

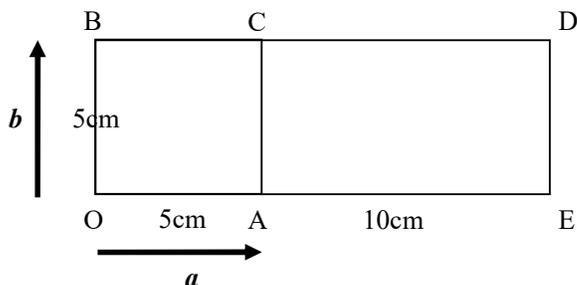
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE
Mathematics: analysis and approaches
Math AA

EXERCISES [Math-AA 3.10-3.12]
BASIC ALGEBRA OF VECTORS
Compiled by Christos Nikolaidis

O. Practice questions

1. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

In the following diagram OBCA is a square of side 5cm, while ACDE is a rectangle of length 10cm and width 5cm. Let $\mathbf{a} = \overrightarrow{OA}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \overrightarrow{OB}$.



(a) Determine whether the following expressions in terms of the vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are true or false

$\overrightarrow{AC} = \mathbf{b}$	true	$\overrightarrow{BC} = \mathbf{a}$		$\overrightarrow{BD} = 3\mathbf{a}$	
$\overrightarrow{DE} = \mathbf{b}$		$\overrightarrow{BC} = \mathbf{b}$		$\overrightarrow{CD} = 2\mathbf{b}$	
$\overrightarrow{ED} = \mathbf{a}$		$ \overrightarrow{BC} = \mathbf{b} $		$\overrightarrow{CD} = 2\mathbf{a}$	

[4]

(b) Express the following vectors in terms of \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b}

$\overrightarrow{OC} =$	$\overrightarrow{AB} =$
$\overrightarrow{OD} =$	$\overrightarrow{CE} =$
$\overrightarrow{AD} =$	$\overrightarrow{BE} =$
$\overrightarrow{BA} =$	$\overrightarrow{EC} =$

[8]

2. [Maximum mark: 20] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Find

magnitude of \mathbf{a}	
magnitude of \mathbf{b}	
unit vector corresponding to \mathbf{a}	
unit vector corresponding to \mathbf{b}	
$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$	
$\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}$	
$2\mathbf{a}$	
$\mathbf{a} - 2\mathbf{b}$	
$ \mathbf{a} - 2\mathbf{b} $	
a vector \mathbf{c} parallel to \mathbf{a} of magnitude 39	

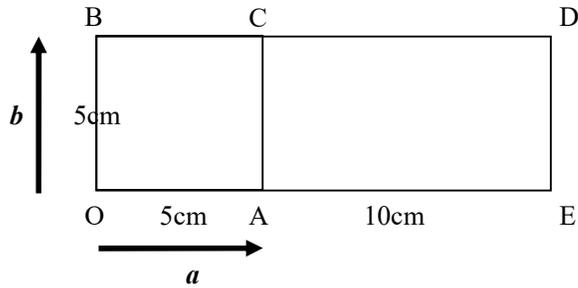
3. [Maximum mark: 16] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Find

magnitude of \mathbf{a}	
magnitude of \mathbf{b}	
unit vector corresponding to \mathbf{a}	
unit vector corresponding to \mathbf{b}	
$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$	
$\mathbf{a} + 2\mathbf{b}$	
$ \mathbf{a} + 2\mathbf{b} $	
a vector \mathbf{c} parallel to \mathbf{a} of magnitude 6	

4. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

In the following diagram OBCA is a square of side 5cm, while ACDE is a rectangle of length 10cm and width 5cm. Let $\mathbf{a} = \overrightarrow{OA}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \overrightarrow{OB}$.



Use the geometric definition of the dot product to find the following

$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} =$
$\mathbf{a}^2 =$
$\mathbf{b}^2 =$
$\overrightarrow{OE} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} =$
$\overrightarrow{OA} \cdot \overrightarrow{AE} =$
$\overrightarrow{OA} \cdot \overrightarrow{OC} =$

5. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Use the algebraic definition of the dot product to find

$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$	
\mathbf{a}^2	
\mathbf{b}^2	
cosine of angle θ between \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b}	

6. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Use the algebraic definition of the dot product to find

$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$	
\mathbf{a}^2	
\mathbf{b}^2	
cosine of angle θ between \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b}	

7. [Maximum mark: 10] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$. Find the values of a and b for each case below.

