

2.10.71

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Question

If the vectors \mathbf{b} , \mathbf{c} , \mathbf{d} are not coplanar, then prove that the vector $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{b}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{d}) \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$ is parallel to \mathbf{a} .

Theoretical Solution

The vector triple product $\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C})$ can be written as:

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{C}) - \mathbf{C} (\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{B}) \quad (1)$$

Also, we know

$$(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{C} = -\mathbf{C} \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \quad (2)$$

Theoretical Solution

$$(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \times (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D}) = (\mathbf{A}^\top (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D})) \mathbf{B} - (\mathbf{B}^\top (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{D})) \mathbf{A} \quad (3)$$

By using (3)

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = (\mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d})) \mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{b}^\top (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d})) \mathbf{a} \quad (4)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{b} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (5)$$

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{b}) = (\mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{b})) \mathbf{c} - (\mathbf{c}^\top (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{b})) \mathbf{a} \quad (6)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{d} \ \mathbf{b}] \mathbf{c} - [\mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d} \ \mathbf{b}] \mathbf{a} \quad (7)$$

$$= -[\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (8)$$

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{d}) \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a}^\top (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})) \mathbf{d} - (\mathbf{d}^\top (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})) \mathbf{a} \quad (9)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{d} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{a} \quad (10)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (11)$$

Theoretical Solution

On adding :

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{d} \times \mathbf{b}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{d}) \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) \quad (12)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{b} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} - [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} + [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (13)$$

$$= [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{b} - [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (14)$$

Theoretical Solution

Using the expansion of a vector **a** in terms of non-coplanar vectors **b, c, d**:

$$\mathbf{a} [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{b} + [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{d} \mathbf{b}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} \quad (15)$$

Rearranging the scalar triple products on the right:

$$\mathbf{a} [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] = [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{b} - [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} \quad (16)$$

Theoretical Solution

Substitute this into the sum:

$$= \mathbf{a} [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (17)$$

$$= [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} - [\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} \quad (18)$$

$$= \mathbf{0} \quad (19)$$

The resultant vector is $\mathbf{0}$. A zero vector is considered parallel to any vector. Thus, the given vector expression is parallel to \mathbf{a} .

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>

// Function to calculate the cross product of two 3D vectors.
void cross_product(double ax, double ay, double az,
                  double bx, double by, double bz,
                  double *rx, double *ry, double *rz) {
    *rx = ay * bz - az * by;
    *ry = az * bx - ax * bz;
    *rz = ax * by - ay * bx;
}
```

```
// Function to calculate the dot product of two 3D vectors.
double dot_product(double ax, double ay, double az,
                   double bx, double by, double bz) {
    return ax * bx + ay * by + az * bz;
}

// Helper function to calculate a term of the form (V1 x V2) x (
// V3 x V4).
void calculate_vector_quad_cross(
    double v1x, double v1y, double v1z,
    double v2x, double v2y, double v2z,
    double v3x, double v3y, double v3z,
    double v4x, double v4y, double v4z,
    double *term_rx, double *term_ry, double *term_rz) {
```

```
// Helper function to calculate a term of the form (V1 x V2) x (
// V3 x V4).

void calculate_vector_quad_cross(
    double v1x, double v1y, double v1z,
    double v2x, double v2y, double v2z,
    double v3x, double v3y, double v3z,
    double v4x, double v4y, double v4z,
    double *term_rx, double *term_ry, double *term_rz) {

    // Calculate V1 x V2
    double v1xv2_x, v1xv2_y, v1xv2_z;
    cross_product(v1x, v1y, v1z, v2x, v2y, v2z, &v1xv2_x, &
        v1xv2_y, &v1xv2_z);
```

```
// Calculate V3 x V4
double v3xv4_x, v3xv4_y, v3xv4_z;

cross_product(v3x, v3y, v3z, v4x, v4y, v4z, &v3xv4_x, &
              v3xv4_y, &v3xv4_z);

// Calculate (V1 x V2) x (V3 x V4)
cross_product(v1xv2_x, v1xv2_y, v1xv2_z, v3xv4_x, v3xv4_y,
              v3xv4_z,
              term_rx, term_ry, term_rz);
```

```
// Main function to calculate the full expression:  
// (a b) (c d) + (a c) (d b) + (a d) (b c)  
void calculate_full_expression(  
    double ax, double ay, double az,  
    double bx, double by, double bz,  
    double cx, double cy, double cz,  
    double dx, double dy, double dz,  
    double *result_x, double *result_y, double *result_z) {  
  
    double term1_x, term1_y, term1_z;  
    double term2_x, term2_y, term2_z;  
    double term3_x, term3_y, term3_z;
```

```
// Term 1: (a x b) x (c x d)
calculate_vector_quad_cross(ax, ay, az, bx, by, bz,
                           cx, cy, cz, dx, dy, dz,
                           &term1_x, &term1_y, &term1_z);

// Term 2: (a x c) x (d x b)
calculate_vector_quad_cross(ax, ay, az, cx, cy, cz,
                           dx, dy, dz, bx, by, bz,
                           &term2_x, &term2_y, &term2_z);
```

```
// Term 3: (a x d) x (b x c)
calculate_vector_quad_cross(ax, ay, az, dx, dy, dz,
                           bx, by, bz, cx, cy, cz,
                           &term3_x, &term3_y, &term3_z);

// Sum the terms
*result_x = term1_x + term2_x + term3_x;
*result_y = term1_y + term2_y + term3_y;
*result_z = term1_z + term2_z + term3_z;
}
```



