Solution Section 1.2 – Dot Products

Exercise

Find for $\vec{v} = 2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + \sqrt{5}\hat{k}$, $\vec{u} = -2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - \sqrt{5}\hat{k}$

- a) $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$, $|\vec{v}|$, $|\vec{u}|$
- b) The cosine of the angle between \vec{v} and \vec{u}
- c) The scalar component of \vec{u} in the direction of \vec{v}
- d) The vector $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$

a)
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = (2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + \sqrt{5}\hat{k}) \cdot (-2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - \sqrt{5}\hat{k})$$

= $-4 - 16 - 5$
= -25

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-4)^2 + (\sqrt{5})^2}$$
$$= \sqrt{4 + 16 + 5}$$
$$= \sqrt{25}$$
$$= 5$$

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 4^2 + (-\sqrt{5})^2}$$
$$= \sqrt{25}$$
$$= 5$$

b)
$$\cos \theta = \frac{-25}{(5)(5)}$$
 $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$ $= -1$

c)
$$|\vec{u}|\cos\theta = (5)(-1)$$

= -5

d)
$$proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\right)\vec{v}$$

$$= \left(\frac{-25}{5^2}\right)\left(2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + \sqrt{5}\hat{k}\right)$$

$$= -\left(2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + \sqrt{5}\hat{k}\right)$$

$$= -2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - \sqrt{5}\hat{k}$$

Find for
$$\vec{v} = \frac{3}{5}\hat{i} + \frac{4}{5}\hat{k}$$
, $\vec{u} = 5\hat{i} + 12\hat{j}$

- a) $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$, $|\vec{v}|$, $|\vec{u}|$
- b) The cosine of the angle between \vec{v} and \vec{u}
- c) The scalar component of \vec{u} in the direction of \vec{v}
- d) The vector $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$

a)
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\hat{i} + \frac{4}{5}\hat{k}\right) \cdot \left(5\hat{i} + 12\hat{j}\right)$$

= 3

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{9}{25} + \frac{16}{25}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{25}{25}}$$

$$= 1$$

$$\left| \vec{u} \right| = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2}$$
$$= 13$$

$$b) \quad \cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$
$$= \frac{3}{(1)(13)}$$
$$= \frac{3}{13}$$

c)
$$|\vec{u}|\cos\theta = (13)(\frac{3}{13}) = 3$$

d)
$$proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\right)\vec{v}$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{1^2}\right)\left(\frac{3}{5}\hat{i} + \frac{4}{5}\hat{k}\right)$$

$$= \frac{9}{5}\hat{i} + \frac{12}{5}\hat{k}$$

Find for
$$\vec{v} = 2\hat{i} + 10\hat{j} - 11\hat{k}$$
, $\vec{u} = 2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$

- a) $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$, $|\vec{v}|$, $|\vec{u}|$
- b) The cosine of the angle between \vec{v} and \vec{u}
- c) The scalar component of \vec{u} in the direction of \vec{v}
- d) The vector $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$

a)
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = (2\hat{i} + 10\hat{j} - 11\hat{k}) \cdot (2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

$$= 4 + 20 - 11$$

$$= 13$$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 10^2 + (-11)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{4 + 100 + 121}$$

$$= \sqrt{225}$$

$$= 15$$

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2 + 1^2}$$

$$= 3$$

$$b) \cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$
$$= \frac{13}{(3)(15)}$$
$$= \frac{13}{45}$$

c)
$$|\vec{u}| \cos \theta = (3) \left(\frac{13}{45}\right)$$
$$= \frac{13}{15} |$$

d)
$$proj_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\right) \vec{v}$$

= $\left(\frac{13}{15^2}\right) \left(2\hat{i} + 10\hat{j} - 11\hat{k}\right)$
= $\frac{13}{225} \left(2\hat{i} + 10\hat{j} - 11\hat{k}\right)$

Find for
$$\vec{v} = -\hat{i} + \hat{j}$$
, $\vec{u} = 2\hat{i} + \sqrt{17}\hat{j}$