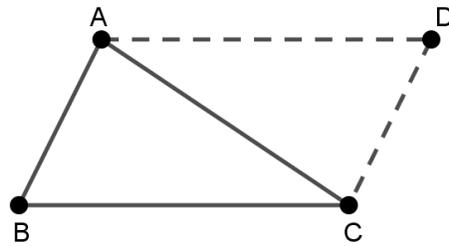
(a) if $2\mathbf{u} - 3\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -10 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$. [3]

(b) if \mathbf{u} is parallel to \mathbf{v} [3]

(c) if $a = -2b$ and \mathbf{u} is perpendicular to \mathbf{v} . [4]

8. [Maximum mark: 18] **[without GDC]**

Consider the points $A(2,1,3)$, $B(5,0,4)$, $C(4,7,3)$.



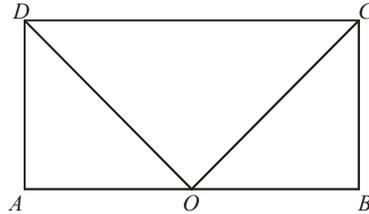
Find

position vector of point A	
vectors \overrightarrow{AB} and \overrightarrow{AC}	
magnitude of the vector \overrightarrow{AB}	
magnitude of the vector \overrightarrow{AC}	
distance between A and B	
$\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC}$	
size of the angle \hat{BAC}	
area of the triangle ABC	
the coordinates of point D given that ABCD is a parallelogram	

A. Exam style questions (SHORT)

9. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

$ABCD$ is a rectangle and O is the midpoint of $[AB]$.



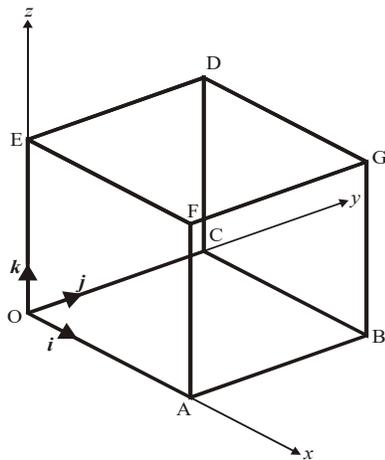
Express each of the following vectors in terms of \vec{OC} and \vec{OD}

- (a) \vec{CD} (b) \vec{OA} (c) \vec{AD}

10. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

The diagram shows a cube, $OABCDEFG$ where the length of each edge is 5cm.

Express the following vectors in terms of i , j and k .



- (a) \vec{OG}
- (b) \vec{BD}
- (c) \vec{EB}

11. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

The vectors u , v are given by $u = 3i + 5j$, $v = i - 2j$. Find scalars a , b such that

$$a(u + v) = 8i + (b - 2)j.$$

12. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

The vectors \vec{i} , \vec{j} are unit vectors along the x -axis and y -axis respectively.

The vectors $\vec{u} = -\vec{i} + 2\vec{j}$ and $\vec{v} = 3\vec{i} + 5\vec{j}$ are given.

- (a) Find $\vec{u} + 2\vec{v}$ in terms of \vec{i} and \vec{j} . [2]

A vector \vec{w} has the same direction as $\vec{u} + 2\vec{v}$, and has a magnitude of 26.

- (b) Find \vec{w} in terms of \vec{i} and \vec{j} . [2]

13. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Consider the vectors $c = 3i + 4j$ and $d = 5i - 12j$.

- (a) Calculate the scalar product $c \cdot d$. [2]

- (b) Find the vector $c + d$. [1]

- (c) Find the value of $|c| + |d|$. [3]

14. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Find the cosine of the angle between the two vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

15. [Maximum mark: 4] **[with GDC]**

Find the size of the angle between the two vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$. Give your answer to the nearest degree.

16. [Maximum mark: 4] **[with GDC]**

Find the angle between the following vectors a and b , giving your answer to the nearest degree.

$$a = -4i - 2j \qquad b = i - 7j$$

17. [Maximum mark: 7] **[with GDC]**

- (a) Find the scalar product of the vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 60 \\ 25 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -30 \\ 40 \end{pmatrix}$. [2]

- (b) Two markers are at the points P(60, 25) and Q(-30, 40).

(i) Find the distance between the two markers.

(ii) A surveyor stands at O (0, 0) and looks at marker P. Find the angle she turns through to look at marker Q. [5]

18. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with GDC]**

Find the angle between the vectors $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{w} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$. Give your answer in radians.

19. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

The position vectors of points P and Q are $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$ respectively. The origin is at O

- (a) Find the angle $\hat{P}OQ$; [4]
 (b) Find the area of the triangle OPQ. [2]

20. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

A triangle has its vertices at A(-1, 3), B(3, 6) and C(-4, 4).

