

Topic: Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

Question: Use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to say which vector set is linearly independent.

Answer choices:

A $\vec{u} = (2, 5)$ and $\vec{v} = (-6, -15)$

B $\vec{u} = (-3, 1)$ and $\vec{v} = (9, -3)$

C $\vec{u} = (1, -4)$ and $\vec{v} = (-2, 8)$

D $\vec{u} = (6, 2)$ and $\vec{v} = (-5, 1)$



Solution: D

Let's plug each answer choice into the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

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

If the two sides are equivalent, the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality tells us that the vectors are linearly dependent. If the two sides are unequal, then we know the vectors are linearly independent.

Answer choice A gives

$$|(2)(-6) + (5)(-15)| = \sqrt{2^2 + 5^2} \sqrt{(-6)^2 + (-15)^2}$$

$$|-12 - 75| = \sqrt{4 + 25} \sqrt{36 + 225}$$

$$|-87| = \sqrt{29} \sqrt{261}$$

$$87 = \sqrt{7,569}$$

$$87 = 87$$

Answer choice B gives

$$|(-3)(9) + (1)(-3)| = \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 1^2} \sqrt{9^2 + (-3)^2}$$

$$|-27 - 3| = \sqrt{9 + 1} \sqrt{81 + 9}$$

$$|-30| = \sqrt{10} \sqrt{90}$$

$$30 = \sqrt{900}$$

$$30 = 30$$



Answer choice C gives

$$|(1)(-2) + (-4)(8)| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-4)^2} \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 8^2}$$

$$|-2 - 32| = \sqrt{1 + 16} \sqrt{4 + 64}$$

$$|-34| = \sqrt{17} \sqrt{68}$$

$$34 = \sqrt{1,156}$$

$$34 = 34$$

Answer choice D gives

$$|(6)(-5) + (2)(1)| = \sqrt{6^2 + 2^2} \sqrt{(-5)^2 + 1^2}$$

$$|-30 + 2| = \sqrt{36 + 4} \sqrt{25 + 1}$$

$$|-28| = \sqrt{40} \sqrt{26}$$

$$28 = \sqrt{1,040}$$

$$28 \approx 32.25$$

Because answer choice D is the only vector set where the two sides of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality are unequal, answer choice D is the only linearly independent vector set.



Topic: Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

Question: Use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to say which vector set is linearly independent.

Answer choices:

- A $\vec{u} = (8,6)$ and $\vec{v} = (-4, -3)$
- B $\vec{u} = (-6,5)$ and $\vec{v} = (12, -10)$
- C $\vec{u} = (7,9)$ and $\vec{v} = (14,18)$
- D $\vec{u} = (-5, -5)$ and $\vec{v} = (10, -5)$



Solution: D

Let's plug each answer choice into the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

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

If the two sides are equivalent, the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality tells us that the vectors are linearly dependent. If the two sides are unequal, then we know the vectors are linearly independent.

Answer choice A gives

$$|(8)(-4) + (6)(-3)| = \sqrt{8^2 + 6^2} \sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-3)^2}$$

$$|-32 - 18| = \sqrt{64 + 36} \sqrt{16 + 9}$$

$$|-50| = \sqrt{100} \sqrt{25}$$

$$50 = \sqrt{2,500}$$

$$50 = 50$$

Answer choice B gives

$$|(-6)(12) + (5)(-10)| = \sqrt{(-6)^2 + 5^2} \sqrt{12^2 + (-10)^2}$$

$$|-72 - 50| = \sqrt{36 + 25} \sqrt{144 + 100}$$

$$|-122| = \sqrt{61} \sqrt{244}$$

$$122 = \sqrt{14,884}$$

$$122 = 122$$



Answer choice C gives

$$|(7)(14) + (9)(18)| = \sqrt{7^2 + 9^2} \sqrt{14^2 + 18^2}$$

$$|98 + 162| = \sqrt{49 + 81} \sqrt{196 + 324}$$

$$|260| = \sqrt{130} \sqrt{520}$$

$$260 = \sqrt{67,600}$$

$$260 = 260$$

Answer choice D gives

$$|(-5)(10) + (-5)(-5)| = \sqrt{(-5)^2 + (-5)^2} \sqrt{10^2 + (5)^2}$$

$$|-50 + 25| = \sqrt{25 + 25} \sqrt{100 + 25}$$

$$|-25| = \sqrt{50} \sqrt{125}$$

$$25 = \sqrt{6,250}$$

$$25 \approx 79.06$$

Because answer choice D is the only vector set where the two sides of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality are unequal, answer choice D is the only linearly independent vector set.



Topic: Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

Question: Use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to say which vector set is linearly independent.

Answer choices:

- A $\vec{u} = (3, 2)$ and $\vec{v} = (-12, -8)$
- B $\vec{u} = (6, 5)$ and $\vec{v} = (4, 0)$
- C $\vec{u} = (1, 1)$ and $\vec{v} = (2, 2)$
- D $\vec{u} = (8, -7)$ and $\vec{v} = (-16, 14)$



Solution: B

Let's plug each answer choice into the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

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

If the two sides are equivalent, the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality tells us that the vectors are linearly dependent. If the two sides are unequal, then we know the vectors are linearly independent.

Answer choice A gives

$$|(3)(-12) + (2)(-8)| = \sqrt{3^2 + 2^2} \sqrt{-12^2 + (-8)^2}$$

$$|-36 - 16| = \sqrt{9 + 4} \sqrt{144 + 64}$$

$$|-52| = \sqrt{13} \sqrt{208}$$

$$52 = \sqrt{2,704}$$

$$52 = 52$$

Answer choice B gives

$$|(6)(4) + (5)(0)| = \sqrt{6^2 + 5^2} \sqrt{4^2 + 0^2}$$

$$|24 + 0| = \sqrt{36 + 25} \sqrt{16 + 0}$$

$$|24| = \sqrt{61} \sqrt{16}$$

$$24 = \sqrt{976}$$

$$24 \approx 31.24$$



Because answer choice B is a vector set for which the two sides of the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality are unequal, answer choice B is the only linearly independent vector set.

