## DOT PRODUCT

## Today's Objective:

Students will be able to use the vector dot product to:
a) determine an angle between two vectors and,
b) determine the projection of a vector along a specified line.


## In-Class Activities:

- Check Homework
- Reading Quiz
- Applications / Relevance
- Dot product - Definition
- Angle Determination
- Determining the Projection
- Example Problem
- Concept Quiz
- Group Problem Solving
- Attention Quiz


## READING QUIZ

1. The dot product of two vectors $\boldsymbol{P}$ and $Q$ is defined as
A) $P Q \sin \theta$
B) $\mathrm{PQ} \cos \theta$
C) $\mathrm{P} \mathrm{Q} \tan \theta$
D) $P Q \sec \theta$

2. The dot product of two vectors results in a $\qquad$ quantity.
A) Scalar
B) Vector
C) Complex $\quad$ D) Zero

## APPLICATIONS



If you know the physical locations of the four cable ends, how could you calculate the angle between the cables at the common anchor?

## APPLICATIONS (continued)



For the force $\boldsymbol{F}$ applied to the wrench at Point A, what component of it actually helps turn the bolt (i.e., the force component acting perpendicular to $\operatorname{arm} \mathrm{AB}$ of the pipe)?

## DEFINITION



The dot product of vectors $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ is defined as $\boldsymbol{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{B}=\mathrm{A} \mathrm{B} \cos \theta$.
The angle $\theta$ is the smallest angle between the two vectors and is always in a range of $0^{\circ}$ to $180^{\circ}$.

## Dot Product Characteristics:

1. The result of the dot product is a scalar (a positive or negative number).
2. The units of the dot product will be the product of the units of the $\boldsymbol{A}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ vectors.

## DOT PRODUCT DEFINITON (continued)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Examples: } \begin{array}{c}
\text { By definition, } i \bullet j=0 \\
i \bullet i=1 \\
\boldsymbol{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{B}=\left(\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{x}} i+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{y}} j+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{z}} \boldsymbol{k}\right) \cdot\left(\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{x}} i+\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{y}} \boldsymbol{j}+\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{z}} \boldsymbol{k}\right) \\
= \\
=\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{~B}_{\mathrm{x}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{y}} \mathrm{~B}_{\mathrm{y}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{~B}_{\mathrm{z}}
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## USING THE DOT PRODUCT TO DETERMINE THE ANGLE BETWEEN TWO VECTORS



For these two vectors in Cartesian form, one can find the angle by
a) Find the dot product, $A \cdot B=\left(\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{x}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{y}} \mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{y}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{z}}\right)$,
b) Find the magnitudes ( $\mathrm{A} \& \mathrm{~B}$ ) of the vectors $\boldsymbol{A} \& \boldsymbol{B}$, and
c) Use the definition of dot product and solve for $\theta$, i.e.,

$$
\theta=\cos ^{-1}[(\boldsymbol{A} \bullet \boldsymbol{B}) /(\mathrm{A} \mathrm{~B})], \text { where } 0^{\circ} \leq \theta \leq 180^{\circ} .
$$

## DETERMINING THE PROJECTION OF A VECTOR



You can determine the components of a vector parallel and perpendicular to a line using the dot product.

## Steps:

1. Find the unit vector, $u_{a}$ along line aa
2. Find the scalar projection of $A$ along line aa by

$$
\mathrm{A}_{\|}=A \cdot u_{a}=\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{x}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{y}} \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{y}}+\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{z}} \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{z}}
$$

## DETERMINING THE PROJECTION OF A VECTOR (continued)

3. If needed, the projection can be written as a vector, $\boldsymbol{A}_{\|}$, by using the unit vector $u_{a}$ and the magnitude found in step 2.

$$
A_{\|}=\mathrm{A}_{\|} \boldsymbol{u}_{a}
$$

4. The scalar and vector forms of the perpendicular component can easily be obtained by

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{A}_{\perp}= & \left(\mathrm{A}^{2}-\mathrm{A}_{\|}{ }^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} \text { and } \\
\boldsymbol{A}_{\perp}= & \boldsymbol{A}-\boldsymbol{A}_{\|} \\
& \left(\text {rearranging the vector sum of } A=A_{\perp}+A_{\|}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## EXAMPLE I



Given: The force acting on the hook at point A.

Find: The angle between the force vector and the line AO, and the magnitude of the projection of the force along the line AO .

## Plan:

1. Find $r_{A O}$
2. Find the angle $\theta=\cos ^{-1}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{F} \bullet \boldsymbol{r}_{A O}\right) /\left(\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{AO}}\right)\right\}$
3. Find the projection via $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{AO}}=\boldsymbol{F} \bullet \boldsymbol{u}_{A O}$ (or $\left.\mathrm{F} \cos \theta\right)$