- (a) Show that $\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = -9$. [3]
 (b) Show that, to three significant figures, $\cos \hat{B}AC = -0.569$. [3]

21. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

A triangle has its vertices at A(-1, 3, 2), B(3, 6, 1) and C(-4, 4, 3).

- (a) Show that $\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = -10$. [3]
 (b) Show that, to three significant figures, $\cos \hat{B}AC = -0.591$. [3]

22. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Consider the points A(5, 8), B(3, 5) and C(8, 6).

- (a) Find (i) \overrightarrow{AB} ; (ii) \overrightarrow{AC} . [3]
 (b) (i) Find $\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC}$. (ii) Find the size of the angle between \overrightarrow{AB} and \overrightarrow{AC} . [3]

23. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

The quadrilateral $OABC$ has vertices with coordinates $O(0,0)$ $A(5,1)$ $B(10,5)$ and $C(2,7)$

- (a) Find the vectors \overrightarrow{OB} and \overrightarrow{AC} . [2]
 (b) Find the angle between the diagonals of the quadrilateral $OABC$. [3]

24. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with / without GDC]**

The vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 2x \\ x-3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} x+1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ are perpendicular for two values of x .

Find the two values of x .

- 25*. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let α be the angle between the vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} , where $\mathbf{a} = (\cos \theta)\mathbf{i} + (\sin \theta)\mathbf{j}$,

$\mathbf{b} = (\sin \theta)\mathbf{i} + (\cos \theta)\mathbf{j}$ and $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{4}$. Express α in terms of θ .

26. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Consider the vectors $\mathbf{u} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{v} = 4\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - p\mathbf{k}$.

(a) Given that \mathbf{u} is perpendicular to \mathbf{v} find the value of p . [3]

(b) Given that $q|\mathbf{u}|=14$, find the value of q . [3]

27. [Maximum mark: 7] **[without GDC]**

Let $\mathbf{v} = 3\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}$. The vector $\mathbf{v} + p\mathbf{w}$ is perpendicular to \mathbf{w} .

Find the value of p .

28. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

The vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} are defined by $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ y \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$.

Given that \mathbf{c} is perpendicular to $2\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}$, find the value of y .

29. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Consider the vectors $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{d} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Let $\mathbf{s} = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d}$, where \mathbf{s} is perpendicular to \mathbf{a} .

Find an expression for λ in terms of μ .

30. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

The angle between the vector $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ and the vector $\mathbf{b} = 3\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + m\mathbf{k}$ is 30° .

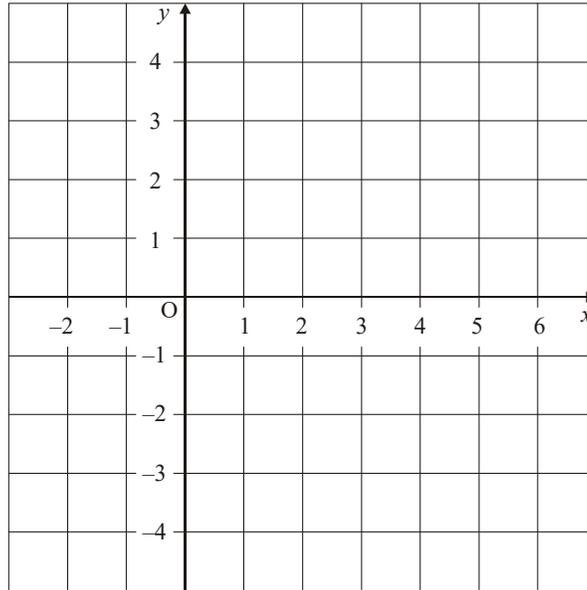
Find the values of m .

31. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

The triangle ABC is defined by the following information

$$\vec{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{AB} \cdot \vec{BC} = 0, \quad \vec{AC} \text{ is parallel to } \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

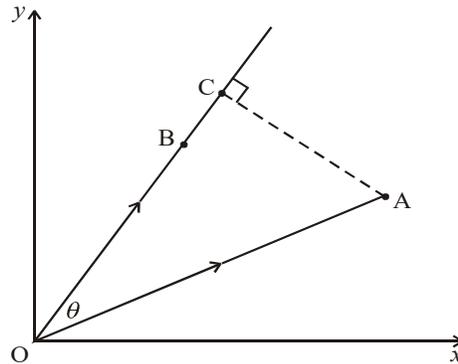
- (a) On the grid below, draw an accurate diagram of triangle ABC. [3]



- (b) Write down the vector \vec{OC} . [2]

32. [Maximum mark: 8] **[with GDC]**

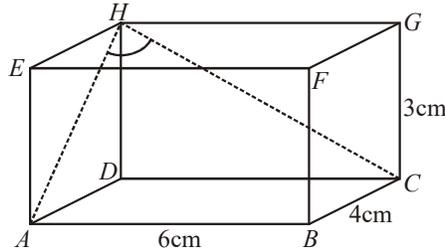
The following diagram shows the point O with coordinates (0, 0), the point A with position vector $\mathbf{a} = 12\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j}$, and the point B with position vector $\mathbf{b} = 6\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}$. The angle between (OA) and (OB) is θ .



