method in python
 - Note: $\vec{v} - \vec{w} = \vec{v} + (-\vec{w})$
 - This is a negation followed by an addition
 - Useful in our graphical interpretation

Vector Addition, cont.

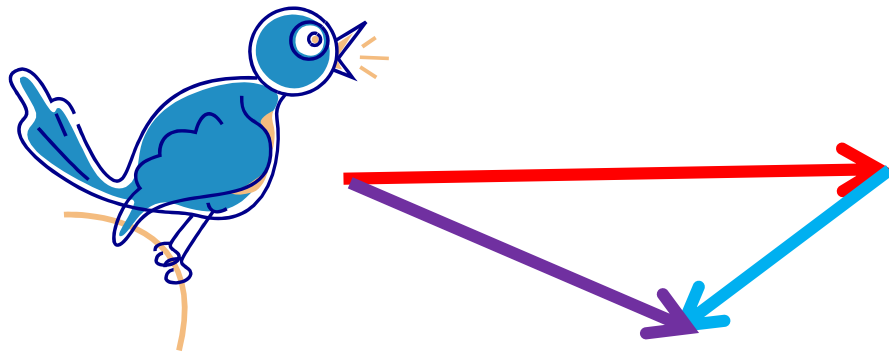
- **Graphically:**

- Aka the “Parallelogram Method”
- Align the second tail on the first head
- The result is a new vector from the first tail to the last head
- Since addition is commutative, we can reverse the order



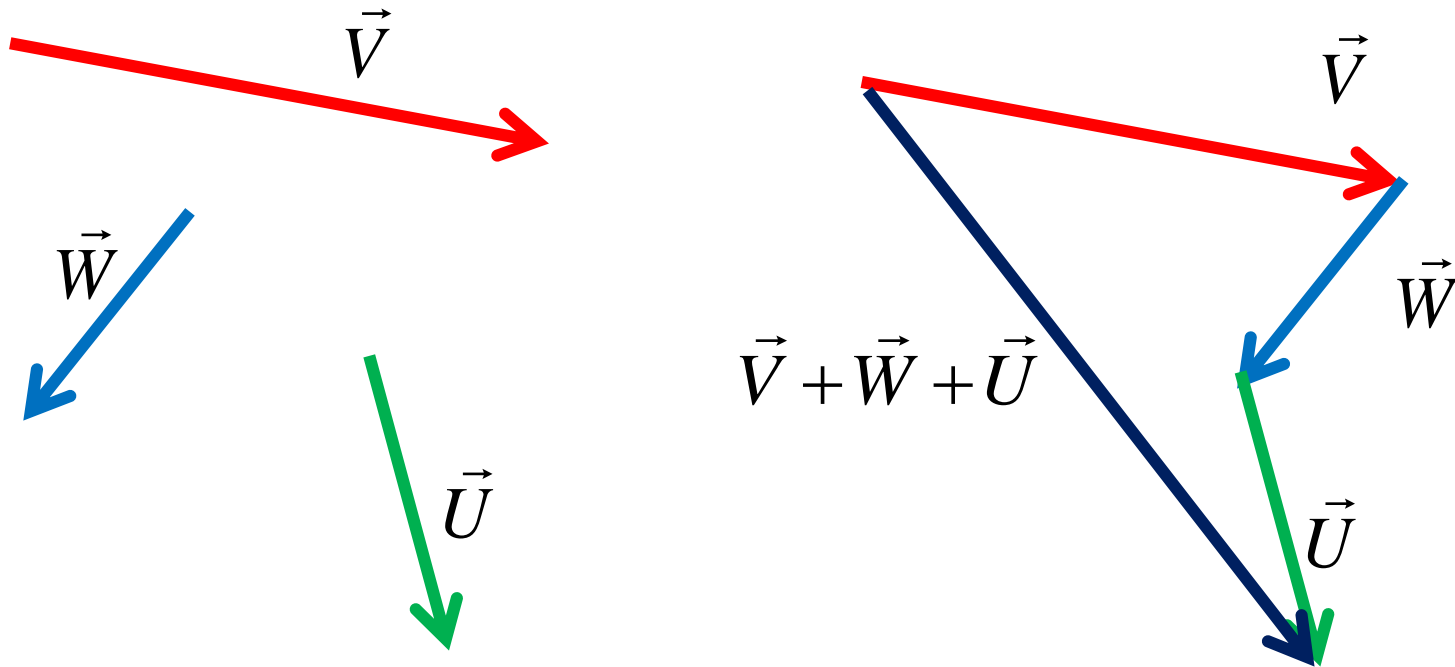
Vector Addition, Example #2

- A bird flying with a velocity of $[20 \ 0]$
- A wind blows with a velocity of $[-9 \ -8]$
- The net velocity of the bird is $[20 \ 0] + [-9 \ -8] = [11 \ -8]$