## EXAMPLE I (continued)



$$
\begin{aligned}
r_{A O} & =\{-1 i+2 j-2 k\} \mathrm{m} \\
\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{AO}} & =\left\{(-1)^{2}+2^{2}+(-2)^{2}\right\}^{1 / 2}=3 \mathrm{~m} \\
\boldsymbol{F} & =\{-6 i+9 j+3 k\} \mathrm{kN} \\
\mathrm{~F} & =\left\{(-6)^{2}+9^{2}+3^{2}\right\}^{1 / 2}=11.22 \mathrm{kN}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
F \cdot r_{A O}=(-6)(-1)+(9)(2)+(3)(-2)=18 \mathrm{kN} \cdot \mathrm{~m}
$$

$$
\theta=\cos ^{-1}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{F} \bullet \boldsymbol{r}_{A O}\right) /\left(\mathrm{F} \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{AO}}\right)\right\}
$$

$$
\theta=\cos ^{-1}\{18 /(11.22 \times 3)\}=\underline{57.67^{\circ}}
$$

## EXAMPLE I (continued)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u_{A O}=r_{A O} / \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{AO}}=(-1 / 3) \boldsymbol{i}+(2 / 3) \boldsymbol{j}+(-2 / 3) \boldsymbol{k} \\
& \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{AO}}=\boldsymbol{F} \cdot \boldsymbol{u}_{A O}=(-6)(-1 / 3)+(9)(2 / 3)+(3)(-2 / 3)=\underline{6.00 \mathrm{kN}}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\text { Or: } \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{AO}}=\mathrm{F} \cos \theta=11.22 \cos \left(57.67^{\circ}\right)=\underline{6.00 \mathrm{kN}}
$$



## CONCEPT QUIZ

1. If a dot product of two non-zero vectors is 0 , then the two vectors must be $\qquad$ to each other.
A) Parallel (pointing in the same direction)
B) Parallel (pointing in the opposite direction)
C) Perpendicular
D) Cannot be determined.
2. If a dot product of two non-zero vectors equals -1 , then the vectors must be $\qquad$ to each other.
A) Collinear but pointing in the opposite direction
B) Parallel (pointing in the opposite direction)
C) Perpendicular
D) Cannot be determined.

## GROUP PROBLEM SOLVING



> Given: The 300 N force acting on the bracket.

> Find: The magnitude of the projected component of this force acting along line OA

## Plan:

1. Find $r_{O A}$ and $u_{O A}$
2. Find the angle $\theta=\cos ^{-1}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{F} \bullet r_{O A}\right) /\left(\mathrm{F} \times \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{OA}}\right)\right\}$
3. Then find the projection via $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{OA}}=\boldsymbol{F} \bullet \boldsymbol{u}_{O A}$ or $\mathrm{F}(1) \cos \theta$

## GROUP PROBLEM SOLVING (continued)



$$
\begin{aligned}
& r_{O A}=\{-0.450 i+0.300 j+0.260 k\} \mathrm{m} \\
& \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{OA}}=\left\{(-0.450)^{2}+0.300^{2}+0.260^{2}\right\}^{1 / 2}=0.60 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \boldsymbol{u}_{O A}=r_{O A} / \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{OA}}=\{-0.75 i+0.50 j+0.433 k\}
\end{aligned}
$$

## GROUP PROBLEM SOLVING (continued)



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{F}^{\prime}=300 \sin 30^{\circ}=150 \mathrm{~N} \\
& \boldsymbol{F}=\left\{-150 \sin 30^{\circ} i+300 \cos 30^{\circ} j+150 \cos 30^{\circ} k\right\} \mathrm{N} \\
& \boldsymbol{F}=\{-75 i+259.8 j+129.9 k\} \mathrm{N} \\
& \mathrm{~F}=\left\{(-75)^{2}+259.8^{2}+129.9^{2}\right\}^{1 / 2}=300 \mathrm{~N}
\end{aligned}
$$

## GROUP PROBLEM SOLVING (continued)

$$
\begin{aligned}
F \bullet r_{O A} & =(-75)(-0.45)+(259.8)(0.30)+(129.9)(0.26) \\
& =145.5 \mathrm{~N} \cdot \mathrm{~m} \\
\theta & =\cos ^{-1}\left\{\left(\boldsymbol{F} \bullet r_{O A}\right) /\left(\mathrm{F} \times \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{OA}}\right)\right\} \\
\theta & =\cos ^{-1}\{145.5 /(300 \times 0.60)\}=\underline{36.1^{\circ}}
\end{aligned}
$$

The magnitude of the projected component of $\boldsymbol{F}$ along line OA will be

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{OA}} & =F \bullet u_{O A} \\
& =(-75)(-0.75)+(259.8)(0.50)+(129.9)(0.433) \\
& =\underline{242 \mathrm{~N}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Or

$$
\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{OA}}=\mathrm{F} \cos \theta=300 \cos 36.1^{\circ}=\underline{242 \mathrm{~N}}
$$

## ATTENTION QUIZ

1. The dot product can be used to find all of the following except
$\qquad$ .
A) sum of two vectors
B) angle between two vectors
C) component of a vector parallel to another line
D) component of a vector perpendicular to another line
2. Find the dot product of the two vectors $P$ and $Q$.

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
P & =\{5 i+2 j+3 k\} \mathrm{m} \\
Q & =\{-2 i+5 j+4 k\} \mathrm{m} & \\
\begin{array}{lll}
\text { A) }-12 \mathrm{~m} & \text { B) } 12 \mathrm{~m} & \text { C) } 12 \mathrm{~m}^{2} \\
\text { D) }-12 \mathrm{~m}^{2} & \text { E) } 10 \mathrm{~m}^{2} &
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$

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## Vet Learning Continue

