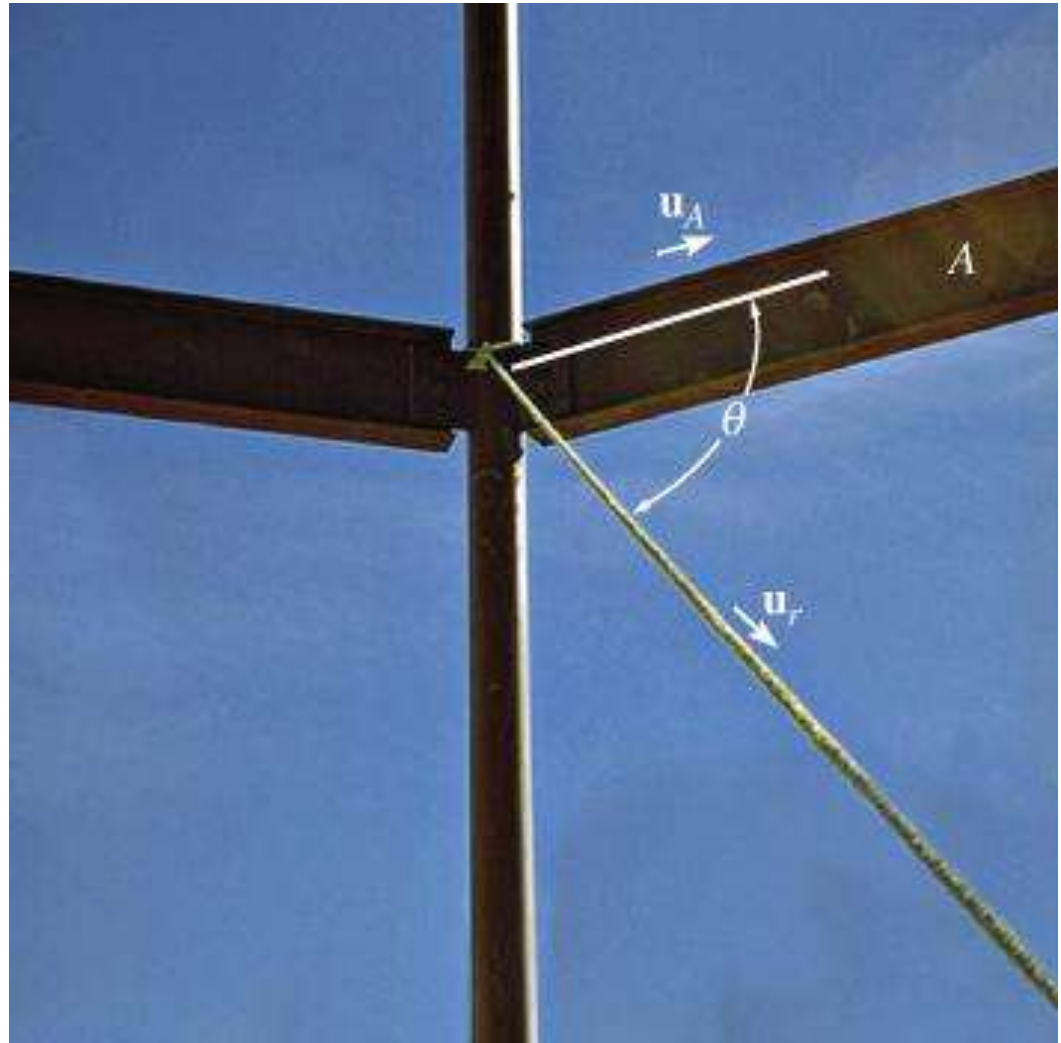


# DOT PRODUCT

## Objective:

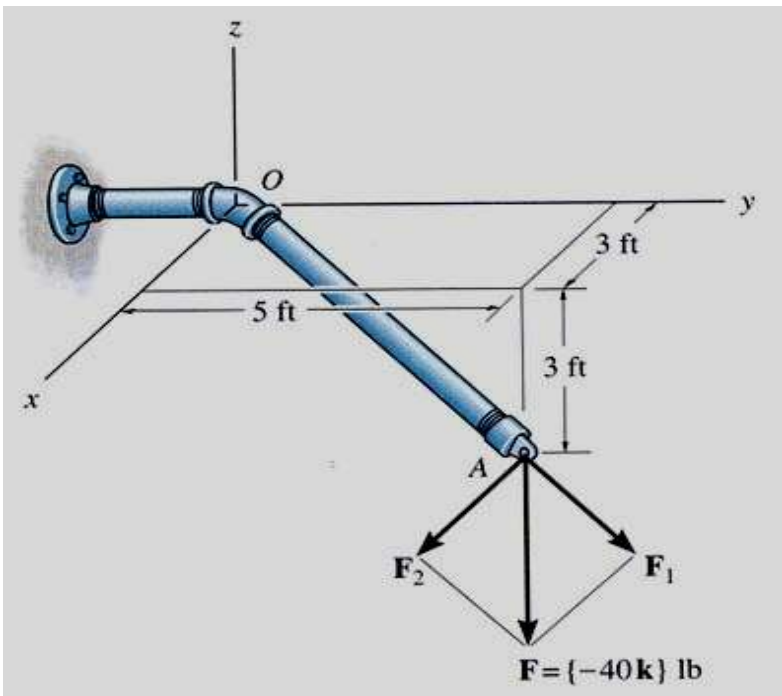
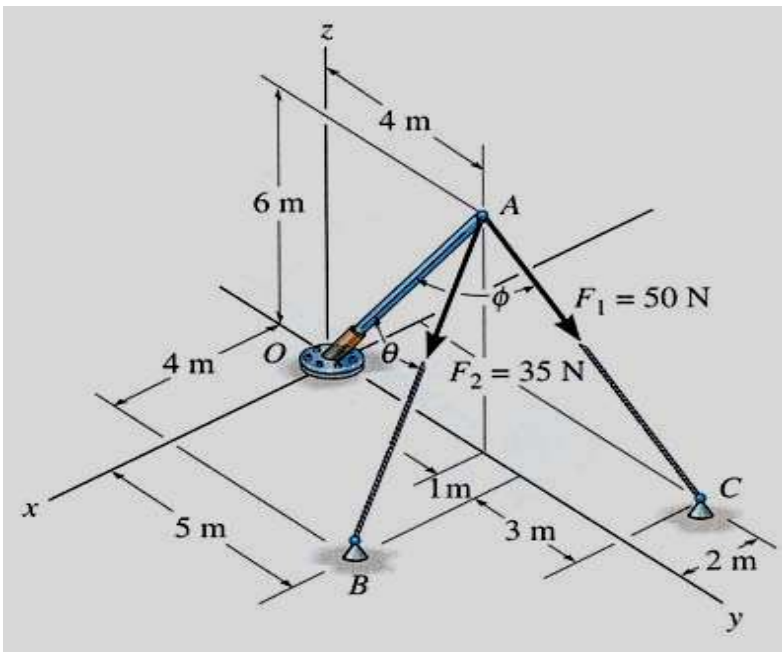
Students will be able to use the dot product to:

- determine an angle between two vectors, and,
- determine the projection of a vector along a specified line.

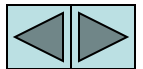


## APPLICATIONS

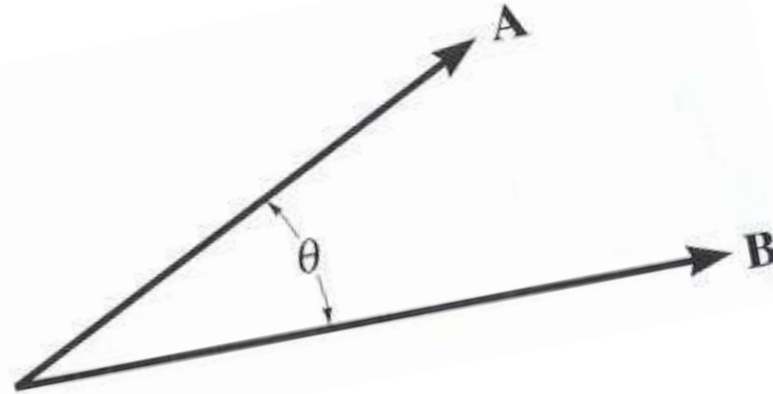
For this geometry, can you determine angles between the pole and the cables?



For force  $F$  at Point A, what component of it ( $F_1$ ) acts along the pipe OA? What component ( $F_2$ ) acts perpendicular to the pipe?



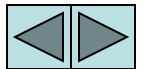