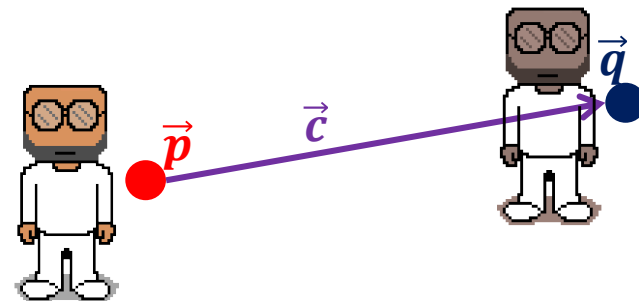
More on Vector Addition

- You can add more than one Vector:
 - Just line them up tail-to-head.
 - The net result goes from the first tail to the last head.
 - Still commutative.



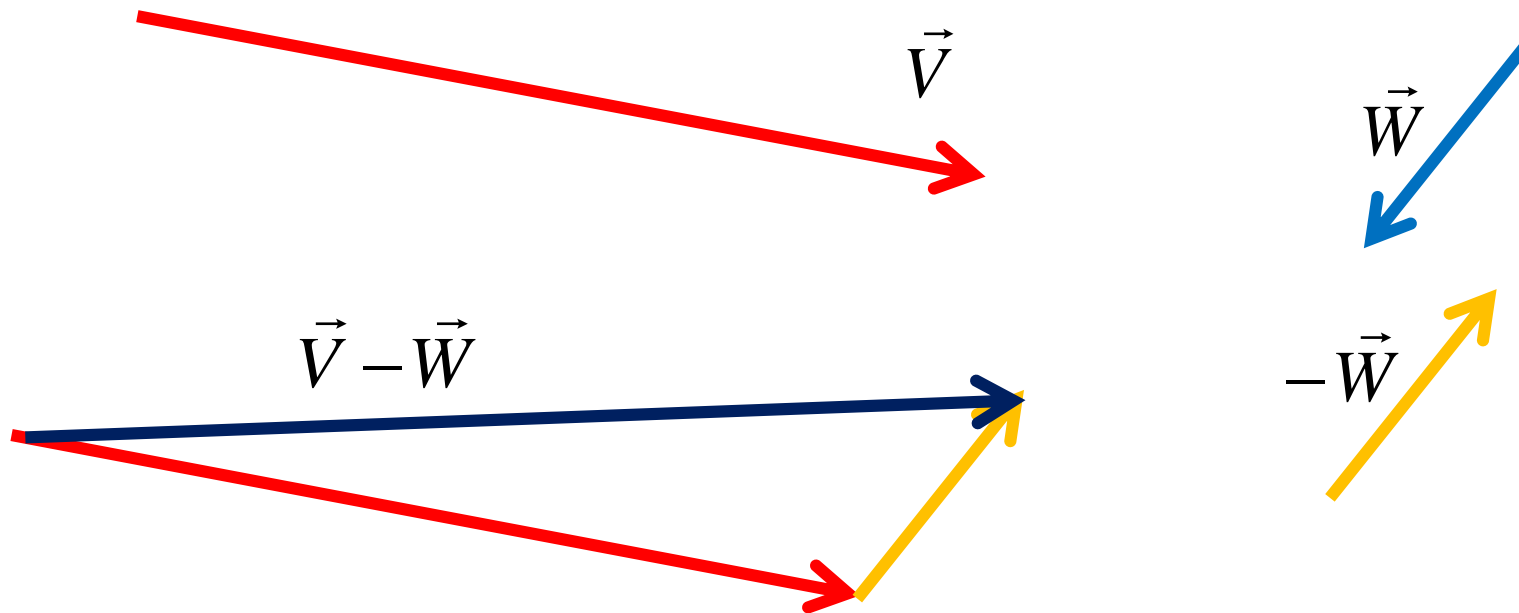
Point Math

- Point addition is *meaningless*
 - Geometrically, you can't / won't add two points
- Point + Vector = Move something in a given direction
 - Very useful!
 - Ex:
 - You are floating in the ocean at position \vec{p}
 - A strong current with direction \vec{c} pushes you
 - Your final location is $\vec{q} = \vec{p} + \vec{c}$



