

Problem # 4. The cosine of the angle between $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ and $\vec{a} - \vec{b}$ can be computed as

$$\frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b})}{\|\vec{a} + \vec{b}\| \|\vec{a} - \vec{b}\|}.$$

We have

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = \|\vec{a}\|^2 = 4, \quad \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{b}\|^2 = 9, \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} = 2.$$

From this,

$$(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b}) = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} = 4 - 9 = -5,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{a} + \vec{b}\| &= \sqrt{(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} + \vec{b})} = \sqrt{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}} \\ &= \sqrt{4 + 2 + 2 + 9} = \sqrt{17}, \quad \text{and} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{a} - \vec{b}\| &= \sqrt{(\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b})} = \sqrt{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} - \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}} \\ &= \sqrt{4 - 2 - 2 + 9} = 3. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the cosine of the angle between $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ and $\vec{a} - \vec{b}$ is $-\frac{5}{3\sqrt{17}}$.

Answer: The cosine of the angle is $-\frac{5}{3\sqrt{17}}$.