

Caleb McWhorter

1. Let  $\vec{u} = \langle 2, 3, -1 \rangle$  and  $\vec{v} = \langle 4, 1, 3 \rangle$ (a)  $|\vec{u}| = \underline{\quad}$ 

$$|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 3^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{4 + 9 + 1} = \sqrt{14}$$

(b) Compute the dot product  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \underline{\quad}$ 

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 2(4) + 3(1) + (-1)(3) = 8 + 3 - 3 = 8$$

(c) Find the angle between  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$ . (Note: Since you are not using a calculator, you will not be able to get a numerical approximation!)

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

From above,  $|\vec{u}| = \sqrt{14}$ ,  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 8$

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{4^2 + 1^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{16 + 1 + 9} = \sqrt{26}$$

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

$$8 = \sqrt{14} \sqrt{26} \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{8}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{26}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{8}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{26}} \right)$$

2. Let  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  be vectors with  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 2$  and  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} = 7$ .(a)  $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + 3\vec{c}) =$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + 3\vec{c}) &= \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{a} \cdot 3\vec{c} \\ &= \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + 3(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \\ &= 2 + 3(7) \\ &= 23 \end{aligned}$$

(b) For what value of  $k$  is  $k\vec{b} + \vec{c}$  perpendicular to  $\vec{a}$ ?

Recall two vectors  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$  are perpendicular if and only if  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \vec{a} \cdot (k\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \vec{a} \cdot k\vec{b} + \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \\ &= k(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) + \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \\ &= 2k + 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } 2k + 7 &= 0 \\ 2k &= -7 \\ k &= -7/2 \end{aligned}$$