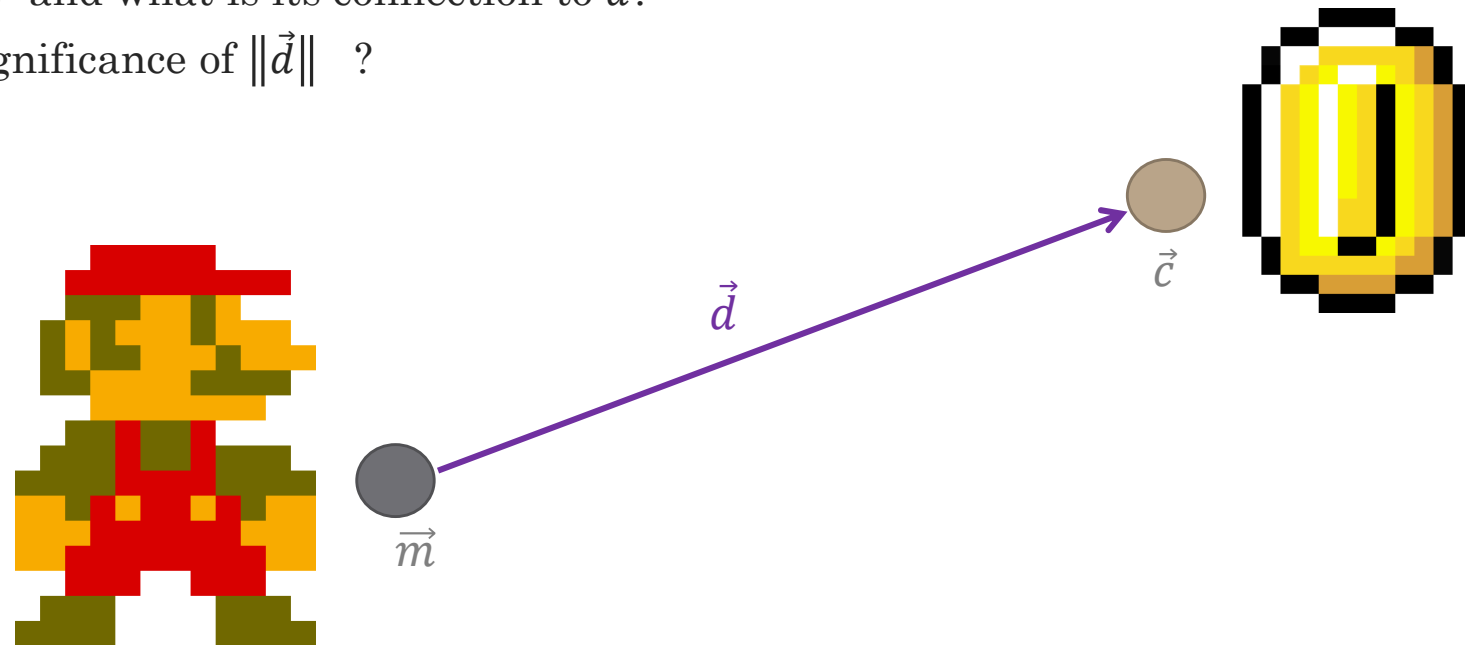
Vector Subtraction

- Remember, $V - W$ is the same as $V + (-W)$
- So...geometrically:



Point Subtraction

- $A - B$: Produces the vector *direction* to go from B to A
 - Remember: “destination” – “start”
- E.g.
 - $\vec{d} = \vec{c} - \vec{m}$
 - What is $\vec{m} - \vec{c}$ and what is its connection to \vec{d} ?
 - What's the significance of $\|\vec{d}\|$?



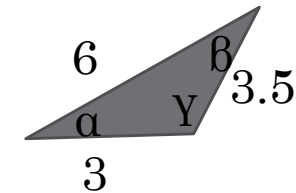
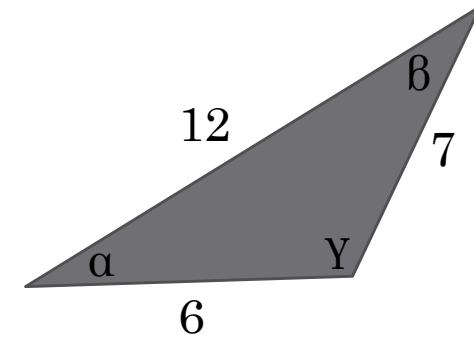
Zero Vector (2.3.2)