- a) $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$, $|\vec{v}|$, $|\vec{u}|$
- b) The cosine of the angle between \vec{v} and \vec{u}
- c) The scalar component of \vec{u} in the direction of \vec{v}
- d) The vector $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$

a)
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = \left(5\hat{i} + \hat{j}\right) \cdot \left(2\hat{i} + \sqrt{17}\hat{j}\right)$$

$$= 10 + \sqrt{17}$$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{25 + 1}$$

$$= \sqrt{26}$$

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{4 + 17}$$

$$= \sqrt{21}$$

$$b) \quad \cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{10 + \sqrt{17}}{\sqrt{21}\sqrt{26}}$$

$$= \frac{10 + \sqrt{17}}{\sqrt{546}}$$

c)
$$|\vec{u}|\cos\theta = \left(\sqrt{21}\right)\left(\frac{10 + \sqrt{17}}{\sqrt{546}}\right)$$
$$= \frac{10 + \sqrt{17}}{\sqrt{26}}$$

d)
$$proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\right)\vec{v}$$
$$= \left(\frac{10 + \sqrt{17}}{26}\right)\left(5\hat{i} + \hat{j}\right)$$

Find for
$$\vec{v} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$$
, $\vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$

- a) $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}$, $|\vec{v}|$, $|\vec{u}|$
- b) The cosine of the angle between \vec{v} and \vec{u}
- c) The scalar component of \vec{u} in the direction of \vec{v}
- d) The vector $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$

a)
$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\left| \vec{v} \right| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{6}} \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{30}}{6}$$

$$\left| \vec{u} \right| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{6}} \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{30}}{6}$$

$$b) \cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{\sqrt{30}}{6} \frac{\sqrt{30}}{6}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{36}{30}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} |$$

c)
$$|\vec{u}|\cos\theta = \left(\frac{\sqrt{30}}{6}\right)\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)$$

$$=\frac{\sqrt{30}}{30}$$
$$=\frac{1}{\sqrt{30}}$$

d)
$$proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \left(\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2}\right)\vec{v}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{36}{30}\right) \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \left\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right\rangle$$

Find the angles between the vectors $\vec{u} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j}$, $\vec{v} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$

Solution

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2+2+0}{\sqrt{4+1}\sqrt{1+4+1}}\right) \qquad \cos\theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{\sqrt{5}\sqrt{6}}\right)$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{\sqrt{30}}\right)$$

$$\approx 0.84 \ rad \mid$$

Exercise

Find the angles between the vectors $\vec{u} = \sqrt{3}\hat{i} - 7\hat{j}$, $\vec{v} = \sqrt{3}\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{3 - 7 + 0}{\sqrt{3 + 49}\sqrt{3 + 1 + 1}}\right)$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-4}{\sqrt{52}\sqrt{5}}\right)$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{4}{\sqrt{260}}\right)$$

$$\approx 1.82 \ rad$$

Find the angles between the vectors $\vec{u} = \hat{i} + \sqrt{2}\hat{j} - \sqrt{2}\hat{k}$, $\vec{v} = -\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$

Solution

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-1+\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{1+2+2}\sqrt{1+1+1}}\right)$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

$$= \cos^{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{15}}\right)$$

$$\approx 1.83 \ rad$$

Exercise

Consider $\vec{u} = -3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$, $\vec{v} = -4\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$

- a) Find the angle between \vec{u} and \vec{v} .
- b) Compute $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$ and $scal_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$
- c) Compute $proj_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$ and $scal_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$

a)
$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{(-3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}) \cdot (-4\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 5\hat{k})}{\sqrt{9 + 16} \sqrt{16 + 1 + 25}}$$
 $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$
 $= \cos^{-1} \frac{-3 + 20}{\sqrt{25} \sqrt{42}}$
 $= \cos^{-1} \frac{17}{5\sqrt{42}}$
b) $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{17}{42} (-4\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 5\hat{k})$ $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2} \vec{v}$
 $= \frac{17}{42} \langle -4, 1, 5 \rangle$ $\operatorname{scal}_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{17}{42} (-3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k})$ $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2} \vec{u}$
c) $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{17}{25} (-3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k})$ $\operatorname{proj}_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}|^2} \vec{u}$

$$scal_{\vec{u}}\vec{v} = \frac{17}{5}$$

$$scal_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$$

Consider $\vec{u} = -\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$, $\vec{v} = 3\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$

