



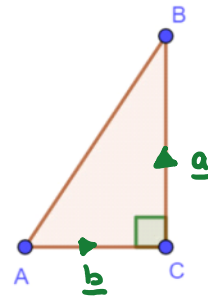
ACB is a right-angled triangle

$$\vec{CB} = \mathbf{a} \quad \vec{AC} = \mathbf{b}$$

a) Write \vec{AB} in terms of \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b}

b) Find $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$

c) Show that $|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}|^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2 + |\mathbf{b}|^2$ and hence prove Pythagoras' Theorem.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \vec{AB} &= \vec{AC} + \vec{CB} \\ &= \underline{\mathbf{b}} + \underline{\mathbf{a}} \end{aligned}$$

b) \vec{AC} and \vec{CB} are perpendicular, hence $\underline{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{b}} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } |\underline{\mathbf{a}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}}|^2 &= (\underline{\mathbf{a}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}}) \cdot (\underline{\mathbf{a}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}}) \\ &= \underline{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{a}} + \underline{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{b}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{a}} + \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{b}} \\ &= \underline{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{a}} + 0 + 0 + \underline{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{b}} \\ &= |\mathbf{a}|^2 + |\mathbf{b}|^2 \end{aligned}$$