- A property of a vector, not an operation
- **Symbolically:**
 - $\vec{0}$
 - Or $\vec{v} = [0 \ 0 \ 0]$
- **Numerically:** A vector is the zero vector if it has 0's for all its components.
- **Graphically** (hard to draw a picture...):
 - A zero-length **vector** (i.e. no displacement)
 - A **point** at the origin.
- Interesting fact: $\vec{0} + \vec{a} = \vec{a}$
 - Vector additive identity
 - This is another (better) way of making the point – vector connection
 - We're adding the **vector** \vec{a} to the point 0, getting the **point** \vec{a}

Vector normalization(2.9)

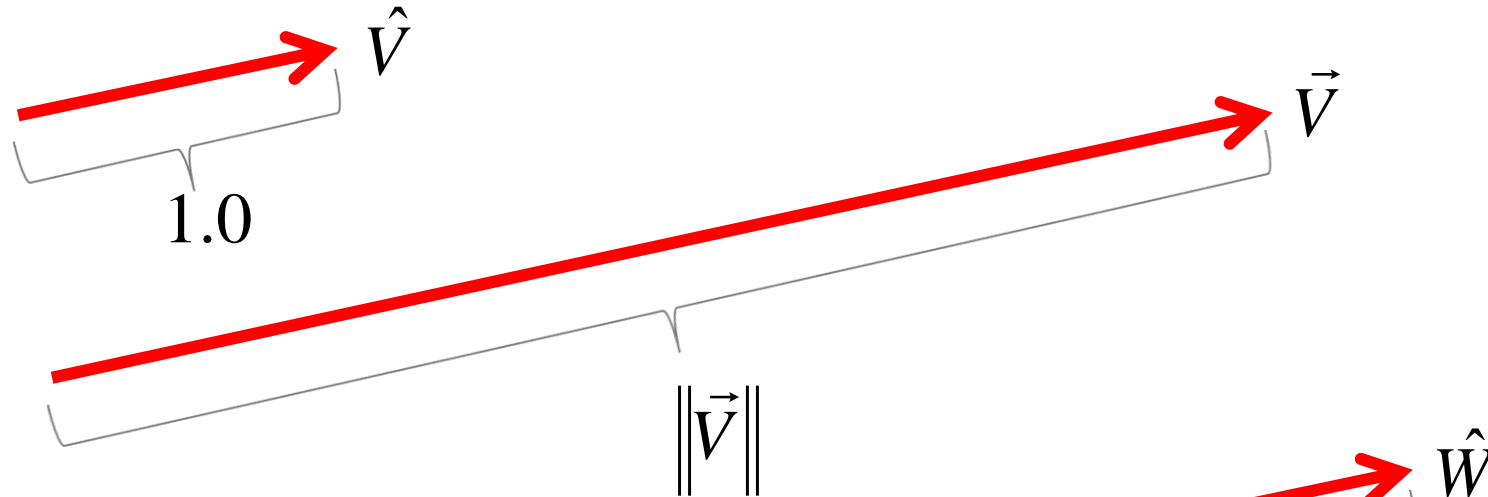
- A vector is **unit length** if it has a magnitude of exactly 1.0.
- Indicated symbolically by: \hat{v}
 - Still a vector, just a *special* type of vector.
 - Nice property: $\|k\hat{v}\| = k$
- **Normalization** is the process of “shrinking” or “growing” an arbitrary vector so that:

- It’s direction is unchanged.
- It’s length becomes 1.0
- **Law of Similar Triangles:** “Two triangles are similar iff the ratio of two sides is the same in both triangles (equivalently: multiply all side-lengths by a constant to produce a similar triangle)”

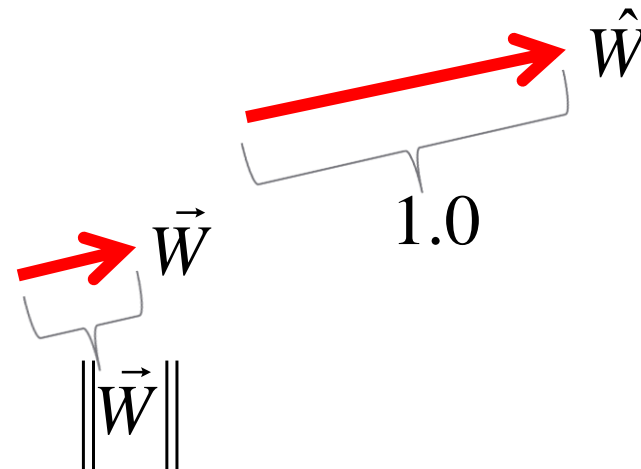


$$\hat{v} = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|}$$

Vector Normalization, cont.