- a) Find the angle between \vec{u} and \vec{v} .
- b) Compute $proj_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$ and $scal_{\vec{v}}\vec{u}$
- c) Compute $proj_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$ and $scal_{\vec{u}}\vec{v}$

a)
$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{\left(-\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}\right) \cdot \left(3\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}\right)}{\sqrt{1 + 4 + 4} \sqrt{9 + 36 + 36}}$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \frac{-3 + 12 + 12}{3(9)}$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \frac{21}{27}$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \frac{7}{9}$$

b)
$$proj_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{21}{81} \langle 3, 6, 6 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{7}{9} \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle$$

$$scal_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{21}{9}$$
$$= \frac{7}{3}$$

c)
$$proj_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{21}{9} \langle -1, 2, 2 \rangle$$

$$=\frac{7}{3}\langle -1, 2, 2\rangle$$

$$scal_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{21}{3}$$
$$= 7$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}| |\vec{v}|}$$

$$proj_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|^2} \vec{v}$$

$$scal_{\vec{v}} \vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$proj_{\vec{u}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}|^2} \vec{u}$$

$$scal_{\vec{v}}\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{v}|}$$

The direction angles α , β , and γ of a vector $\vec{v} = a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k}$ are defined as follows:

is the angle between \vec{v} and the positive x-axis $(0 \le \alpha \le \pi)$

is the angle between \vec{v} and the positive y-axis $(0 \le \beta \le \pi)$

is the angle between \vec{v} and the positive z-axis $(0 \le \gamma \le \pi)$

- a) Show that $\cos \alpha = \frac{a}{|\vec{v}|}$, $\cos \beta = \frac{b}{|\vec{v}|}$, $\cos \gamma = \frac{c}{|\vec{v}|}$, and $\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma = 1$. These cosines are called the direction cosines of \vec{v} .
- b) Show that if $\vec{v} = a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k}$ is a unit vector, then a, b, and c are the direction cosines of \vec{v} .

a)
$$\cos \alpha = \frac{\hat{i} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\hat{i}||\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{\hat{i} \cdot (a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k})}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{a}{|\vec{v}|}$$

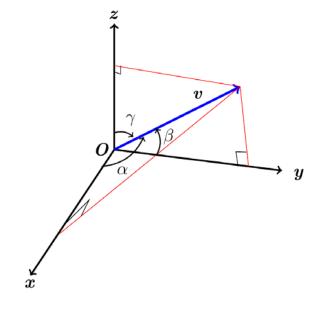
$$\cos \beta = \frac{\hat{j} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\hat{j}||\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{\hat{j} \cdot (a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k})}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{b}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\hat{k} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\hat{k}||\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{\hat{k} \cdot (a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k})}{|\vec{v}|}$$



$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\hat{k} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\hat{k}||\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{\hat{k} \cdot (a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k})}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$= \frac{c}{|\vec{v}|}$$

$$\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma = \left(\frac{a}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{b}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c}{|\vec{v}|}\right)^2$$
$$= \frac{a^2}{|\vec{v}|^2} + \frac{b^2}{|\vec{v}|^2} + \frac{c^2}{|\vec{v}|^2}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{|\vec{v}|^2}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$$

$$= 1$$

b) If $\vec{v} = a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} + c\hat{k}$ is a unit vector $\Rightarrow |\vec{v}| = 1$ $\cos \alpha = \frac{a}{|\vec{v}|} = a, \quad \cos \beta = \frac{b}{|\vec{v}|} = b, \quad \cos \gamma = \frac{c}{|\vec{v}|} = c \text{ are the direction cosines of } \vec{v}.$

Exercise

A water main is to be constructed with 20% grade in the north direction and a 10% grade in the east direction. Determine the angle θ required in the water main for the turn from north to east.

Solution

20% grade in the north direction

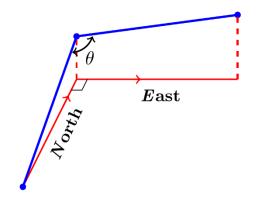
$$z\hat{k} = 20\% x\hat{i} = .2x\hat{i}$$

$$\rightarrow If \ x = 10 \quad z = 2$$

Let $\vec{u} = 10\hat{i} + 2\hat{k}$ be parallel to the pipe in the north direction.

