

Example 18 The projection of vector $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ along $\vec{b} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ is

- (A) $\frac{2}{3}$ (B) $\frac{1}{3}$ (C) 2 (D) $\sqrt{6}$

Solution (A) is the correct answer. Projection of a vector \vec{a} on \vec{b} is

$$\frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|} = \frac{(2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \cdot (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k})}{\sqrt{1+4+4}} = \frac{2}{3}.$$