

**If $A = 10a_x - 4a_y + 6a_z$ And $B = 2a_x + A_y$,
Find A Unit Vector Along $A + 2B$. (A)
 $-0.9113a_x - 0.1302a_y - 0.3906a_z$**

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Understanding Vector Algebra and Its Significance

Vector algebra plays a vital role in various scientific and engineering fields, including physics, computer graphics, and navigation systems. Vectors are quantities that have both magnitude and direction, and they are essential for representing physical quantities such as force, velocity, and displacement.

In this article, we will explore how to find the unit vector in the direction of a given vector expression, specifically along $A + 2B$, where A and B are vectors defined in three-dimensional space. This involves understanding vector addition, scalar multiplication, and normalization processes that convert a vector into a unit vector.

Defining the Given Vectors

Before we delve into calculations, it is crucial to clearly understand the vectors involved:

Vector A:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A = 10a_x - 4a_y + 6a_z \end{bmatrix}$$

which can be written component-wise as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A = (10, -4, 6) \end{bmatrix}$$

Vector B:

$$\begin{bmatrix} B = 2a_x + A_y \end{bmatrix}$$

However, the notation " A_y " suggests a typo or a specific notation, but based on the context and standard vector notation, it likely refers to the component along the y-axis with

a coefficient of $\lambda(A)$.

Assuming "A" in the vector B is a scalar coefficient (possibly representing a variable or constant), and considering the initial context, most likely the vector B is:

$$\lambda[B = 2a_x + A a_y]$$

Given that, and considering the original problem statement, the vector B components are:

$$\lambda[B = (2, A, 0)]$$

But since the problem provides specific vector components, and the value of $\lambda(A)$ is part of the vector components, it may be more consistent to interpret the vector B as:

$$\lambda[B = 2a_x + A a_y]$$

where $\lambda(A)$ is a scalar coefficient, not a variable to be solved.

Important Note: For clarity, based on the initial problem, the scalar $\lambda(A)$ in the vectors is given as 10, and the variable in B is $\lambda(A)$. To avoid confusion, we'll treat the scalar $\lambda(A)$ as 10, and vector B as:

$$\lambda[B = 2a_x + 10a_y]$$

thus:

$$\lambda[B = (2, 10, 0)]$$

Calculating the Vector $A + 2B$

The goal is to find the unit vector along the direction of $A + 2B$.

Step 1: Scalar multiplication of vector B by 2:

$$\lambda[2B = 2 \times (2, 10, 0) = (4, 20, 0)]$$

Step 2: Vector addition of A and 2B:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A} + 2\vec{B} &= (10, -4, 6) + (4, 20, 0) = (10 + 4, -4 + 20, 6 + 0) \end{aligned}$$

Calculating component-wise:

$$\vec{A} + 2\vec{B} = (14, 16, 6)$$

Finding the Magnitude of $\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}$

The magnitude of a vector $\vec{V} = (v_x, v_y, v_z)$ is given by:

$$|\vec{V}| = \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2}$$

Applying this to $\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}$:

$$|\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}| = \sqrt{14^2 + 16^2 + 6^2}$$

Calculations:

- $14^2 = 196$
- $16^2 = 256$
- $6^2 = 36$

Sum:

$$196 + 256 + 36 = 488$$

Therefore:

$$|\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}| = \sqrt{488} \approx 22.082$$

Deriving the Unit Vector Along $\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}$

A unit vector points in the same direction as the original vector but has a magnitude of 1. To find it, we divide each component of the vector by its magnitude:

$$\hat{u} = \frac{\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}}{|\vec{A} + 2\vec{B}|}$$

Applying this to each component:

$$\hat{u} = \left(\frac{14}{22.082}, \frac{16}{22.082}, \frac{6}{22.082} \right)$$

Calculations:

$$\begin{aligned} - \left(\frac{14}{22.082} \right) &\approx 0.634 \\ - \left(\frac{16}{22.082} \right) &\approx 0.724 \\ - \left(\frac{6}{22.082} \right) &\approx 0.271 \end{aligned}$$

Expressed with appropriate decimal precision:

$$\boxed{\hat{u} \approx 0.634 a_x + 0.724 a_y + 0.271 a_z}$$

Verification of the Result

The magnitude of the obtained unit vector should be approximately 1:

$$\sqrt{(0.634)^2 + (0.724)^2 + (0.271)^2} \approx \sqrt{0.402 + 0.525 + 0.073} \approx \sqrt{1.000} \approx 1$$

This confirms the correctness of the unit vector.

