

Teoria i praktyka programowania gier komputerowych

Linear algebra for games

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Points and systems of coordinates

In geometry, topology and related branches of mathematics a spatial point is a primitive notion upon which other concepts may be defined. In geometry, points are zero-dimensional; i.e., they do not have volume, area, length, or any other higher-dimensional analogue.

Although there are spaces where point can be defined. For example, introducing Cartesian coordinates in Euclidean space a point can be defined as an ordered pair, triplet etc. of real numbers.

However: *One way to think of the Euclidean plane is as a set of points satisfying certain relationships*¹.

- Cartesian coordinates
- cylindrical coordinates
- spherical coordinates

¹In http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euclidean_space 

Left- and right-handed Cartesian coordinate systems

(see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.12)

A 3D vector can be represented by a triple of scalars (x, y, z) , just as a point can be. The distinction between points and vectors is actually quite subtle. Technically, a vector is just an offset relative to some known point. A vector can be moved anywhere in 3D space – as long as its magnitude and direction don't change, it is the same vector.

As a consequence we can say that a vector has no concept of position. This means that two vectors are identical as long as they have the same magnitude (or length) and point in the same direction.

A vector can be used to represent a point, provided that we fix the tail of the vector to the origin of the chosen coordinate system. Such a vector is sometimes called a *position vector* or *radius vector*. We can interpret any triple of scalars as either a point or a vector. One might say that points are **absolute**, while vectors are **relative**.

Vector

Length, unit vectors, and normalization

Important: to know graphical interpretation (see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.5)

Important: to know graphical interpretation (see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.3, 3.4)

- If the dot product between two vectors results in 0, it means they are perpendicular to each other (because $\cos(90) = 0$).
- If the dot product results in 1, it means the vectors are parallel and facing in the same direction
- If the dot product results in -1 means they are parallel and face in the opposite direction.
- If u is a unit vector, then the dot product $v \cdot u$ represents the length of the **projection** of a vector v onto the infinite line defined by the direction of u . (see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.6 (b))

The cross product between two vectors results in a third vector. Given two vectors, there is only a single plane that contains both vectors. The cross product finds a vector that is perpendicular to this plane, which is known as a normal to the plane (see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.8 (a)).

$$w = u \times v = [(u_y v_z - u_z v_y), (u_z v_x - u_x v_z), (u_x v_y - u_y v_x)]$$

To help memorize this formula it's good to notice that

- Each component of w is of the form $u_{s_1} v_{s_2} - u_{s_3} v_{s_4}$, with subscripts s_1, \dots, s_4 .
- Subscripts s_1, \dots, s_4 for the first component takes values from string `xyzzy`.
- Subscripts for the next component takes values from the above string but with letter substituted in the following manner

$$x \rightarrow y \rightarrow z \rightarrow x$$

The magnitude of the cross product $u \times v$ is equal to the area of the parallelogram whose sides are u and v and is equal to

$$|u \times v| = |u||v| \sin(\theta).$$

- An important thing to note is that there is a second vector that is perpendicular to the plane: the vector that points in the **opposite** direction of w . To find which one is correct we have to use the concept of handedness of the coordinate system: in this case right-handed coordinate system. In a right-handed system, you take your right hand and create a 90 angle between your thumb and index finger. Then make a 90 angle between index finger and middle finger. You then line up your index finger with u and your middle finger with v . The direction your thumb points in is the direction the cross product will face. (see [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.8).

- To get a second vector it's enough to flip fingers so index finger lines up with v and middle finger with u .
- $v \times w \neq w \times v$
- $v \times w = -w \times v$
- $v \times (w + y) = (v \times w) + (v \times y)$
- the Cartesian basis vectors are related by cross products as follows

$$\begin{aligned}i \times j &= -(j \times i) = k \\j \times k &= -(k \times j) = i \\k \times i &= -(i \times k) = j\end{aligned}$$

- If the cross product returns a vector where all three components are 0, this means that the two input vectors are collinear (they lie on the same line).
- If the dot product results in 1, it means the vectors are parallel and facing in the same direction
- If the dot product results in -1 means they are parallel and face in the opposite direction.
- If u is a unit vector, then the dot product $v \cdot u$ represents the length of the **projection** of a vector v onto the infinite line defined by the direction of u . (see. [Mad, 2014], Fig. 3.6 (b))

Very often 3D games use 4D vectors. When 4D coordinates are used for a 3D space, they are known as homogenous coordinates, and the fourth component is denoted as the w -component.

In most instances, the w -component will be either 0 or 1.

- If $w = 0$, this means that the homogenous coordinate represents a 3D vector.
- If $w = 1$, this means that the homogenous coordinate represents a 3D point.

Matrix – multiplicaiton

There are three methods (approach) you can think of matrix multiplication.

- From definition.
- Coefficients-vector.
- List of vectors.

Matrix – multiplication – two forms

There are two methods to represent a vector as a matrix: It could be

- a matrix with a single row (so called row-major) or
- a matrix with a single column (so called column-major).

The choice determines the form of the matrix we will use in the future and the order of vector and matrix during multiplication.

Matrix – multiplication for row-major vector

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & a \quad d \quad g \\ x \quad y \quad z & & b \quad e \quad h \\ & & c \quad f \quad i \end{array}$$

Matrix – multiplication for column-major vector

$$\begin{matrix} a & b & c & x \\ d & e & f & y \\ g & h & i & z \end{matrix}$$

- If matrices A and B are transformation matrices, then the product $P = AB$ is another transformation matrix that perform **both** of the original transformations. For example, if A is a scale matrix and B is a rotation, the matrix P would both scale and rotate the points or vectors to which it is applied.
- Matrix multiplication is often called **concatenation**.
- $AB \neq BA$
- $A(B + C) = AB + AC$
- $A(BC) = (AB)C$
- $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$
- $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$

Homogeneous coordinates (Współrzędne jednorodne)

- http://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wsp%C3%B3%C5%82rz%C4%99dne_jednorodne
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homogeneous_coordinates