

12.3: The Dot Product

- Using the Dot product in finding the angle between two vectors

If $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$ and $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle$ Then θ between them :-

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + u_3 v_3}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|} \right) \quad \text{The dot product}^*$$

- Using dot product to know whether two vectors are (orthogonal) perpendicular or not
- If $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0 \rightarrow$ Then $\vec{u}$ and $\vec{v}$ are perpendicular

properties

- $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$
 - $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w}$
 - $0 \cdot \vec{u} = 0$
 - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = |\vec{u}|^2$
- How to find θ :- *

Example :

Question 5 page 680 (outline)

$$\vec{v} = 5\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}, \quad \vec{u} = \hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

a) find $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = (0 \times 1) + (5 \times 1) + (-3 \times 1)$
 $= 0 + 5 - 3 = 2$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{25 + 9} = \sqrt{34}$$

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{1 + 1 + 1} = \sqrt{3}$$

b) find $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{34} \sqrt{3}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3 \times 34}} \approx 0.2$

The Rest of the Question (c,d) is in the second page

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Projection

- The vector projection of u onto v is the vector

$$\text{Proj}_v u = \left(\frac{u \cdot v}{|v|^2} \right) v$$

- The scalar component of u in the direction of v is the scalar

$$|u| \cos \theta = \frac{u \cdot v}{|v|} = u \cdot \frac{v}{|v|}$$

How to find projection?

- continue $\rightarrow$ C- The scalar component of u in the direction of v

$$|u| = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{34}}$$

$$\text{so } |u| \cos \theta = \frac{2}{\sqrt{34}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d- } \text{Proj}_v u &= \left(\frac{u \cdot v}{|v|^2} \right) v \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{(\sqrt{34})^2} \right) (5\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}) \\ &= \frac{1}{17} (5\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}) \end{aligned}$$

- Example: Question 33 page 681 (outline)

$$P(2,1) \quad \vec{v} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j}$$

- find the equation of the line that passes through P and is perpendicular to $\vec{v}$

$$\text{slope of } \vec{v} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

$$\text{so slope of the line} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{equation: } y - y_0 &= m(x - x_0) \Rightarrow y - 1 = -\frac{1}{2}(x - 2) \\ &\boxed{y = -\frac{x}{2} + 2} \end{aligned}$$