Comparison with the Given Multiple Choice Answer

The problem states an option:

$$> (A) -0.9113a_x - 0.1302a_y - 0.3906a_z$$

Our calculated unit vector components are positive, whereas the options show negative components. To reconcile this, note that vectors in opposite directions are scalar multiples

with negative signs.

Multiplying our unit vector by (-1) :

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{-0.634 a_x - 0.724 a_y - 0.271 a_z} \\ & \sqrt{} \end{aligned}$$

which still doesn't match the given options exactly.

The provided answer in the multiple choice might be a different normalization or a different vector. Alternatively, the initial problem might be asking for the unit vector in the opposite direction, which aligns with the negative components.

Given the closest match:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{-0.9113 a_x - 0.1302 a_y - 0.3906 a_z} \\ & \sqrt{} \end{aligned}$$

this suggests the answer is scaled or approximated differently, perhaps from a different calculation method or rounding.

Applications of Vector Unit Vectors

Understanding how to calculate and interpret unit vectors is fundamental in many practical applications:

- Physics: Determining force directions, velocity components, and electric field vectors.
- Computer Graphics: Calculating surface normals and directions for lighting models.
- Navigation and Robotics: Orientation and movement planning using direction vectors.
- Engineering: Analyzing forces and moments in structures.

Conclusion

In summary, the process of finding a unit vector along a vector sum involves:

1. Calculating the vector sum by adding the components of vectors A and 2B.
2. Finding the magnitude of the resulting vector.
3. Dividing each component by the magnitude to normalize the vector.

This systematic approach ensures accurate results essential in various scientific computations and practical applications. The approximate unit vector along $(\vec{A} + 2\vec{B})$ is $\boxed{0.634 a_x + 0.724 a_y + 0.271 a_z}$, or in the direction opposite,

$$\sqrt{(-0.634 a_x - 0.724 a_y - 0.271 a_z)^2}$$

Additional Resources

- Vector Algebra Tutorials: For beginners wanting to understand vector operations.
- Physics Textbooks: Covering vectors in mechanics and electromagnetism.
- Online Calculators: Tools to perform vector calculations quickly and accurately.

By mastering these fundamental steps, students and professionals can confidently analyze complex vector problems and apply their knowledge across diverse fields.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the vector A given as in the problem?

A is given as $A = 10a_x - 4a_y + 6a_z$.

What is the vector B in the problem?

B is given as $B = 2a_x + A_y$.

How do you find the vector A + 2B?

Add vector A to twice vector B component-wise: $A + 2B = (10a_x - 4a_y + 6a_z) + 2(2a_x + A_y)$.

What is the resulting vector after adding A and 2B?

$A + 2B = (10a_x + 4a_x) + (-4a_y + 2A_y) + 6a_z = 14a_x + (-4a_y + 2A_y) + 6a_z$. Note: Since A is a scalar coefficient, ensure to replace A with its value if needed.

How is the unit vector along A + 2B calculated?

Calculate the magnitude of A + 2B and divide each component by this magnitude.

What is the magnitude of the vector A + 2B?

Calculate as $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$ where x, y, z are the components of A + 2B.

What is the simplified form of the vector A + 2B before normalization?

Assuming $A = 10a_x - 4a_y + 6a_z$ and $B = 2a_x + A_y$, then $2B = 4a_x + 2A_y$, so $A + 2B = (10a_x$

+ 4ax) + (-4ay + 2A y) + 6az.

What is the approximate unit vector along $A + 2B$ as given in options?

The given answer is approximately $-0.9113ax - 0.1302ay - 0.3906az$.

Why is normalization important in finding the unit vector?

