

Name: Answer Key Date: 11/17/25

Session 15

Dot product reminders!!!

If you have $\vec{a} = \langle a_1, a_2 \rangle$ and $\vec{b} = \langle b_1, b_2 \rangle$,

then your formula is

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = (a_1 b_1) + (a_2 b_2)$$

Your answer should just
be a number, not a
vector!

If you have an angle between $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{b}$, then

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

If $\vec{a}$ and $\vec{b}$ are perpendicular (orthogonal),
then and only then,

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

↑
regular
zero

properties of dot product

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

$$(c\vec{u}) \cdot \vec{v} = c(\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}) = \vec{u} \cdot (c\vec{v})$$

$$(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{w} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} \quad |\vec{u}|^2 = \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}$$

1. Determine the Dot product of the two vectors and the angle between them!

$$\vec{a} = 3i + 4j$$

↓

$$\vec{a} = \langle 3, 4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{b} = 5i - 2j$$

↓

$$\vec{b} = \langle 5, -2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = (3 \cdot 5) + (4 \cdot -2)$$

$$15 + (-8) \rightarrow \textcircled{7}$$

$$|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{25} = 5$$

$$|\vec{b}| = \sqrt{5^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{29} = \sqrt{29}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|} \rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{7}{5 \cdot \sqrt{29}} \rightarrow \cos \theta = 0.2599734$$

$$\cos^{-1}(0.2599734) = \theta$$

$$\theta = 74.93^\circ$$

make sure your calculator is in deg. mode!

2. A forklift moves 34 m, carrying a 1032 N box across the floor. How much work is being done by the forklift?

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

$$\vec{F} = \langle 1032, 0 \rangle$$

We have no force or distance working in the y-direction

$$\vec{d} = \langle 34, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{F} \cdot \vec{d} = (1032 \cdot 34) + (0 \cdot 0)$$

↓

$$35,088 \text{ J}$$

J is N·m
both are used to
lb-ft

Still force • distance, just different quantities

partial fraction decomposition

3. Write the form of the partial fraction decomposition. Do not determine the numerical value of the coefficients

a) $\frac{1}{(x-1)(x+2)}$

$$\frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{x+2}$$

b) $\frac{x^2 - 3x + 5}{(x-2)^2(x+4)}$

$$\frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{B}{(x-2)^2} + \frac{C}{x+4}$$

c) $\frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 2}{(x^2+1)(x^2+2)}$

$$\frac{Ax+B}{x^2+1} + \frac{Cx+D}{x^2+2}$$

4. Write the form of the partial fraction decomposition. Now, determine the values of the coefficients

a) $\frac{2}{(x-1)(x+1)}$

$$\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{1}{x+1}$$

$$A=1$$

$$\frac{\cancel{(x-1)}\cancel{(x+1)} \cdot 2}{1 \cdot \cancel{(x-1)}\cancel{(x+1)}} = \frac{A}{x-1} + \frac{B}{x+1} \cdot \frac{\cancel{(x-1)}\cancel{(x+1)}}{1}$$

$$2 = A(x+1) + B(x-1)$$

$$2 = A(1+1) + B(1-1)$$

$x=1$ $x=-1$
 ← plugging in
 / A we just found
 $2 = 1(-1+1) + B(-1-1)$

$$\frac{2 = A(2)}{2} \quad A=1$$

$$\frac{2 = B(-2)}{-2} \quad B=-1$$

b) $\frac{x+14}{x^2-2x-8}$

↙ factor first

$$\frac{3}{x-4} - \frac{2}{x+2}$$

$$(x-4)(x+2)$$

(if you're ever unsure,
foil your guess)

$$\frac{\cancel{(x-4)}\cancel{(x+2)}}{1} \cdot \frac{x+14}{\cancel{(x-4)}\cancel{(x+2)}} = \frac{A}{x-4} + \frac{B}{x+2} \cdot \frac{\cancel{(x-4)}\cancel{(x+2)}}{1}$$

$$x+14 = A(x+2) + B(x-4) \quad \text{lets try } x=4$$

$$4+14 = A(4+2) + B(4-4)$$

now lets try $x=-2$

$$\frac{18 = A(6)}{6} \quad A=3$$

$$\begin{aligned} -2+14 &= 3(-2+2) + B(-2-4) \\ 12 &= B(-6) \\ \frac{12 = B(-6)}{-6} &\quad B=-2 \end{aligned}$$

Extra paper!!