

Consider the position vectors $\vec{A} = (-1, 0, 2, 2)$ and $\vec{B} = (2, 2, 0, 1)$ for all of the problems below.

1. (2 points) Compute $\vec{A} - 3\vec{B}$.

$$\vec{A} - 3\vec{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 - 6 \\ 0 - 6 \\ 2 - 0 \\ 2 - 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ -6 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. (2 points) Find the coordinates of the midpoint between $\vec{A} = (-1, 0, 2, 2)$ and $\vec{B} = (2, 2, 0, 1)$.

The midpoint is the average of the position vectors

$$\vec{m} = \frac{1}{2}\vec{A} + \frac{1}{2}\vec{B} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 + 2 \\ 0 + 2 \\ 2 + 0 \\ 2 + 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. (2 points) Compute the dot product of \vec{A} and \vec{B} , i.e. $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$. Explain the geometric significance of your answer.

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = -1 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 1 \\ = -2 + 0 + 0 + 2 = 0$$

Since $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \iff \vec{A} \text{ \& } \vec{B} \text{ are ORTHOGONAL (90^\circ apart)}$

4. (2 points) Write down the vector equation (i.e. $\vec{x}(t) = \vec{p} + \vec{d}t$) of the line joining the points represented by the position vectors \vec{A} and \vec{B} .

$$\vec{x}(t) = \vec{A} + (\vec{B} - \vec{A})t = \vec{p} + \vec{d}t$$

\vec{p} is a point on line
 \vec{d} is displacement between \vec{A} & \vec{B} , i.e. $(\vec{B} - \vec{A})$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} t = \begin{pmatrix} -1 + 3t \\ 2t \\ 2 - 2t \\ 2 - t \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

5. (2 points) Write down the position vector of another point (OTHER than \vec{A} or \vec{B}) that you are certain is on the line defined in Question 4. Is the point represented by position vector $\vec{C} = (5, 4, -2, 0)$ also on the line joining \vec{A} and \vec{B} ? How do you know? Explain your answer!

Another point on the line is the midpoint between \vec{A} & \vec{B} you found in (2).

To check if \vec{C} is on the line, try to find a t value so

that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 + 3t \\ 2t \\ 2 - 2t \\ 2 - t \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} -1 + 3t &= 5 \Rightarrow t = 2 \\ 2t &= 4 \Rightarrow t = 2 \\ 2 - 2t &= -2 \Rightarrow t = 2 \\ 2 - t &= 0 \Rightarrow t = 2 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\vec{x}(2) = \vec{C}$, \vec{C} is on the line joining \vec{A} and \vec{B}