

Assignment 2

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Q15(a) :If \vec{a} and \vec{b} are perpendicular vectors,
 $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = 13$ and $|\vec{a}| = 5$ and find the value of $|\vec{b}|$.

Solution: Given, \vec{a} and \vec{b} are perpendicular vectors
 hence, $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$ Also, $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = 13$ and $|\vec{a}| = 5$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\vec{a} + \vec{b}| &= 13 \\
 |\vec{a} + \vec{b}|^2 &= 169 \\
 |\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} &= 169 \\
 |\vec{b}|^2 &= 169 - 5^2 - 2 \times 0 \\
 \therefore |\vec{b}| &= 12.
 \end{aligned}$$