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5. $\vec{0} \cdot \vec{a} = \underline{\quad}$

Dot products and angles

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Answer:

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Question: What happens when two vectors are orthogonal?

Key idea: Two vectors are orthogonal **if and only if** _____.

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Dot products let you project one vector onto another.

Answers: “How far does vector $\vec{\mathbf{b}}$ go in vector $\vec{\mathbf{a}}$ ’s direction?”

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We see $\frac{|\text{proj}_{\vec{\mathbf{a}}}\vec{\mathbf{b}}|}{|\vec{\mathbf{b}}|} = \cos \theta = \underline{\hspace{2cm}},$

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The unit vector in $\vec{\mathbf{a}}$ ’s direction is $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$

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Therefore

$$\text{proj}_{\vec{\mathbf{a}}}\vec{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{\vec{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{b}}}{|\vec{\mathbf{a}}|} \cdot \frac{\vec{\mathbf{a}}}{|\vec{\mathbf{a}}|} = \frac{\vec{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{b}}}{|\vec{\mathbf{a}}|^2} \vec{\mathbf{a}}$$

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(What do you get?)

Remembering $\langle a_2b_3 - a_3b_2, a_3b_1 - a_1b_3, a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 \rangle$

Use the determinant of a 3×3 matrix.

$$\begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Example. Find $\langle 2, 3, 2 \rangle \times \langle 1, 0, 6 \rangle$, and show that it is \perp to each.

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$$\blacktriangleright \vec{a} \times \vec{a} = \vec{0}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = -\vec{b} \times \vec{a}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \vec{a} \times (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{c}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$$

Proofs by component manipulation

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) =$$

$$= \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle \times (\langle b_1, b_2, b_3 \rangle + \langle c_1, c_2, c_3 \rangle)$$

$$= \langle a_1, a_2, a_3 \rangle \times \langle b_1 + c_1, b_2 + c_2, b_3 + c_3 \rangle$$

$$= \langle a_2(b_3 + c_3) - a_3(b_2 + c_2), a_3(b_1 + c_1) - a_1(b_3 + c_3), a_1(b_2 + c_2) - a_2(b_1 + c_1) \rangle$$

$$= \langle a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2, a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3, a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1 \rangle +$$

$$\langle a_2 c_3 - a_3 c_2, a_3 c_1 - a_1 c_3, a_1 c_2 - a_2 c_1 \rangle$$

$$= \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{c}$$

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$$\langle a_2 c_3 - a_3 c_2, a_3 c_1 - a_1 c_3, a_1 c_2 - a_2 c_1 \rangle$$

$$= \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{c}$$

The quantity $|\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})|$ is called the **scalar triple product**, and calculates the volume of the *parallelepiped* determined by the vectors \vec{a} , \vec{b} , and \vec{c} .

Physics

Application: Work

If a force applied in a direction (vector $\vec{\mathbf{F}}$) causes a displacement in a direction (vector $\vec{\mathbf{D}}$), then the work exerted is $W = \vec{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{D}}$.

Physics

Application: Work

If a force applied in a direction (vector \vec{F}) causes a displacement in a direction (vector \vec{D}), then the work exerted is $W = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{D}$.

Application: Torque

If a force applied in a direction (vector \vec{F}) is applied to a lever, where the radius vector \vec{r} is from the pivot to the place where the force is applied, then a turning force called **torque** $\vec{\tau}$ is generated. A formula is calculated by: $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$