

Vector problems (simple) [61 marks]

Let $u = 6i + 3j + 6k$ and $v = 2i + 2j + k$.

1a. Find

[5 marks]

(i)

$$u \bullet v;$$

(ii) $|u|$;

(iii) $|v|$.

Markscheme

(i) correct substitution (A1)

eg $6 \times 2 + 3 \times 2 + 6 \times 1$

$u \bullet v = 24$ A1 N2

(ii) correct substitution into magnitude formula for u or v (A1)

eg $\sqrt{6^2 + 3^2 + 6^2}$, $\sqrt{2^2 + 2^2 + 1^2}$, correct value for $|v|$

$|u| = 9$ A1 N2

(iii) $|v| = 3$ A1 N1

[5 marks]

1b. Find the angle between u and v .

[2 marks]

Markscheme

correct substitution into angle formula (A1)

eg $\frac{24}{9 \times 3}$, 0.8

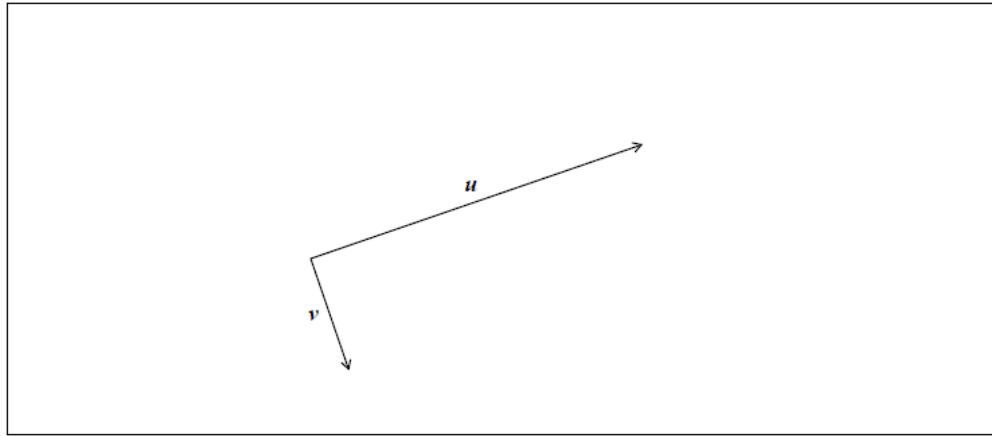
0.475882 , 27.26604° A1 N2

0.476 , 27.3°

[2 marks]

Total [7 marks]

The following diagram shows two perpendicular vectors u and v .

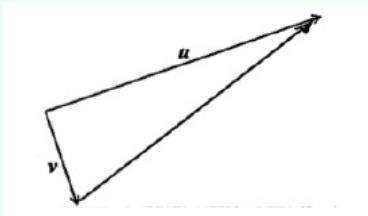


- 2a. Let $w = u - v$. Represent w on the diagram above.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

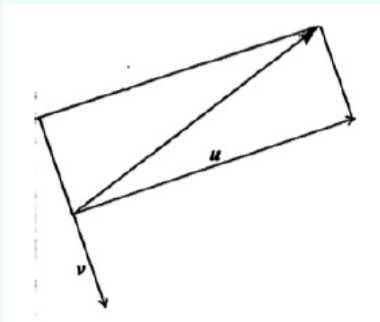
METHOD 1



A1A1 N2

Note: Award **A1** for segment connecting endpoints and **A1** for direction (must see arrow).

METHOD 2



A1A1 N2

Notes: Award **A1** for segment connecting endpoints and **A1** for direction (must see arrow).

Additional lines not required.

[2 marks]

2b. Given that

[4 marks]

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } v = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ n \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where}$$

$n \in \mathbb{Z}$, find n .

Markscheme

evidence of setting scalar product equal to zero (seen anywhere) **R1**

eg u

$\cdot v$

$$= 0, 15 + 2n + 3 = 0$$

correct expression for scalar product **(A1)**

eg

$$3 \times 5 + 2 \times n + 1 \times 3, 2n + 18 = 0$$

attempt to solve equation **(M1)**

eg

$$2n = -18$$

$$n = -9 \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N3}$$

[4 marks]

The vectors $a = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $b = \begin{pmatrix} k+3 \\ k \end{pmatrix}$ are perpendicular to each other.

3a. Find the value of k .

[4 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of scalar product **M1**

eg $a \cdot b, 4(k+3) + 2k$

recognizing scalar product must be zero **(M1)**

eg $a \cdot b = 0, 4k + 12 + 2k = 0$

correct working (must involve combining terms) **(A1)**

eg $6k + 12, 6k = -12$

$$k = -2 \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[4 marks]

3b. Given that $c = a + 2b$, find c .

