

## Section 1: The scalar product

## **Exercise level 3**

- 1. Given that  $\mathbf{a} = a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j}$  is the position vector of a point A,  $\mathbf{b} = b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j}$  is the position vector of a point B and  $\theta$  the angle between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ , use the cosine rule in the triangle OAB to show that  $|\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|\cos\theta = a_1b_1 + a_2b_2$ .
- Use the scalar product to prove that (ac+bd)<sup>2</sup> ≤ (a<sup>2</sup>+b<sup>2</sup>)(c<sup>2</sup>+d<sup>2</sup>) for all real a, b, c and d. Find a condition on a, b, c and d for the equality to hold.
- 3. Show that if  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{u} \mathbf{v}$  are perpendicular then  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  must have the same modulus.