## DEFINITION



The dot product of vectors  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$  is defined as  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A B \cos \theta$ . 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  $A$  and  $B$  vectors.



## DOT PRODUCT DEFINITION

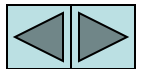
(continued)

The dot product,  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A B \cos\theta$ , is easy to evaluate for  $\hat{i}$ ,  $\hat{j}$ , and  $\hat{k}$ .

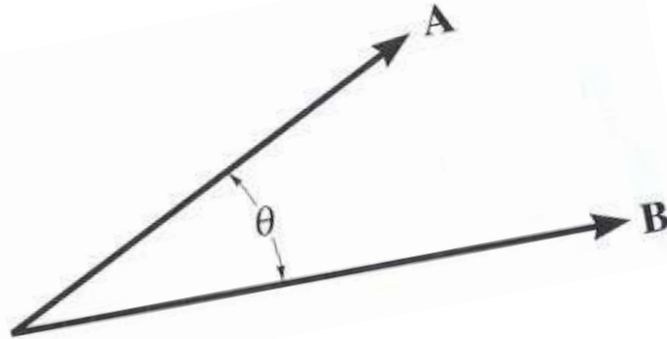
Examples:  $\hat{i} \cdot \hat{j} = 0$ ,  $\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} = 1$ , and so on.