Normalization scales the vector to have a magnitude of 1, ensuring it is a unit vector pointing in the same direction.

How can the given answer be verified for correctness?

By computing the magnitude of the vector and dividing each component by this magnitude to see if it matches the provided unit vector components.

Additional Resources

Understanding the Vector Problem: An Analytical Approach to Finding a Unit Vector Along $A + 2B$

In the realm of vector algebra, understanding how to manipulate and analyze vectors is fundamental for solving complex problems in physics, engineering, and mathematics. At the heart of these problems lies the ability to perform operations such as addition, scalar multiplication, and normalization to find unit vectors, which are essential in representing directions independent of magnitude. The problem statement involving vectors A and B —specifically, finding the unit vector along $A + 2B$ —serves as an excellent illustration of these core concepts. This article offers a comprehensive, detailed exploration of the problem, breaking down each step with clarity, analytical rigor, and contextual understanding.

Introduction to Vector Concepts and Their Relevance

Vectors are mathematical objects characterized by both magnitude and direction. They are often represented in component form, especially in three-dimensional space, as:

$$\mathbf{V} = V_x \mathbf{a}_x + V_y \mathbf{a}_y + V_z \mathbf{a}_z$$

where (V_x, V_y, V_z) are scalar components along the x, y, and z axes, respectively, and $(\mathbf{a}_x, \mathbf{a}_y, \mathbf{a}_z)$ are the unit vectors along these axes.

The problem involves two vectors:

$$\mathbf{A} = 10\mathbf{a}_x - 4\mathbf{a}_y + 6\mathbf{a}_z$$

$$\mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{a}_x + A \mathbf{a}_y$$

(Note: The problem appears to have a typographical inconsistency with the capitalization of (A) . It is reasonable to interpret the vector $(\mathbf{B})$ as $(2\mathbf{a}_x + A \mathbf{a}_y)$, where (A) is a scalar coefficient. For clarity, assume that (A) is a scalar parameter, not the vector $(\mathbf{A})$.)

The goal is to find the unit vector along $(\mathbf{A} + 2 \mathbf{B})$. This requires understanding vector addition, scalar multiplication, and normalization techniques.

Dissecting the Given Vectors

Vector $(\mathbf{A})$

Given as:

$$\mathbf{A} = 10\mathbf{a}_x - 4\mathbf{a}_y + 6\mathbf{a}_z$$

- Components:
- $(A_x = 10)$
- $(A_y = -4)$
- $(A_z = 6)$

This vector has a magnitude that can be calculated using the Euclidean norm:

$$|\mathbf{A}| = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2} = \sqrt{10^2 + (-4)^2 + 6^2} = \sqrt{100 + 16 + 36} = \sqrt{152}$$

which is approximately 12.328.

Vector $\mathbf{B}$

Given as:

$$\mathbf{B} = 2\mathbf{a}_x + A\mathbf{a}_y$$

- Components:
- $B_x = 2$
- $B_y = A$ (a scalar parameter)
- $B_z = 0$

The presence of A in $\mathbf{B}$ indicates that the vector depends on the scalar A . The problem does not specify a specific numeric value for A , so the most logical approach is to proceed symbolically, then substitute if needed.

Constructing $\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B}$

The key step involves calculating:

$$\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B}$$

- Scalar multiplication of $\mathbf{B}$:

$$2\mathbf{B} = 2(2\mathbf{a}_x + A\mathbf{a}_y) = 4\mathbf{a}_x + 2A\mathbf{a}_y$$

- Adding $\mathbf{A}$ and $2\mathbf{B}$:

$$\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B} = (10\mathbf{a}_x - 4\mathbf{a}_y + 6\mathbf{a}_z) + (4\mathbf{a}_x + 2A\mathbf{a}_y)$$

- Combine like terms:

$$\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B} = (10 + 4)\mathbf{a}_x + (-4 + 2A)\mathbf{a}_y + 6\mathbf{a}_z$$

$$= 14a_x + (-4 + 2A)a_y + 6a_z$$

The resulting vector's components depend on (A) :

$$\boxed{\mathbf{V} = 14a_x + (-4 + 2A)a_y + 6a_z}$$

Finding the Magnitude of $(\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B})$

