

1.2-Dot Product

Definitions:

The *dot product* of the vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} is given by

Derivation of the Computational Formula:

Properties of the Dot Product-

From the definition of the dot product, it follows that the angle between 2 vectors is given by

\mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are *orthogonal* if and only if

Scalar and Vector Projections-

Work-

Examples:

Find $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$:

if $\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, -1 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{b} = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$

in the figure given in class

Find the angle between the vectors $\langle 1, 2 \rangle$ and $6\mathbf{i} - 8\mathbf{j}$.

Find x such that $\mathbf{a} = \langle x, 1 \rangle \perp \mathbf{b} = \langle 4 + x, 3 \rangle$

If $\mathbf{a} = \langle 4, 5 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{b} = \langle 1, -2 \rangle$, find the scalar and vector projection of \mathbf{b} onto \mathbf{a}

A 10 kg block slides down a ramp which is 5 m tall and 3 m horizontal. Find the work done by gravity if the block slides (friction-free) all the way down the ramp.