As a result, the dot product is easy to evaluate if you have vectors in Cartesian form.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} &= (A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k}) \cdot (B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} + B_z \hat{k}) \\ &= A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z\end{aligned}$$



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



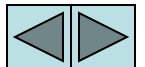
If we know two vectors in Cartesian form, finding  $\theta$  is easy since we have two methods of doing the dot product.

$$AB\cos\theta = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$$

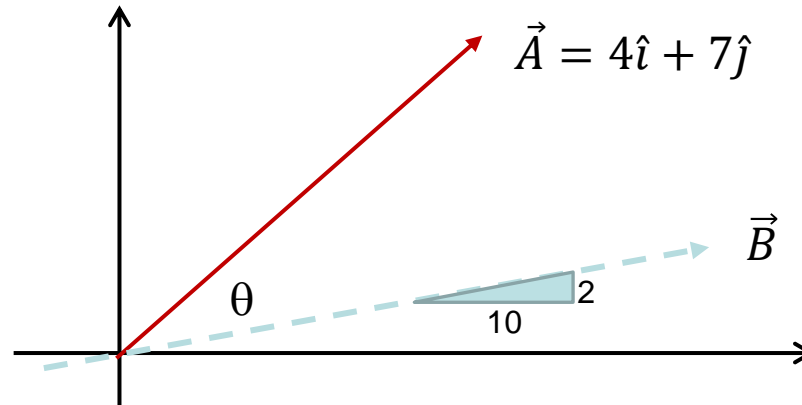
$$\cos\theta = \frac{A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z}{A B}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2} \sqrt{B_x^2 + B_y^2 + B_z^2}}$$

More usually just written  $\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{A B}$  or  $\cos\theta = \hat{u}_A \cdot \hat{u}_B$



## 2D Example – Find $\theta$



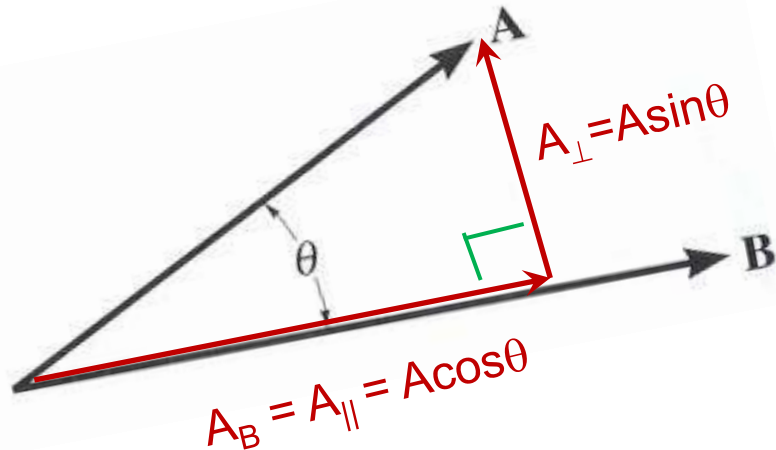
$$\text{First } \hat{u}_B = \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{j} \text{ and } \hat{u}_A = \frac{4}{\sqrt{65}}\hat{i} + \frac{7}{\sqrt{65}}\hat{j}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cos\theta &= \hat{u}_A \cdot \hat{u}_B \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt{65}} \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}} + \frac{7}{\sqrt{65}} \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}} \\ &= \frac{54}{\sqrt{65}\sqrt{104}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \theta = 48.95^\circ$$

# Projection

A dot product finds how much of  $\vec{A}$  is in the same direction as  $\vec{B}$  and then multiplies it by the magnitude of  $B$



$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_B B$$

If we divide both sides in the of the definition above by the magnitude  $B$ , we can get the magnitude of the *projection* of  $\vec{A}$  in that direction.

$$A_B = \vec{A} \cdot \frac{\vec{B}}{B} = \vec{A} \cdot \hat{u}_B$$

# Projection (cont)

It is easy to find  $A_{\perp}$  as well, once we have  $A$  and  $A_B$ ;

$$A_{\perp} = \sqrt{(A)^2 - (A_B)^2}$$

It is also easy to find  $\vec{A}_B$ . We already found the magnitude of the vector  $A_B = \vec{A} \cdot \hat{u}_B$ . And we know which way it points,  $\hat{u}_B$ . So

$$\vec{A}_B = A_B \hat{u}_B$$

$$\vec{A}_B = (\vec{A} \cdot \hat{u}_B) \hat{u}_B$$

This looks a little odd because of the two unit vectors.

