

# 14-2 The Scalar (Dot) Product in 3D

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- 3 - N10/5/MAT

4. [Maximum mark: 13]

Solve the differential equation

$$(x-1)\frac{dy}{dx} + xy = (x-1)e^{-x}$$

given that  $y=1$  when  $x=0$ . Give your answer in the form  $y=f(x)$ .

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4. writing the differential equation in standard form gives

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{x}{x-1}y = e^{-x} \quad \text{MI}$$

$$\int \frac{x}{x-1} dx = \int \left(1 + \frac{1}{x-1}\right) dx = x + \ln(x-1) \quad \text{MLAI}$$

hence integrating factor is  $e^{\int \frac{x}{x-1} dx} = (x-1)e^x$  MLAI

hence,  $(x-1)e^x \frac{dy}{dx} + xe^x y = (x-1)e^x$  (AI)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d[(x-1)e^x y]}{dx} = x-1 \quad \text{(AI)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-1)e^x y = \int (x-1) dx \quad \text{AI}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-1)e^x y = \frac{x^2}{2} - x + c \quad \text{AI}$$

substituting  $(0, 1)$ ,  $c = -1$  (MI)AI

$$\Rightarrow (x-1)e^x y = \frac{x^2 - 2x - 2}{2} \quad \text{(AI)}$$

hence,  $y = \frac{x^2 - 2x - 2}{2(x-1)e^x}$  (or equivalent) AI

[13 marks]

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Let  $\vec{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$ ,

then  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = u_1 \cdot v_1 + u_2 \cdot v_2 + u_3 \cdot v_3$

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

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### Special Cases

- If  $\theta = 0$ , then
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \theta$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos 0$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot 1$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}|$
- If  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , then
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \theta$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot 0$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$
- If  $\theta = \pi$ , then
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \theta$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \pi$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot -1$
  - $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = -|\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}|$

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### Special Cases Of Dot Products

If  $\theta = 0$ , then

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

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos 0^\circ$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}|$$

This is the largest possible value of the dot product.

If  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , then

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

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot 0$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$\vec{u} \perp \vec{v}$

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If  $\theta = \pi$ , then

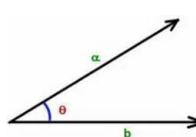
$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \theta$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cos \pi$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}| \cdot -1$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = -|\vec{u}| \cdot |\vec{v}|$$

This is the smallest possible value of the dot product.



$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| \cdot |\vec{b}| \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| \cdot |\vec{b}|}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| \cdot |\vec{b}|} \right)$$

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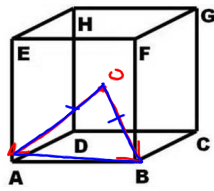
Ex1. Find the angle between  $\vec{a} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$  and  $\vec{b} = -2\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$

$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{14} \quad |\vec{b}| = \sqrt{30}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{-6 + 5 - 2}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{30}} \right) = 98.4^\circ$$

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Ex2. Consider the unit cube ABCDEFGH. Let O be the point where the 4 diagonals meet.



$$|\vec{AB}| = \sqrt{1} = 1$$

$$|\vec{AF}| = \sqrt{2}$$

$$|\vec{AG}| = \sqrt{3}$$

$$|\vec{OA}| = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3}$$

$$\vec{OA} \cdot \vec{OB} =$$

$$\angle AOB = 70.5^\circ$$

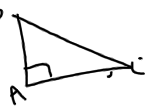
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Ex3. A(4,5,-2), B(7,9,-3), C(6,4,0). Show that  $\triangle ABC$  is a right triangle and find its area.

$$\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{CA} = -6 + 4 + 2 = 0$$

$$\vec{AB} = \langle 3, 4, -1 \rangle$$

$$\vec{BC} = \langle -1, -5, 3 \rangle$$

$$\vec{CA} = \langle -2, 1, -2 \rangle$$


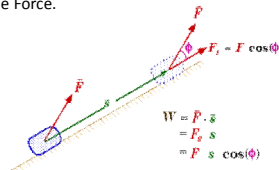
$$A = \frac{1}{2} (\sqrt{9+16+1}) (\sqrt{4+1+4}) \sin 90^\circ$$

$$A = \frac{3\sqrt{26}}{2}$$

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### Work

When a force acts to move an object, we say that Work was done on the object by the Force.



$$W = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{s}$$

$$= F_x s_x + F_y s_y + F_z s_z$$

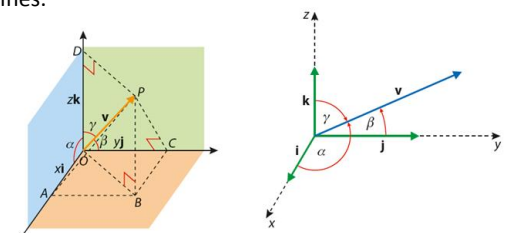
$$= F s \cos(\phi)$$

$\vec{F}_s$  = Force vector applied to the object/system.  
 $\vec{F}$  = Component of Force in the direction of movement.  
 $\vec{s}$  = Displacement vector.  
 $s$  = Distance the system is displaced.  
 $\phi$  = Angle between the displacement and the force.

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### Direction Cosines

The angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  that the vector makes with the unit coordinate vectors are called direction angles of  $\vec{v}$ .  $\cos \alpha$ ,  $\cos \beta$ , and  $\cos \gamma$  are called the direction cosines.



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Remember from basic triangle trig:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \Leftrightarrow \text{adjacent} = \text{hypotenuse} \cdot \cos \theta$$

So, in this case, we have:

$$x = |v| \cos \alpha, y = |v| \cos \beta, z = |v| \cos \gamma, \text{ and so}$$

$$v = (|v| \cos \alpha) i + (|v| \cos \beta) j + (|v| \cos \gamma) k = |v|(\cos \alpha i + \cos \beta j + \cos \gamma k).$$

Taking the magnitude of both sides, we have:

$$|v| = |v| \sqrt{\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma}.$$

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Therefore,  
 $\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma = 1$ , i.e. the sum of the squares of the direction cosines is always 1.  
 For a unit vector, the expression will be of the form

$$u = |u|(\cos \alpha i + \cos \beta j + \cos \gamma k) = \cos \alpha i + \cos \beta j + \cos \gamma k \quad (|u| = 1).$$

This means that for a unit vector its x-, y- and z-coordinates are its direction cosines.

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Ex4. Find the direction cosines for the vector  $v = 12i - 5j + 13k$  and then approximate the direction angles to the nearest degree.

Ex) find direction cosines for  $\vec{v} = 12i - 5j + 13k$  and then approximate the direction angles to the nearest degree.

$$\frac{12i - 5j + 13k}{\sqrt{144 + 25 + 169}} = \frac{12}{\sqrt{338}} i - \frac{5}{\sqrt{338}} j + \frac{13}{\sqrt{338}} k$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{12}{\sqrt{338}}, \alpha \approx 49^\circ$$

$$\cos \beta = \frac{-5}{\sqrt{338}}, \beta \approx 106^\circ$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{13}{\sqrt{338}}, \gamma \approx 45^\circ$$

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