

Answer on Question #46886 – Math – Vector Calculus

Question:

Find the angle between $U = 4i - 2j + 4k$ and $V = 3i - 6j - 2k$.

680

670

580

690

Solution:

The angle between two vectors is given by the formula:

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

where $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$ is dot product, $|\vec{u}|$ is length of vector.

Therefore:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{4 \cdot 3 + (-2)(-6) + 4(-2)}{\sqrt{4^2 + (-2)^2 + 4^2} \sqrt{3^2 + (-6)^2 + (-2)^2}} = \frac{16}{7 \sqrt{29}} \cong 0.38$$

Or:

$$\theta = \arccos 0.424 = 67.6^\circ \cong 68^\circ$$

Answer: 68°