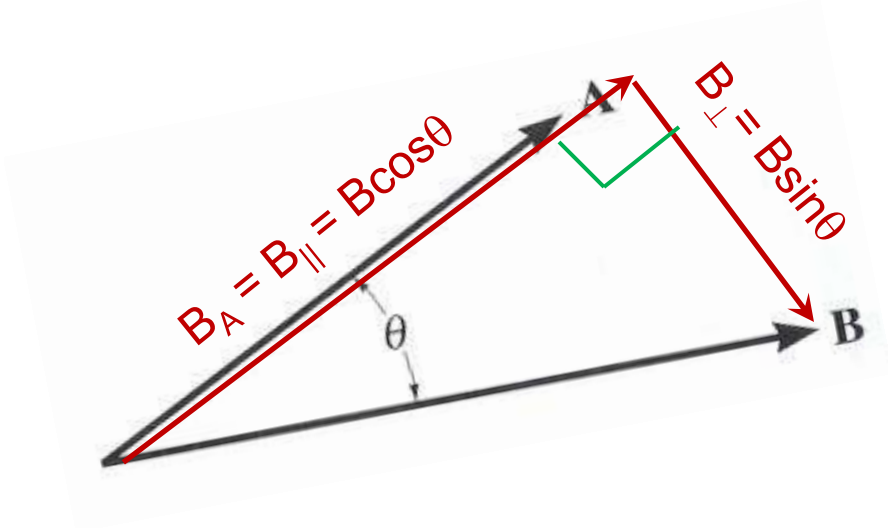
Once you have  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{A}_B$ , it is also easy to find  $\vec{A}_{\perp}$ .

$$\vec{A}_{\perp} = \vec{A} - \vec{A}_B$$



# Projection (cont)

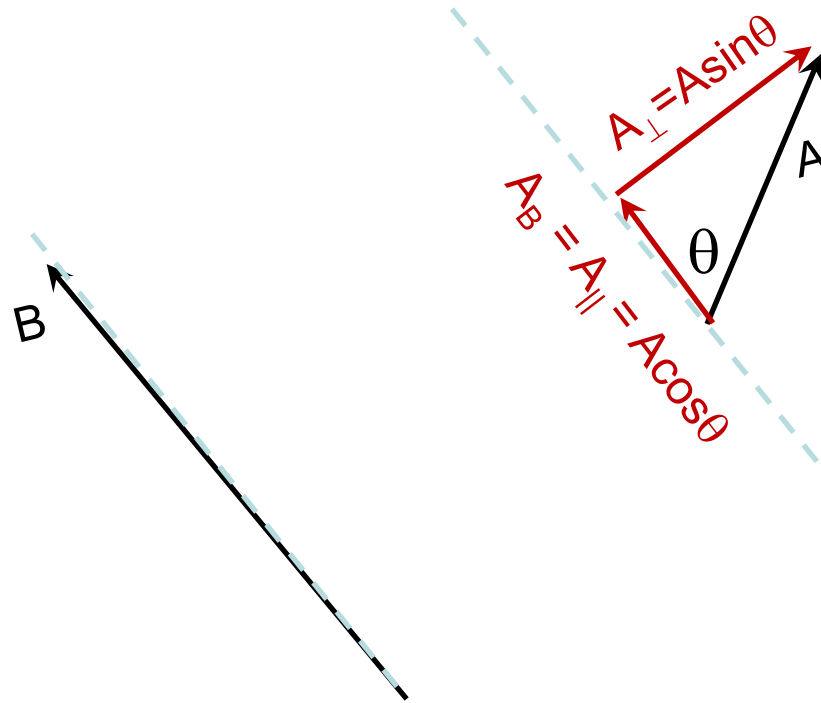
A dot product is commutative  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{A}$



