

**Learning Goal:** I will be able to perform a dot product on two vectors.

**Minds On:** What do you think...?

**Action:** 1. Note  
2. Practice on page 377

**Consolidation:** Exit Question

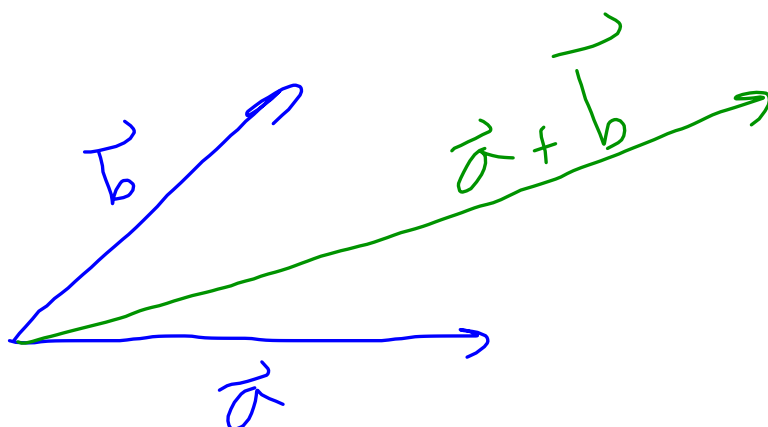
## Minds On

# Multiplying Vectors

You should be pretty familiar with adding and subtracting vectors, but what about multiplying??

What does multiplying vectors mean to you?

Brainstorm using word, pictures, etc.



**Minds On**

# cos $\theta$

What do you know about  $\cos \theta$  for various values of  $\theta$ ?

Think of possible angle values in a triangle.  
Let's not go above  $180^\circ$ .

$$\textcircled{4} \cos 90^\circ = 0$$

$$\textcircled{1} \cos 0^\circ = 1$$

$$\textcircled{2} \cos 45^\circ = 0.7071$$

$$\textcircled{7} \cos 180^\circ = -1$$

$$\textcircled{5} \cos 120^\circ = -0.5$$

$$\textcircled{3} \cos 60^\circ = 0.5$$

$$\textcircled{6} \cos 135^\circ = -0.7071$$

$$\sin 90^\circ = 1$$

$$\sin 0^\circ = 0$$

$$\sin 45^\circ = 0.7071$$

$$\sin 120^\circ = 0.8660$$

$$\sin 60^\circ = 0.8660$$

$$\sin 135^\circ = 0.7071$$

## Action

### 7.3 Dot Product

The dot product of two vectors deals specifically with geometric vectors (vectors that do not have a coordinate system associated with them). The dot product between two geometric vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is a **scalar quantity** defined as  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}||\vec{b}|\cos\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is the angle between the two vectors. The vectors must be placed tail-to-tail when calculating the dot-product. The dot product is only calculated for vectors when the angle between the vectors is between  $0^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ .

## Action

- If  $\theta < 90^\circ$ , then  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} > 0$
- If  $\theta = 90^\circ$ , then  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$
- If  $90^\circ < \theta \leq 180^\circ$ , then  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} < 0$
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}$  (commutative property)
- $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})$  (distributive property)
- $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = |\vec{a}|^2$  (magnitudes property)
- $\vec{i} \cdot \vec{i} = 1, \vec{j} \cdot \vec{j} = 1$  and  $\vec{k} \cdot \vec{k} = 1$
- $(k\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{a} \cdot (k\vec{b}) = k(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})$  (associative property with a scalar)

based on  $\cos \theta$

$$|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta + |\vec{a}| |\vec{c}| \cos \alpha$$

**Action**

**Example 1:** Two vectors,  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ , are placed tail to tail and have magnitudes 3 and 5, respectively. There is an angle of  $120^\circ$  between the vectors. Calculate  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} &= |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta \\ &= (3)(5) \cos 120^\circ \\ &= 15 \cos 120^\circ \\ &= -7.5\end{aligned}$$

**Action**

Example 2: a) If  $|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{7}$ , calculate  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}$ .

b) Calculate  $\vec{i} \cdot \vec{i}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} &= |\vec{a}| |\vec{a}| \cos \theta \\ &= (\sqrt{7})(\sqrt{7}) \cos 0^\circ \\ &= 7(1) \\ &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \vec{i} \cdot \vec{i} &= |\vec{i}| |\vec{i}| \cos \theta \\ &= (1)(1) \cos 0^\circ \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$



**Action**

**Example 3:** If the vectors  $\vec{a} + 3\vec{b}$  and  $4\vec{a} - \vec{b}$  are perpendicular, and  $|\vec{a}| = 2|\vec{b}|$ , determine the angle (to the nearest degree) between the nonzero vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

$$(\vec{a} + 3\vec{b}) \cdot (4\vec{a} - \vec{b}) = 0$$

$$0 = \vec{a} \cdot 4\vec{a} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) + 12(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) - (3\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b})$$

$$0 = 4|\vec{a}|^2 - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) + 12(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) - 3|\vec{b}|^2$$

$$0 = 4|\vec{a}|^2 + 11(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) - 3|\vec{b}|^2$$

$$0 = 4|\vec{a}|^2 + 11(|\vec{a}||\vec{b}|\cos\theta) - 3|\vec{b}|^2$$

$$0 = 4(2|\vec{b}|)^2 + 11((2|\vec{b}|)|\vec{b}|\cos\theta) - 3|\vec{b}|^2$$

$$0 = 16|\vec{b}|^2 + 11(2|\vec{b}|^2 \cos\theta) - 3|\vec{b}|^2$$

$$0 = 13|\vec{b}|^2 + 22|\vec{b}|^2 \cos\theta$$

$$-13|\vec{b}|^2 = 22|\vec{b}|^2 \cos\theta$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{-13}{22}$$

$$\theta \doteq 126.2^\circ$$

**Action**

**Example 4:** If  $|\vec{x} + \vec{y}| = |\vec{x} - \vec{y}|$ , prove that the nonzero vectors,  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{y}$ , are perpendicular

prove  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = 0$

~~$$\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = 0$$

$$|\vec{x}||\vec{y}|\cos\theta = 0$$

$$|\vec{x}||\vec{y}|\cos 90^\circ = 0$$

$$|\vec{x}||\vec{y}|(0) = 0$$

$$0 = 0$$~~

$$|\vec{x} + \vec{y}|^2 = |\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^2$$
~~$$|\vec{x} + \vec{y}| - |\vec{x} - \vec{y}| = 0$$

$$|\vec{x} + \vec{y}||\vec{x} + \vec{y}| = |\vec{x} - \vec{y}||\vec{x} - \vec{y}|$$~~

$|\vec{x}|^2 = \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}$

$(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \cdot (\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = (\vec{x} - \vec{y}) \cdot (\vec{x} - \vec{y})$

$$(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}) + (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) + (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) + (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{y}) = (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}) - (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) - (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}) + (\vec{y} \cdot \vec{y})$$
~~$$|\vec{x}|^2 + 2(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) + |\vec{y}|^2 = |\vec{x}|^2 - 2(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) + |\vec{y}|^2$$~~

$$\frac{4(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y})}{4} = \frac{0}{4}$$

$$\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = 0$$

Q.E.D.

$$(j + d)(c + e)$$

