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Assignment 1

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Abstract—This document explains the properties of a unit vector and how to find out if two vectors are perpendicular, using an example of three mutually perpendicular unit vectors

Download all python codes from

https://github.com/Zeeshan-IITH/IITH-EE5609/new/master/codes

and latex-tikz codes from

https://github.com/Zeeshan-IITH/IITH-EE5609

1 Problem

show that each of the given three vectors is a unit vector

$$\frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 2\\3\\6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 6\\2\\-3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

2 Explanation

A unit vector is a vector of unit magnitude. let

$$A = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, B = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, C = \frac{1}{7} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$||A|| = \frac{1}{7} \sqrt{2^2 + 3^2 + 6^2} = 1 \qquad (4)$$

$$||B|| = \frac{1}{7} \sqrt{3^2 + -6^2 + 2^2} = 1 \qquad (5)$$

$$||C|| = \frac{1}{7} \sqrt{6^2 + 2^2 + -3^2} = 1 \qquad (6)$$

3 Problem

Also show that the three vectors are mutually perpendicular to each other

4 EXPLANATION

When two vectors are perpendicular to each other their dot product is zero.

The dot product of A,B and C with each other is

$$\mathbf{A}^{T}\mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{7} (2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot -6 + 6 \cdot 2) = 0$$
 (7)

$$\mathbf{B}^{T}\mathbf{C} = \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{7} (2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot -6 + 6 \cdot 2) = 0$$
 (8)

$$C^{T}A = \frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{7} (6 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + -3 \cdot 6) = 0$$
 (9)

Hence, the three unit vectors are mutually perpendicular to each other.