$$B_A = \vec{B} \cdot \frac{\vec{A}}{A} = \vec{B} \cdot \hat{u}_A$$

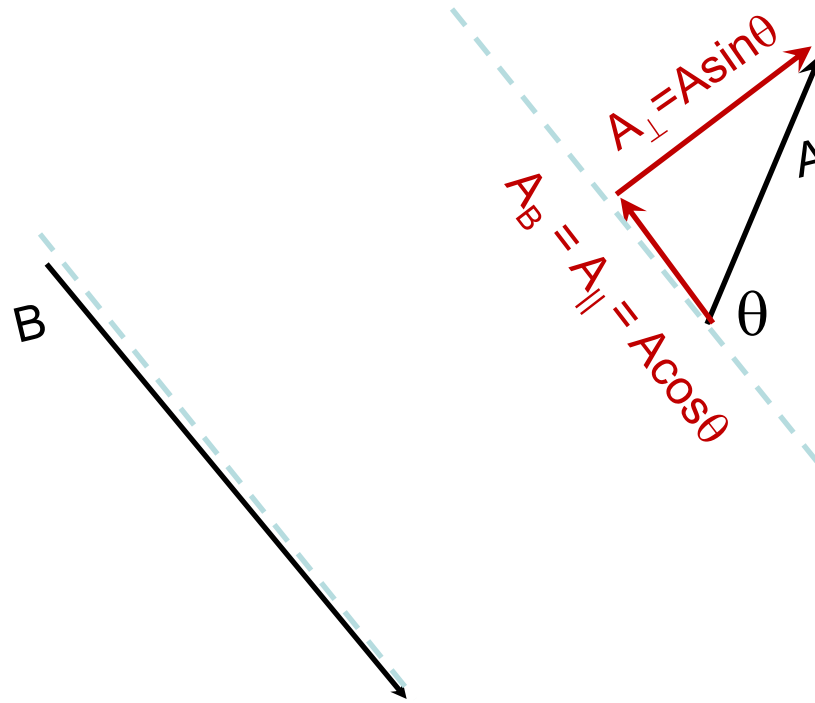
# Note!

Vectors are not fixed to a point in space. Can do dot product on two vectors that are not touching and can find the angle between them and any projection of one vector along the other.

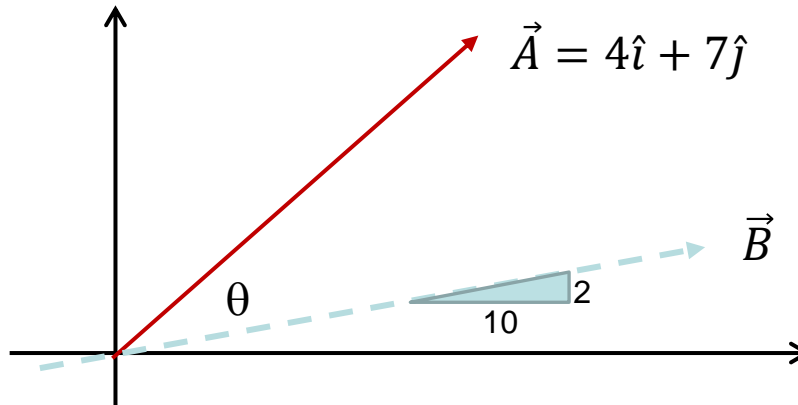


# What if $B$ is in the other direction?

Vectors are not fixed to a point in space. Can do dot product on two vectors that are not touching and can find the angle between them and any projection of one vector along the other.



## 2D Example – Find $\vec{A}_B$ and $\vec{A}_\perp$



$$\text{First } \hat{u}_B = \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{j}.$$

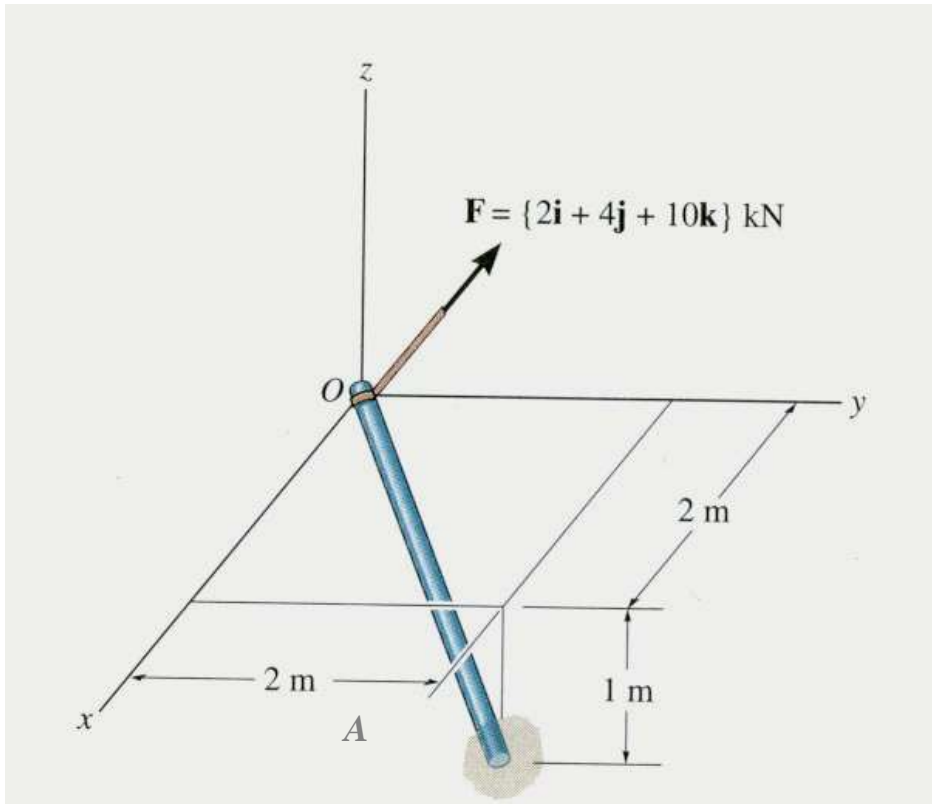
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A}_B &= (\vec{A} \cdot \hat{u}_B) \hat{u}_B \\ &= \left\{ (4\hat{i} + 7\hat{j}) \cdot \left( \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{j} \right) \right\} \left( \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{j} \right) \\ &= \left\{ \frac{40}{\sqrt{104}} + \frac{14}{\sqrt{104}} \right\} \left( \frac{10}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{i} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{104}}\hat{j} \right) \\ &= \frac{540}{104}\hat{i} + \frac{108}{104}\hat{j}\end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{A}_\perp = \vec{A} - \vec{A}_B = (4\hat{i} + 7\hat{j}) - \left( \frac{540}{104}\hat{i} + \frac{108}{104}\hat{j} \right) = -\frac{124}{104}\hat{i} + \frac{624}{104}\hat{j}$$