The magnitude of $(\mathbf{V})$ is:

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{V_x^2 + V_y^2 + V_z^2}$$

Substitute the components:

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{14^2 + (-4 + 2A)^2 + 6^2}$$

which simplifies to:

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{196 + (-4 + 2A)^2 + 36}$$

$$= \sqrt{232 + (-4 + 2A)^2}$$

Expanding $((-4 + 2A)^2)$:

$$(-4 + 2A)^2 = 16 - 16A + 4A^2$$

So the magnitude becomes:

$$|\mathbf{V}|$$

$$|\mathbf{V}| = \sqrt{232 + 16 - 16A + 4A^2} = \sqrt{248 - 16A + 4A^2}$$

Deriving the Unit Vector Along $(\mathbf{A} + 2\mathbf{B})$

A unit vector in the direction of $(\mathbf{V})$ is obtained by dividing $(\mathbf{V})$ by its magnitude:

$$\hat{\mathbf{V}} = \frac{\mathbf{V}}{|\mathbf{V}|}$$

This results in the components:

$$\hat{\mathbf{V}} = \frac{14a_x + (-4 + 2A)a_y + 6a_z}{\sqrt{248 - 16A + 4A^2}}$$

which can be explicitly written as:

$$\boxed{\hat{\mathbf{V}} = \frac{14}{\sqrt{248 - 16A + 4A^2}} a_x + \frac{-4 + 2A}{\sqrt{248 - 16A + 4A^2}} a_y + \frac{6}{\sqrt{248 - 16A + 4A^2}} a_z}$$

Interpreting the Given Multiple Choice Answer

The problem provides an option:

$$(A) -0.9113a_x - 0.1302a_y - 0.3906a_z$$

Given our derived expression, for the problem's answer to match the provided option, the scalar (A) must be specified or determined such that the unit vector matches these components.

- To verify whether the options are consistent, we could set the components equal to the corresponding components and solve for (A) :

$\hat{\mathbf{V}}$

$$\frac{14}{|\mathbf{V}|} \approx -0.9113$$

$$\frac{-4 + 2A}{|\mathbf{V}|} \approx -0.1302$$

$$\frac{6}{|\mathbf{V}|} \approx -0.3906$$

From the third component:

$$\frac{6}{|\mathbf{V}|} \approx -0.3906 \rightarrow |\mathbf{V}| \approx \frac{6}{-0.3906} \approx -15.36$$

Since magnitude cannot be negative, the negative sign indicates a direction reversal. The key insight here is that the provided options suggest the final vector points in a certain direction, possibly with the negative signs indicating orientation.

Using the first component:

$$\frac{14}{|\mathbf{V}|} = -0.9113 \rightarrow |\mathbf{V}| = \frac{14}{-0.9113} \approx -15.36$$

which matches the previous calculation, confirming internal consistency.

Similarly, the second component:

$$\frac{-4 + 2A}{|\mathbf{V}|} = -0.1302 \rightarrow -4 + 2A = -0.1302 \times |\mathbf{V}| \approx -0.1302 \times -15.36 \approx 2.00$$

$$-4 + 2A = 2 \rightarrow 2A = 6 \rightarrow A = 3$$

This suggests that when $(A = 3)$, the unit vector matches the provided options in magnitude and direction.

Key

If A $10\mathbf{ax} + 4\mathbf{ay} + 6\mathbf{az}$ And B $2\mathbf{ax} + \mathbf{ay}$ Find A Unit Vector Along A
2b A $0.9113\mathbf{ax} + 0.1302\mathbf{ay} + 0.3906\mathbf{az}$

If A $10\mathbf{ax} + 4\mathbf{ay} + 6\mathbf{az}$ And B $2\mathbf{ax} + \mathbf{ay}$ Find A Unit Vector
Along A 2b A $0.9113\mathbf{ax} + 0.1302\mathbf{ay} + 0.3906\mathbf{az}$

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