[3 marks]

Markscheme

attempt to substitute **their** value of k (seen anywhere) **(M1)**

$$\text{eg } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -2+3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, 2\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

correct working **(A1)**

$$\text{eg } \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4+2k+6 \\ 2+2k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[3 marks]

4. Let \mathbf{u} **[7 marks]**
 $= -3\mathbf{j}$
 $+ \mathbf{j}$
 $+ \mathbf{k}$ and \mathbf{v}
 $= m\mathbf{j}$
 $+ n\mathbf{k}$, where $m, n \in \mathbb{R}$. Given that \mathbf{v} is a unit vector perpendicular to \mathbf{u} , find the possible values of m and of n .

Markscheme

correct scalar product **(A1)**

$$\text{eg } m + n$$

setting up their scalar product equal to 0 (seen anywhere) **(M1)**

$$\text{eg } \mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v} = 0, -3(0) + 1(m) + 1(n) = 0, m = -n$$

correct interpretation of unit vector **(A1)**

$$\text{eg } \sqrt{0^2 + m^2 + n^2} = 1, m^2 + n^2 = 1$$

valid attempt to solve their equations (must be in one variable) **M1**

$$\text{eg } (-n)^2 + n^2 = 1, \sqrt{1-n^2} + n = 0, m^2 + (-m)^2 = 1, m - \sqrt{1-m^2} = 0$$

correct working **A1**

$$\text{eg } 2n^2 = 1, 2m^2 = 1, \sqrt{2} = \frac{1}{n}, m = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

both correct pairs **A2 N3**

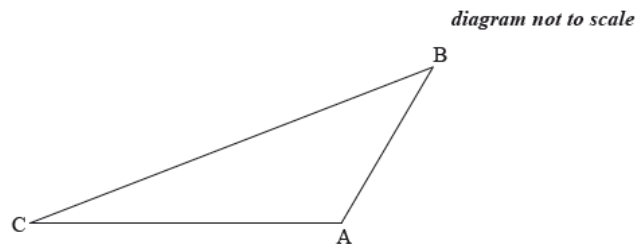
$$\text{eg } m = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } n = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, m = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ and } n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}},$$

$$m = (0.5)^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ and } n = -(0.5)^{\frac{1}{2}}, m = -\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ and } n = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Note: Award **A0** for $m = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, $n = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, or any other answer that does not clearly indicate the correct pairs.

[7 marks]

5. The following diagram shows triangle ABC . **[6 marks]**



Let $\vec{AB} \bullet \vec{AC} = -5\sqrt{3}$ and $|\vec{AB}| |\vec{AC}| = 10$. Find the area of triangle ABC .

Markscheme

attempt to find $\cos \hat{CAB}$ (seen anywhere) **(M1)**

$$eg \cos \theta = \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{AC}}{|\vec{AB}| |\vec{AC}|}$$

$$\cos \hat{CAB} = \frac{-5\sqrt{3}}{10} \quad \left(= -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \quad \mathbf{A1}$$

valid attempt to find $\sin \hat{CAB}$ **(M1)**

eg triangle, Pythagorean identity, $\hat{CAB} = \frac{5\pi}{6}$, 150°

$$\sin \hat{CAB} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \mathbf{(A1)}$$

correct substitution into formula for area **(A1)**

$$eg \frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times \sin \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\text{area} = \frac{10}{4} \quad \left(= \frac{5}{2} \right) \quad \mathbf{A1 \quad N3}$$

[6 marks]

Consider the vectors

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and}$$

$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

6a. (a) Find

[6 marks]

$$(i) \quad 2a + b;$$

$$(ii) \quad |2a + b|.$$

Let

$$2a + b + c = 0, \text{ where}$$

0 is the zero vector.

(b) Find

c .

Markscheme

(a) (i)

$$2a = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\mathbf{A1})$$

correct expression for

$$2a + b \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

eg

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(5, -2),$$

$$5i - 2j$$

(ii) correct substitution into length formula $(\mathbf{A1})$

eg

$$\sqrt{5^2 + 2^2},$$

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

$$|2a + b| = \sqrt{29} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[4 marks]

(b) valid approach $(\mathbf{M1})$

eg

$$c = -(2a + b),$$

$$5 + x = 0,$$

$$-2 + y = 0$$

$$c = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[2 marks]

6b. Find

[4 marks]

(i)

$$2a + b;$$

(ii)

$$|2a + b|.$$

Markscheme

(i)

$$2a = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\mathbf{A1})$$

correct expression for

$$2a + b \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

eg

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(5, -2),$$

$$5i - 2j$$

(ii) correct substitution into length formula $(\mathbf{A1})$

eg

$$\sqrt{5^2 + 2^2},$$

$$\sqrt{5^2 + -2^2}$$

$$|2a + b| = \sqrt{29} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[4 marks]

Let

$$2a + b + c = 0, \text{ where}$$

0 is the zero vector.

6c. Find
 c .