## EXAMPLE

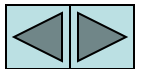
**Given:** The force acting on the pole

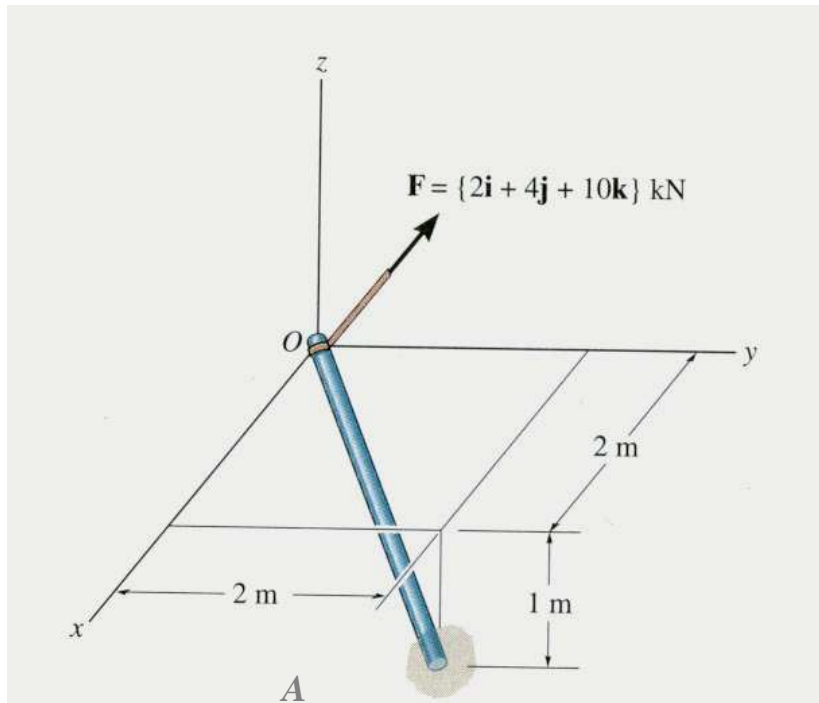
**Find:** The angle between the force vector and the pole, and the magnitude of the projection of the force along the pole OA.



### Plan:

1. Get  $\mathbf{r}_{OA}$
2.  $\theta = \cos^{-1}\{(\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{OA}) / (F r_{OA})\}$
3.  $F_{OA} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{OA}$  or  $F \cos \theta$





## EXAMPLE (continued)

$$\mathbf{r}_{OA} = \{2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 1\mathbf{k}\} \text{ m}$$

$$r_{OA} = (2^2 + 2^2 + 1^2)^{1/2} = 3 \text{ m}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \{2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} + 10\mathbf{k}\} \text{ kN}$$

$$F = (2^2 + 4^2 + 10^2)^{1/2} = 10.95 \text{ kN}$$

$$\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{OA} = (2)(2) + (4)(2) + (10)(-1) = 2 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}$$

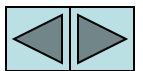
$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\{(\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{OA}) / (F r_{OA})\}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\{2 / (10.95 * 3)\} = 86.5^\circ$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{OA} = \mathbf{r}_{OA} / r_{OA} = \{(2/3)\mathbf{i} + (2/3)\mathbf{j} - (1/3)\mathbf{k}\}$$

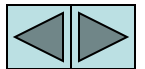
$$F_{OA} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{OA} = (2)(2/3) + (4)(2/3) + (10)(-1/3) = 0.667 \text{ kN}$$

$$\text{Or } F_{OA} = F \cos \theta = 10.95 \cos(86.51^\circ) = 0.667 \text{ kN}$$