- (a) Find $|\mathbf{a}|$; [2]
 (b) Find a unit vector in the direction of \mathbf{b} ; [2]
 (c) Find the **exact** value of $\cos\theta$ in the form $\frac{p}{q}$, where, $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$. [2]
 (d) Show that $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = |\mathbf{b}||OC|$. [2]

33. [Maximum mark: 10] **[with GDC]**

The rectangle box shown in the diagram has dimensions 6 cm × 4 cm × 3 cm.

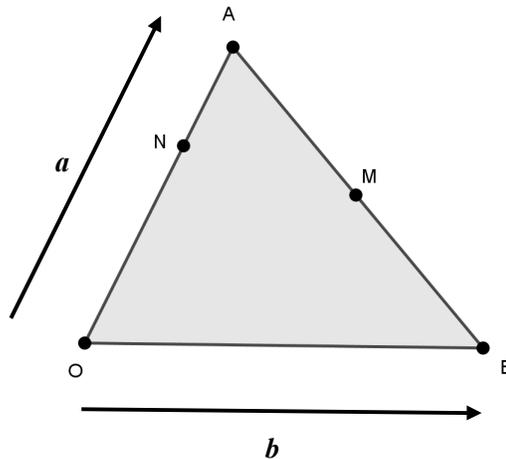


Find, correct to the nearest one-tenth of a degree, the size of the angle $A\hat{H}C$ by following two different methods

- (a) Using the cosine rule on the triangle AHC . [5]
- (b) Assuming that $A(0,0,0)$, B is on x -axis, D on y axis, E on z -axis and using the vectors \overrightarrow{HA} and \overrightarrow{HC} . [5]

34. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

In the following triangle OAB, let $\mathbf{a} = \overrightarrow{OA}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \overrightarrow{OB}$.



It is also given that M is the midpoint of AB, while N divides OA in ratio $ON:NA = 2:1$

Express the following vectors in terms of \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

- (a) \overrightarrow{AB} [1]
- (b) \overrightarrow{OM} [2]
- (c) \overrightarrow{NB} [2]
- (d) \overrightarrow{MN} [3]

35. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Three distinct non-zero vectors are given by $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$, $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$ and $\vec{OC} = \mathbf{c}$.

- (a) Express the vectors \vec{AB} , \vec{BC} and \vec{CA} in terms of \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} . [3]
- (b) If \vec{OA} is perpendicular to \vec{BC} and \vec{OB} is perpendicular to \vec{CA} , show that \vec{OC} is perpendicular to \vec{AB} . [5]

36. [Maximum mark: 10] **[without GDC]**

Given two non-zero vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} show that

- (a) $|\mathbf{a}| = |\mathbf{b}|$ if and only if $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \perp \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}$ [3]
- (b) $\mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{b}$ if and only if $|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}|$ [3]
- (c) Give the geometric interpretation
- (i) of the result (a)
- (ii) of the result (b)
- (iii) of the results (a) and (b) together. [4]

B. Exam style questions (LONG)

37. [Maximum mark: 13] **[without GDC]**

Consider the points $A(1, 5, 4)$, $B(3, 1, 2)$, $D(3, k, 2)$, with (AD) perpendicular to (AB) .

- (a) Find
- (i) \vec{AB} ; (ii) \vec{AD} , giving your answer in terms of k . [3]
- (b) Show that $k = 7$. [3]

The point C is such that $\vec{BC} = \frac{1}{2}\vec{AD}$.

- (c) Find the position vector of C . [4]
- (d) Find $\cos \hat{ABC}$. [3]

38. [Maximum mark: 18] **[with GDC]**

The diagram shows a parallelogram ABCD.

