

Section V.3: Dot Product

Exercise Solutions

Find the dot product $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ of the following vectors.

1. \mathbf{A} has components $A_x = -3, A_y = 6$; \mathbf{B} has components $B_x = -5, B_y = -6$.

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = (-3)(-5) + 6(-6) = 15 - 36 = -21$$

2. \mathbf{A} has components $A_x = 17, A_y = 34$; \mathbf{B} has components $B_x = 16, B_y = -8$.

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 17 \cdot 16 + 34 \cdot (-8) = 0$$

3. $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

4. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{i} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 2$

5. $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = 7\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 19$

6. $\mathbf{A} = 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{i} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 4$

7. $\mathbf{A} = -3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = -8\mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = -16$

8. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

9. $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{k} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

10. $\mathbf{A} = 12\mathbf{i} - 9\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 67$

11. $\mathbf{A} = 3$ units at $45^\circ, \mathbf{B} = 4$ units at $210^\circ \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 12 \cos(210^\circ - 45^\circ) = -11.6$

12. $\mathbf{A} = 4.5$ units at $-15^\circ, \mathbf{B} = 10$ units at $345^\circ \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 45$

13. $\mathbf{A} = 2$ units at $-60^\circ, \mathbf{B} = -3\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i} - \sqrt{3}\mathbf{j}; \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = -3 + 3\sqrt{3}$

14. $\mathbf{A} = 7\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{B} = 4$ units at $150^\circ \qquad \mathbf{B} = -2\sqrt{3}\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} \qquad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = -14\sqrt{3}$

or $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 28 \cos 150^\circ = -14\sqrt{3}$

Calculate the magnitude of the following vectors using the dot product.

15. \mathbf{A} has components $A_x = -3, A_y = 6 \qquad A = 3\sqrt{5}$

16. \mathbf{B} has components $B_x = 16, B_y = -8. \qquad B = 8\sqrt{5}$

17. $\mathbf{A} = 7\mathbf{i} - 24\mathbf{j} \qquad A = 25$

18. $\mathbf{D} = 5\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}$

$D = \sqrt{89}$

19. $\mathbf{F} = -8\mathbf{i} - 12\mathbf{j}$

$F = 4\sqrt{13}$

20. $\mathbf{W} = 15\mathbf{i} - 8\mathbf{j}$

$W = 17$

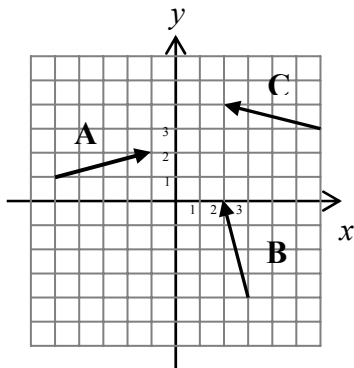
21. $\mathbf{N} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$

$N = \sqrt{14}$

22. $\mathbf{A} = 12\mathbf{i} - 9\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k}$

$A = 5\sqrt{13}$

23. Using the vectors in the diagram below, calculate $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$, $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C}$, and $\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C}$.



$\mathbf{A} = 4\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$

$\mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$

$\mathbf{C} = -4\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$

$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C} = -15$

$\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C} = 8$

Are the following pairs of vectors perpendicular? Use the dot product to determine your answer.

24. \mathbf{A} has components $A_x = 4, A_y = 7$; \mathbf{B} has components $B_x = -7, B_y = -4$. **No**

25. $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = 7\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j}$ **No**

26. $\mathbf{A} = 5\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = 5\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}$ **No**

27. $\mathbf{A} = 5\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = 3\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j}$ **Yes**

28. $\mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = 7\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ **No**

29. $\mathbf{A} = 5\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = -2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ **Yes**

30. Using your answer for # 23, are any of these pairs of vectors perpendicular?
A and B

Find the angle between each pair of vectors.

$$31. \mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} \quad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = AB \cos \theta \therefore \cos \theta = \frac{A_x B_x + A_y B_y}{AB}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}}, \theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}}\right) = 81.9^\circ$$

$$32. \mathbf{A} = 3\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{B} = 7\mathbf{i} - 6\mathbf{j} \quad \theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{\sqrt{85}}\right) = 40.6^\circ$$

$$33. \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k} \quad \theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{-2}{\sqrt{42}} = 108^\circ$$

$$34. \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k} \quad \theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-1}{2}\right) = 120^\circ$$

$$35. \mathbf{A} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{B} = -6\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k} \quad \theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{-42}{42} = 180^\circ$$