

$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 0^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{20}$ ,  $|\mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-1)^2 + 0^2} = \sqrt{5}$ , and  
 $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = (2)(2) + (0)(-1) + (4)(0) = 4$ . Then  $\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{a}| |\mathbf{b}|} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{20} \cdot \sqrt{5}}$   
 $= \frac{2}{5}$  and  $\theta = \arccos\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) \approx 66^\circ$ .