

Assignment 2

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Abstract—This PDF contains the solution for Assignment 2 (ICSE Class 12 Maths 2019 Q.15(a))

QUESTION:

If \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are perpendicular vectors, $\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\| = 13$ and $\|\mathbf{a}\| = 5$, find the value of $\|\mathbf{b}\|$.

Solution:

Given:

- (i) \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are perpendicular, $\therefore \theta = 90^\circ$
i.e.,

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos \theta.$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \cos 90^\circ.$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \|\mathbf{a}\| \|\mathbf{b}\| \times 0$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0. \quad (1)$$

(ii)

$$\|\mathbf{a}\| = 5 \quad (2)$$

$$\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\| = 13. \quad (3)$$

Required:

- (i) value of $\|\mathbf{b}\|$.

$$\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\| = \sqrt{\|\mathbf{a}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{b}\|^2 + 2(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})} \quad (4)$$

by substituting (1), (2) and (3) in (4),

$$13 = \sqrt{5^2 + \|\mathbf{b}\|^2 + 0}$$

$$\|\mathbf{b}\| = \sqrt{13^2 - 5^2}.$$

$$\|\mathbf{b}\| = \sqrt{144}.$$

$$\|\mathbf{b}\| = 12.$$

Result:

\therefore , value of $\|\mathbf{b}\| = 12$.