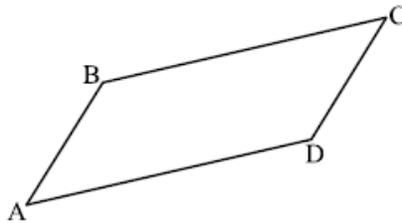


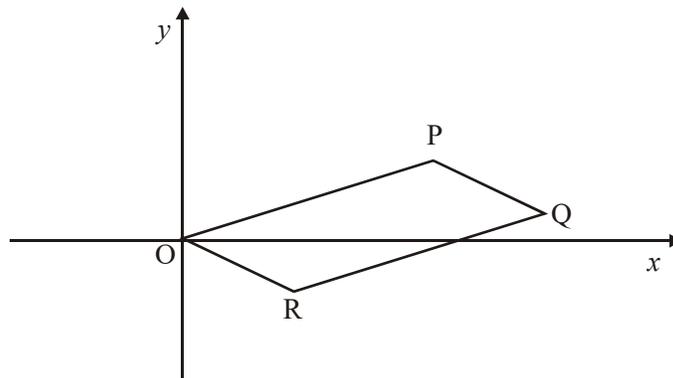
diagram not to scale

The coordinates of A, B and D are A(1, 2, 3), B(6, 4, 4) and D(2, 5, 5).

- (a) (i) Show that $\vec{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. (ii) Find \vec{AD} . (iii) **Hence** show that $\vec{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$. [5]
- (b) Find the coordinates of point C. [3]
- (c) (i) Find $\vec{AB} \bullet \vec{AD}$.
 (ii) **Hence** find angle A. [7]
- (d) Hence, or otherwise, find the area of the parallelogram. [3]

39. [Maximum mark: 14] **[with GDC]**

The diagram shows a parallelogram OPQR in which $\vec{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\vec{OQ} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.



- (a) Find the vector \vec{OR} . [3]
- (b) Use the scalar product of two vectors to show that $\cos \hat{OPQ} = -\frac{15}{\sqrt{754}}$. [4]
- (c) (i) Explain why $\cos \hat{PQR} = -\cos \hat{OPQ}$.
 (ii) Hence show that $\sin \hat{PQR} = \frac{23}{\sqrt{754}}$.
 (iii) Find the area of the parallelogram OPQR, giving your answer as an integer. [7]

40. [Maximum mark: 15] **[without GDC]**

The points A and B have the position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ respectively.

- (a) Find (i) the vector \overrightarrow{AB} . (ii) $|\overrightarrow{AB}|$. [4]

The point D has position vector $\begin{pmatrix} d \\ 23 \end{pmatrix}$

- (b) Find the vector \overrightarrow{AD} in terms of d . [2]

The angle \hat{BAD} is 90° .

- (c) (i) Find d . (ii) Write down the position vector of the point D. [3]

The quadrilateral ABCD is a rectangle.

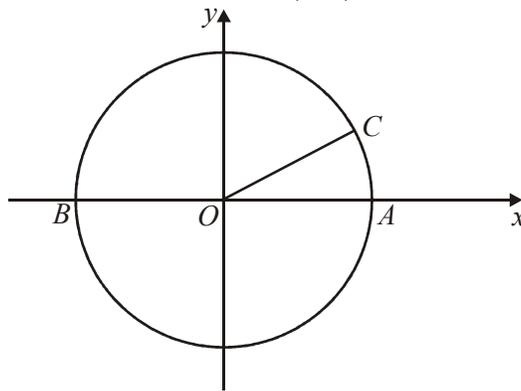
- (d) Find the position vector of the point C. [4]

- (e) Find the area of the rectangle ABCD. [2]

41. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

The circle shown has centre O and radius 6. \overrightarrow{OA} is the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$,

\overrightarrow{OB} is the vector $\begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and \overrightarrow{OC} is the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ \sqrt{11} \end{pmatrix}$.



- (a) Verify that A, B and C lie on the circle. [3]

- (b) Find the vector \overrightarrow{AC} . [2]

- (c) Using an appropriate scalar product, or otherwise, find the cosine of angle OAC . [3]

- (d) Find the area of triangle ABC, giving your answer in the form $a\sqrt{11}$, where $a \in \mathbb{N}$. [4]

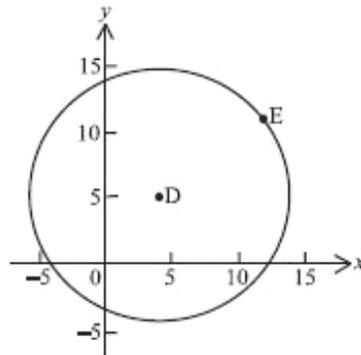
42. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

Consider the point D with coordinates (4, 5), and the point E, with coordinates (12, 11).

(a) Find \overrightarrow{DE} . [2]

(b) Find $|\overrightarrow{DE}|$. [2]

(c) The point D is the centre of a circle and E is on the circumference as shown in the following diagram.



The point G is also on the circumference. \overrightarrow{DE} is perpendicular to \overrightarrow{DG} . Find the possible coordinates of G. [8]