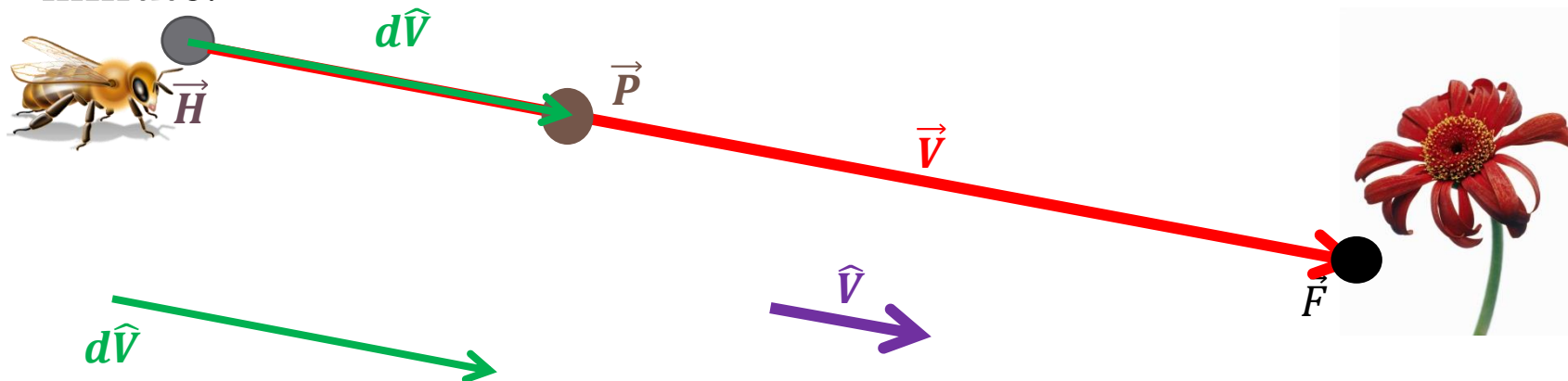
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= [2 \quad 1] \\ \|\vec{v}\| &= \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2} \approx 2.236 \\ \hat{v} &= \frac{[2 \quad 1]}{\|\vec{v}\|} = \left[\frac{2}{2.236} \quad \frac{1}{2.236} \right] \\ &\approx [0.8994 \quad 0.4472] \\ \|\hat{v}\| &\approx \sqrt{0.8944^2 + 0.4472^2} = 0.9997\end{aligned}$$



Quiz-like problem

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \vec{V} &= \vec{F} - \vec{H} \\ \hat{V} &= \frac{\vec{V}}{\|\vec{V}\|} \\ \vec{P} &= d\hat{V} + \vec{H} \end{aligned}$$

- Given:
 - \vec{H} : Honey Bee's position
 - \vec{F} : Flower's position
 - d : the distance the honeybee can travel in 1 minute
- Find (symbolically) \vec{P} , the honey bee's position after 1 minute.
 - You can assume the bee won't be able to reach the flower in 1 minute.



Normalization example, asked Numerically

- Why no numbers?
 - The symbolic solution (algorithm) is *much* more valuable than a number answer.
 - Why? Just substitute *any* number in for the placeholders and get a value!

Symbolic solution

$$\text{Let } \vec{V} = \vec{F} - \vec{H}$$

$$\hat{V} = \frac{\vec{V}}{\|\vec{V}\|}$$

$$\vec{P} = d\hat{V} + \vec{H}$$

- Example:

- $\vec{H} = [500 \quad 300]$: Honey Bee's position
- $\vec{F} = [700 \quad 400]$: Flower's position
- $d = 50$: the distance the honeybee can travel in 1 minute
- Now just plug-and-go

$$\vec{V} = \vec{F} - \vec{H}$$

$$= [700 - 500 \quad 400 - 300]$$

$$= [200 \quad 100]$$

$$\|\vec{V}\| = \sqrt{200^2 + 100^2} \approx 223.6$$

$$\hat{V} = \frac{\vec{V}}{\|\vec{V}\|} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{200}{223.6} & \frac{100}{223.6} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= [0.894 \quad 0.447]$$

$$\vec{P} = d\hat{V} + \vec{H} = 50[0.894 \quad 0.447] + [500 \quad 300]$$
$$= [544.7 \quad 322.35]$$