

$$\sqrt{20} \sqrt{34} \cos \theta = 22 \Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{22}{\sqrt{20} \sqrt{34}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{22}{\sqrt{5} \sqrt{34}}$$

Dot product: geometric definition

- The computational definition of the dot product:

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i = u_1 v_1 + u_2 v_2 + \dots + u_n v_n$$

- The geometric definition of the dot product:

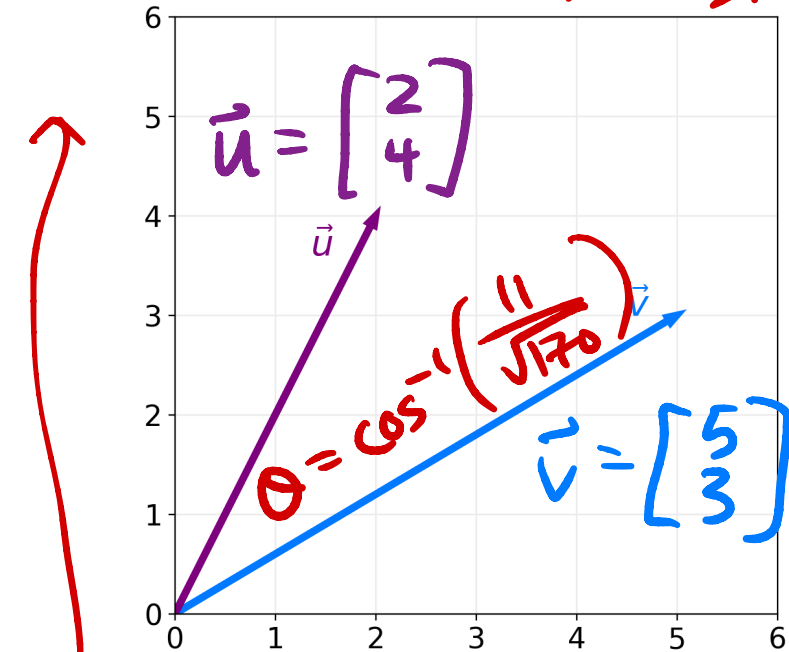
$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta$$

where θ is the angle between \vec{u} and \vec{v} .

- The two definitions are equivalent! This equivalence allows us to find the angle θ between two vectors.

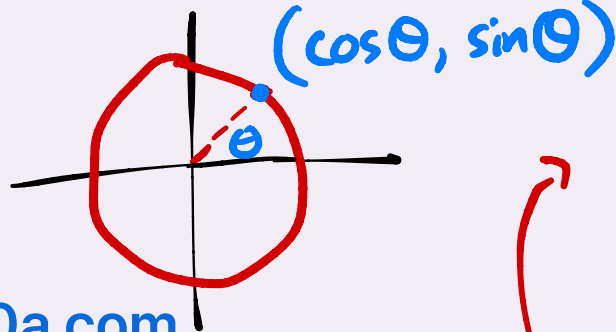
$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = (2)(5) + (4)(3) = 22$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta = \sqrt{2^2 + 4^2} \sqrt{5^2 + 3^2} \cos \theta = \sqrt{20} \sqrt{34} \cos \theta$$



equal!

Question 🤔



Answer at q.dsc40a.com

What is the value of θ in the plot to the right?

