

Answer on Question #74191 – Math – Linear Algebra

Question

If \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are non-collinear vectors and $\mathbf{A} = (x+y)\mathbf{a} + (2x + y+1)\mathbf{b}$. Find x and y .

Solution

$$(x + y)\bar{\mathbf{a}} + (2x + y + 1)\bar{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{0};$$

Because vectors $\bar{\mathbf{a}}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{b}}$ are non-collinear,

$$\begin{cases} x + y = 0, \\ 2x + y + 1 = 0; \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = -y, \\ 2x + y + 1 = 0; \end{cases}$$

$$2(-y)+y+1=0;$$

$$-2y+y+1=0;$$

$$-y=-1;$$

$$y=1;$$

$$x=(-y)=-1.$$

Answer: $x = -1$; $y = 1$.