

Copilot

The dot product of two vectors is a way to multiply them to get a scalar (number) result. It's calculated by multiplying the corresponding components of the two vectors and then summing those products. Here's the formula for the dot product of two vectors (\vec{a}) and (\vec{b}):

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3 + \dots + a_nb_n$$

This is algebraically equivalent to multiplying the magnitudes of the two vectors and the cosine of the angle (θ) between them:

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos(\theta)$$

Where:

- ($|\vec{a}|$) and ($|\vec{b}|$) are the magnitudes (lengths) of vectors (\vec{a}) and (\vec{b}) respectively.
- (θ) is the angle between the two vectors.

If you have the components of the vectors, use the first formula. If you have the magnitudes and the angle, use the second formula.