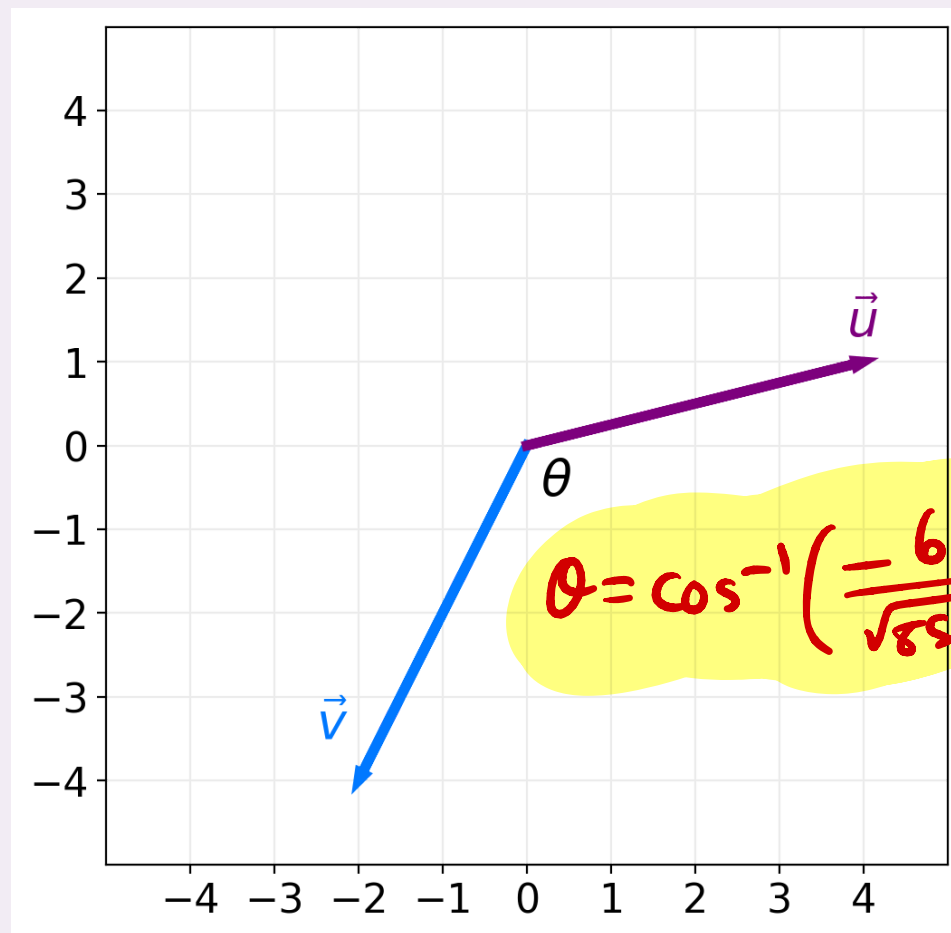
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

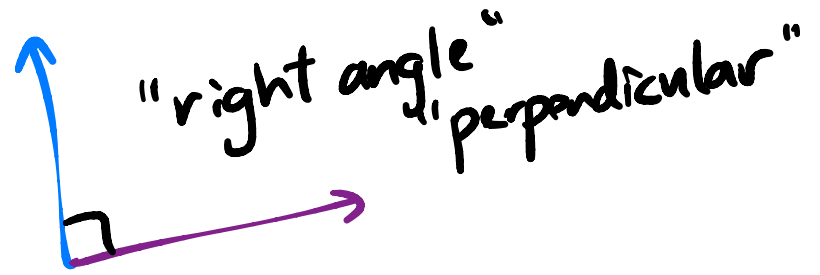
$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} &= \vec{u}^T \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= 4(-2) + 1(-4) = -12 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} &= \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta \\ &= \sqrt{4^2 + 1^2} \sqrt{(-2)^2 + (-4)^2} \cos \theta \\ &= \sqrt{17} \sqrt{20} \cos \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{17} \sqrt{20} \cos \theta = -12$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{-12}{\sqrt{17} \sqrt{20}} = \frac{-6}{\sqrt{17} \sqrt{5}} = \frac{-6}{\sqrt{85}}$$





Orthogonal vectors

- Recall: $\cos 90^\circ = 0$.
- Since $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = \|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos \theta$, if the angle between two vectors is 90° , their dot product is $\|\vec{u}\| \|\vec{v}\| \cos 90^\circ = 0$.
- If the angle between two vectors is 90° , we say they are perpendicular, or more generally, **orthogonal**.
- **Key idea:**

$$\text{two vectors are orthogonal} \iff \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

*"if and only if"
bidirectional statement*

Exercise

Find a non-zero vector in \mathbb{R}^3 orthogonal to:

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

Infinitely many possibilities!

→ could find solutions to
 $2u_1 + 5u_2 - 8u_3 = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 12 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{aligned} & (2)(2) + (12)(5) + (8)(-8) \\ & = 4 + 60 - 64 \\ & = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{aligned} & (0)(2) + (8)(5) + (5)(-8) \\ & = 40 - 40 \\ & = 0 \end{aligned}$$