 $\vec{v} = 10\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ be parallel to the pipe in the east direction.

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{0 + 0 + 2}{\sqrt{100 + 4}\sqrt{100 + 1}} \qquad \theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{|\vec{u}||\vec{v}|}$$
$$= \cos^{-1} \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}\sqrt{101}}$$
$$\approx 88.88^{\circ}$$



Exercise

A gun with muzzle velocity of 1200 ft/sec is fired at an angle of 8° above the horizontal. Find the horizontal and vertical components of the velocity.

Solution

Horizontal component: $1200 \cos 8^{\circ} \approx 1188$ ft/s

Vertical component: $1200 \sin 8^{\circ} \approx 167 \ ft/s$

Suppose that a box is being towed up an inclined plane. Find the force *w* needed to make the component of the force parallel to the indicated plane equal to 2.5 *lb*.

Solution

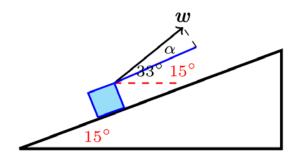
$$2.5 = |w|\cos\alpha$$

$$|\vec{w}| = \frac{2.5}{\cos(33^\circ - 15^\circ)}$$

$$= \frac{2.5}{\cos 18^\circ}$$

$$\vec{w} = \frac{2.5}{\cos 18^\circ} \langle \cos 33^\circ, \sin 33^\circ \rangle$$

$$= \langle 2.205, 1.432 \rangle$$



Exercise

Find the work done by a force $\vec{F} = 5\hat{i}$ (magnitude 5 N) in moving an object along the line from the origin to the point (1, 1) (distance in meters)

Solution

$$P(1, 1) \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OP} = \hat{i} + \hat{j}$$

$$W = F \cdot \overrightarrow{OP}$$

$$= 5\hat{i} \cdot (\hat{i} + \hat{j})$$

$$= 5 J$$

Exercise

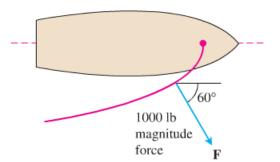
How much work does it take to slide a crate 20 m along a loading dock by pulling on it with a 200 N force at an angle of 30° from the horizontal?

$$W = |F| |\overrightarrow{PQ}| \cos \theta$$
$$= (200)(20) \cos 30^{\circ}$$
$$= 3464.10 \ J$$

The wind passing over a boat's sail exerted a 1000-lb magnitude force F. How much work did the wind perform in moving the boat forward 1 mi? Answer in foot-pounds.

Solution

$$W = |F| |\overline{PQ}| \cos \theta$$
$$= (1000N) \left(1 \, mi \, \frac{5280 \, ft}{1 \, mi} \right) \cos 60^{\circ}$$
$$= 2,640,000 \quad ft \cdot lb$$



Exercise

Use a dot product to find an equation of the line in the xy-plane passing through the point (x_0, y_0) perpendicular to the vector $\langle a, b \rangle$.

Solution

$$\langle x - x_0, y - y_0 \rangle \cdot \langle a, b \rangle = 0$$

$$\underline{a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0)} = 0$$

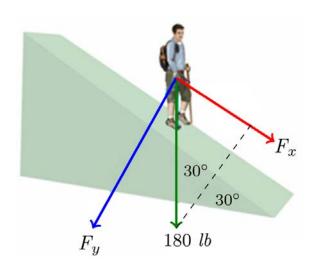
Exercise

A 180-lb man stands on a hillside that makes an angle of 30° with the horizontal, producing a force of $W = \langle 0, -180 \rangle$ lbs.

- *a)* Find the component of his weight in the downward direction perpendicular to the hillside and in the downward parallel to the hillside.
- b) How much work is done when the man moves 10 ft up the hillside?

a)
$$|F_{\perp}| = |F_{y}| = 180 \cos 30^{\circ}$$

 $= 180 \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$
 $= 90\sqrt{3} \ lb$
 $|F_{//}| = |F_{x}| = 180 \sin 30^{\circ}$
 $= 180 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$
 $= 90 \ lb$



b) Work =
$$d \cdot F_x$$

= $10(90)$
= 900 ft-lbs