## CONCEPT QUIZ

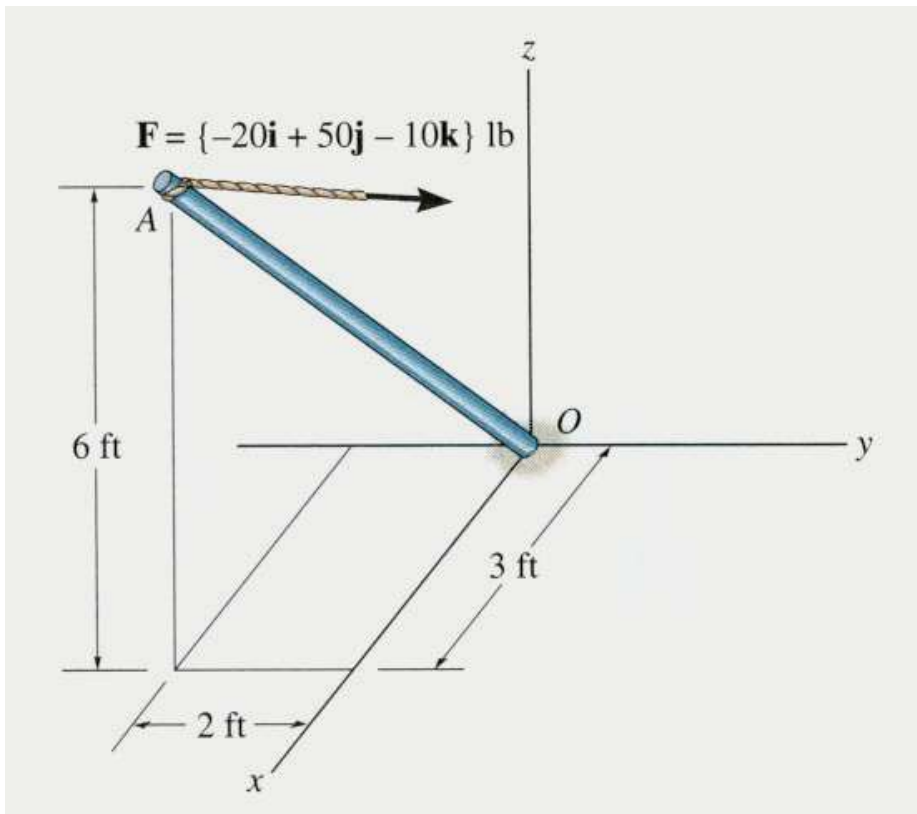
1. If a dot product of two non-zero vectors is 0, then the two vectors must be \_\_\_\_\_ to each other.
  - A) parallel (pointing in the same direction)
  - B) parallel (pointing in the opposite direction)
  - C) perpendicular
  - D) cannot be determined.
  
2. If a dot product of two non-zero vectors equals -1, then the vectors must be \_\_\_\_\_ to each other.
  - A) parallel (pointing in the same direction)
  - B) parallel (pointing in the opposite direction)
  - C) perpendicular
  - D) cannot be determined.



## Example

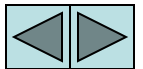
**Given:** The force acting on the pole.

**Find:** The angle between the force vector and the pole, the magnitude of the projection of the force along the pole AO, as well as  $F_{AO}$  ( $F_{//}$ ) and  $F_{\perp}$ .

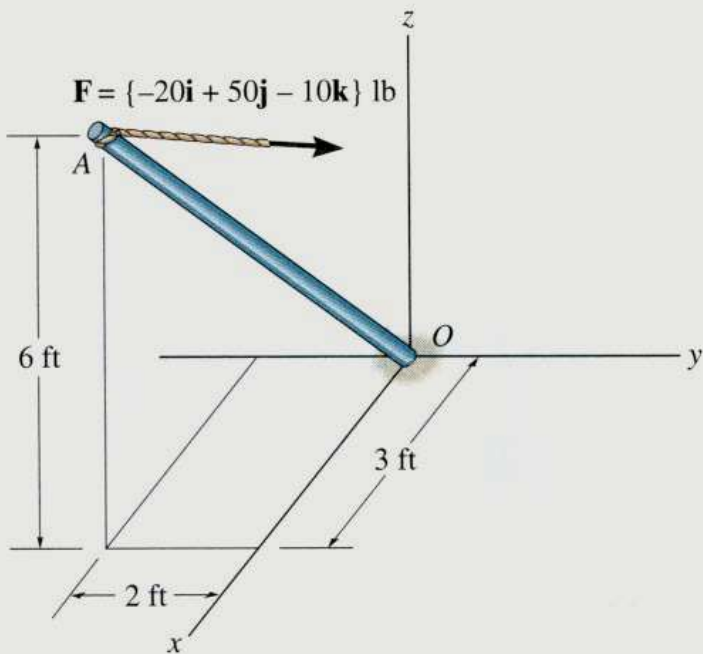


### Plan:

1. Get  $r_{AO}$
2.  $\theta = \cos^{-1}\{(F \cdot r_{AO})/(F r_{AO})\}$
3.  $F_{AO} = F \cdot u_{AO}$  or  $F \cos \theta$
4.  $F_{AO} = F_{//} = F_{OA} u_{AO}$  and  $F_{\perp} = F - F_{//}$