[2 marks]

Markscheme

valid approach $(\mathbf{M1})$

eg

$$c = -(2a + b),$$

$$5 + x = 0,$$

$$-2 + y = 0$$

$$c = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[2 marks]

Note: In this question, distance is in metres and time is in seconds.

Two particles P_1 and P_2 start moving from a point A at the same time, along different straight lines.

$$\text{After } t \text{ seconds, the position of } P_1 \text{ is given by } r = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

7a. Find the coordinates of A.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

recognizing $t = 0$ at A (M1)

A is $(4, -1, 3)$ A1 N2

[2 marks]

Two seconds after leaving A, P_1 is at point B.

7b. Find \overrightarrow{AB} ;

[3 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1

valid approach (M1)

$$\text{eg } \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, (6, 3, -1)$$

correct approach to find \overrightarrow{AB} (A1)

$$\text{eg } \text{AO} + \text{OB}, \text{B} - \text{A}, \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{A1} \quad \text{N2}$$

METHOD 2

recognizing \overrightarrow{AB} is two times the direction vector (M1)

correct working (A1)

$$\text{eg } \overrightarrow{AB} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{A1} \quad \text{N2}$$

[3 marks]

7c. Find $\left| \overrightarrow{AB} \right|$.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

correct substitution (A1)

$$\text{eg } \left| \overrightarrow{AB} \right| = \sqrt{2^2 + 4^2 + 4^2}, \sqrt{4 + 16 + 16}, \sqrt{36}$$

$$\left| \overrightarrow{AB} \right| = 6 \quad \text{A1} \quad \text{N2}$$

[2 marks]

Two seconds after leaving A, P_2 is at point C, where $\vec{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

7d. Find $\cos \hat{BAC}$.

[5 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1 (vector approach)

valid approach involving \vec{AB} and \vec{AC} (M1)

$$\text{eg } \vec{AB} \bullet \vec{AC}, \frac{\vec{BA} \bullet \vec{AC}}{AB \times AC}$$

finding scalar product and $|\vec{AC}|$ (A1)(A1)

scalar product $2(3) + 4(0) - 4(4) (= -10)$

$$|\vec{AC}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 0^2 + 4^2} (= 5)$$

substitution of **their** scalar product and magnitudes into cosine formula (M1)

$$\text{eg } \cos \hat{BAC} = \frac{6+0-16}{6\sqrt{3^2+4^2}}$$

$$\cos \hat{BAC} = -\frac{10}{30} \left(= -\frac{1}{3} \right) \quad \text{A1} \quad \text{N2}$$

METHOD 2 (triangle approach)

valid approach involving cosine rule (M1)

$$\text{eg } \cos \hat{BAC} = \frac{AB^2 + AC^2 - BC^2}{2 \times AB \times AC}$$

finding lengths AC and BC (A1)(A1)

$$AC = 5, BC = 9$$

substitution of **their** lengths into cosine formula (M1)

$$\text{eg } \cos \hat{BAC} = \frac{5^2 + 6^2 - 9^2}{2 \times 5 \times 6}$$

$$\cos \hat{BAC} = -\frac{20}{60} \left(= -\frac{1}{3} \right) \quad \text{A1} \quad \text{N2}$$

[5 marks]

7e. Hence or otherwise, find the distance between P_1 and P_2 two seconds after they leave A.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

Note: Award relevant marks for working seen to find BC in part (c) (if cosine rule used in part (c)).

METHOD 1 (using cosine rule)

recognizing need to find BC (M1)

choosing cosine rule (M1)

$$\text{eg } c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$$

correct substitution into RHS A1

$$\text{eg } BC^2 = (6)^2 + (5)^2 - 2(6)(5) \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right), 36 + 25 + 20$$

distance is 9 A1 N2

METHOD 2 (finding magnitude of \overrightarrow{BC})

recognizing need to find BC (M1)

valid approach (M1)

$$\text{eg attempt to find } \overrightarrow{OB} \text{ or } \overrightarrow{OC}, \overrightarrow{OB} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \overrightarrow{OC} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \overrightarrow{BA} + \overrightarrow{AC}$$

correct working A1

$$\text{eg } \overrightarrow{BC} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \overrightarrow{CB} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}, \sqrt{1^2 + 4^2 + 8^2} = \sqrt{81}$$

distance is 9 A1 N2

METHOD 3 (finding coordinates and using distance formula)

recognizing need to find BC (M1)

valid approach (M1)

eg attempt to find coordinates of B or C, B(6, 3, -1) or C(7, -1, 7)

correct substitution into distance formula A1

$$\text{eg } BC = \sqrt{(6-7)^2 + (3-(-1))^2 + (-1-7)^2}, \sqrt{1^2 + 4^2 + 8^2} = \sqrt{81}$$

distance is 9 A1 N2

[4 marks]