$$\mathbf{r}_{AO} = \{-3 \mathbf{i} + 2 \mathbf{j} - 6 \mathbf{k}\} \text{ ft.}$$

$$r_{AO} = (3^2 + 2^2 + 6^2)^{1/2} = 7 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \{-20 \mathbf{i} + 50 \mathbf{j} - 10 \mathbf{k}\} \text{ lb}$$

$$F = (20^2 + 50^2 + 10^2)^{1/2} = 54.77 \text{ lb}$$

$$\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{AO} = (-20)(-3) + (50)(2) + (-10)(-6) = 220 \text{ lb}\cdot\text{ft}$$

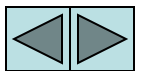
$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\{(\mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{AO})/(F r_{AO})\}$$

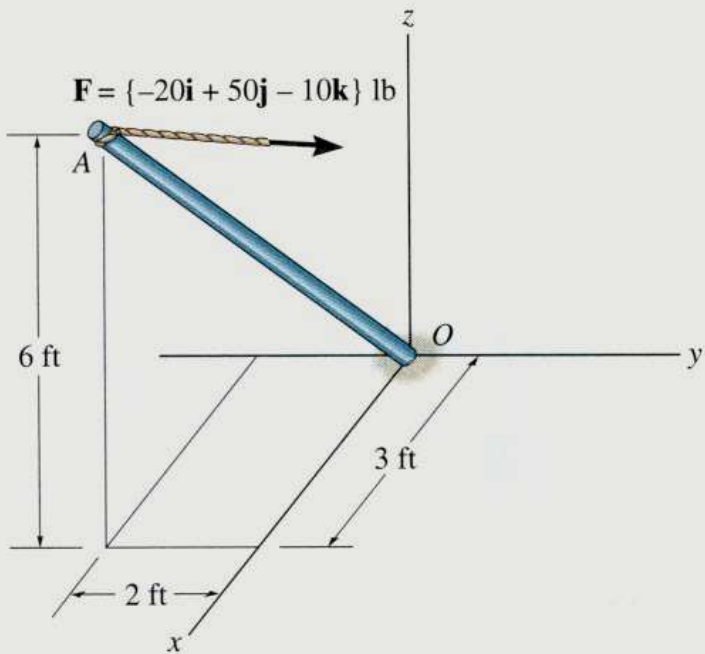
$$\theta = \cos^{-1}\{220/(54.77 \times 7)\} = 55.0^\circ$$

$$\mathbf{u}_{AO} = \mathbf{r}_{AO}/r_{AO} = \{(-3/7) \mathbf{i} + (2/7) \mathbf{j} - (6/7) \mathbf{k}\}$$

$$F_{AO} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{AO} = (-20)(-3/7) + (50)(2/7) + (-10)(-6/7) = 31.4 \text{ lb}$$

$$\text{Or } F_{AO} = F \cos \theta = 54.77 \cos(55.0^\circ) = 31.4 \text{ lb}$$

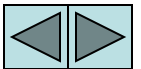




$$\mathbf{u}_{AO} = \{-3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k}\}/7.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_{\parallel} &= F_{AO} \mathbf{u}_{AO} \\ &= (31.4 \text{ lb}) \mathbf{u}_{AO} \\ &= \{-13.46\mathbf{i} + 8.97\mathbf{j} - 44.86\mathbf{k}\} \text{ lb} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_{\perp} &= \mathbf{F} - \mathbf{F}_{\parallel} \\ &= \{-20\mathbf{i} + 50\mathbf{j} - 10\mathbf{k}\} \text{ lb} \\ &\quad - \{-13.46\mathbf{i} + 8.97\mathbf{j} - 44.86\mathbf{k}\} \text{ lb} \\ &= \{-6.54\mathbf{i} + 41.03\mathbf{j} + 34.86\mathbf{k}\} \text{ lb} \end{aligned}$$



## QUIZ

1. The Dot product can be used to find all of the following except \_\_\_\_ .

- 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  $Q$ .

$$P = \{5i + 2j + 3k\} \text{ m}$$

$$Q = \{-2i + 5j + 4k\} \text{ m}$$

- A) -12 m
- B) 12 m
- C) 12 m<sup>2</sup>
- D) -12 m<sup>2</sup>
- E) 10 m<sup>2</sup>