```
// Function to check if three vectors are coplanar (scalar triple
    product is zero).
double scalar_triple_product(double bx, double by, double bz,
                             double cx, double cy, double cz,
                             double dx, double dy, double dz) {
    double cxd_x, cxd_y, cxd_z;
    cross_product(cx, cy, cz, dx, dy, dz, &cxd_x, &cxd_y, &cxd_z)
        ;
    return dot_product(bx, by, bz, cxd_x, cxd_y, cxd_z);
}
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
import ctypes
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D

# Load the shared library
lib_vector = ctypes.CDLL('./code5.so')

# Define argument types and return types for C functions
lib_vector.cross_product.argtypes = [
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double),
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double)
]
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
lib_vector.cross_product.restype = None

lib_vector.dot_product.argtypes = [
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double
]
lib_vector.dot_product.restype = ctypes.c_double

lib_vector.calculate_vector_quad_cross.argtypes = [
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.
        c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double)
]
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
lib_vector.calculate_vector_quad_cross.restype = None

lib_vector.calculate_full_expression.argtypes = [
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.
        c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double)
]
lib_vector.calculate_full_expression.restype = None
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
lib_vector.scalar_triple_product.argtypes = [  
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,  
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double,  
    ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double, ctypes.c_double  
]  
lib_vector.scalar_triple_product.restype = ctypes.c_double  
  
# Define arbitrary non-coplanar vectors b, c, d  
b_np = np.array([1.0, 0.0, 0.0])  
c_np = np.array([0.0, 1.0, 0.0])  
d_np = np.array([0.0, 0.0, 1.0])  
  
# Test coplanarity  
stp_val = lib_vector.scalar_triple_product(  
    b_np[0], b_np[1], b_np[2], c_np[0], c_np[1], c_np[2], d_np  
    [0], d_np[1], d_np[2]  
)
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
print(fScalar Triple Product of b, c, d: {stp_val})
if np.isclose(stp_val, 0.0):
    print(Warning: Vectors b, c, d might be coplanar. Please
          choose different vectors.)
else:
    print(Vectors b, c, d are not coplanar (as required).)

# Define an arbitrary vector a
a_np = np.array([2.0, 3.0, 4.0])

# Ctypes doubles to hold the result
result_x = ctypes.c_double()
result_y = ctypes.c_double()
result_z = ctypes.c_double()
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
# Call the C function to calculate the full expression
lib_vector.calculate_full_expression(
    a_np[0], a_np[1], a_np[2], b_np[0], b_np[1], b_np[2],
    c_np[0], c_np[1], c_np[2], d_np[0], d_np[1], d_np[2],
    ctypes.byref(result_x), ctypes.byref(result_y), ctypes.byref(
        result_z)
)

calculated_vector_np = np.array([result_x.value, result_y.value,
    result_z.value])

print(f'\nVector a: {a_np}')
print(f'Calculated expression vector: {calculated_vector_np}')

is_parallel = False
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
if np.allclose(calculated_vector_np, np.array([0,0,0])):
    is_parallel = True
elif np.allclose(a_np, np.array([0,0,0])):
    is_parallel = True
else:
    cross_prod_check = np.cross(a_np, calculated_vector_np)
    if np.allclose(cross_prod_check, np.array([0, 0, 0])):
        is_parallel = True
        if np.linalg.norm(a_np) > 1e-9:
            k = np.dot(calculated_vector_np, a_np) / np.dot(a_np,
                a_np)
            print(fScalar multiple k: {k:.4f})
            print(fCheck: k * a = {k * a_np})
```


Python Code (using C shared library)

```
if is_parallel:
    print(\nResult: The calculated vector is parallel to vector '
          a'.)
else:
    print(\nResult: The calculated vector is NOT parallel to
          vector 'a'.)

# --- Plotting the vectors in 3D ---
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10, 8))
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
origin = [0, 0, 0]

ax.quiver(*origin, a_np[0], a_np[1], a_np[2], color='blue',
          arrow_length_ratio=0.1, label='Vector a')
ax.text(a_np[0], a_np[1], a_np[2], 'a', color='blue')
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
ax.quiver(*origin, b_np[0], b_np[1], b_np[2], color='red',  
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2, label='Vector b')  
ax.text(b_np[0], b_np[1], b_np[2], 'b', color='red')  
ax.quiver(*origin, c_np[0], c_np[1], c_np[2], color='green',  
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2, label='Vector c')  
ax.text(c_np[0], c_np[1], c_np[2], 'c', color='green')  
  
ax.quiver(*origin, d_np[0], d_np[1], d_np[2], color='purple',  
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2, label='Vector d')  
ax.text(d_np[0], d_np[1], d_np[2], 'd', color='purple')  
scale_factor = 0.5  
calculated_vector_scaled = calculated_vector_np * scale_factor
```

Python Code (using C shared library)

```
ax.quiver(*origin,  
          calculated_vector_scaled[0], calculated_vector_scaled  
          [1], calculated_vector_scaled[2],  
          color='black', arrow_length_ratio=0.05, label='Resultant  
          Vector (scaled)')  
ax.set_xlim([-5, 5])  
ax.set_ylim([-5, 5])  
ax.set_zlim([-5, 5])  
ax.set_xlabel('X-axis')  
ax.set_ylabel('Y-axis')  
ax.set_zlabel('Z-axis')  
ax.legend()  
plt.grid(True)  
plt.savefig('fig1.png')  
plt.show()
```

Python Code: Direct

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
```

```
def vector_triple_product_expansion(A, B, C):
```

Calculates the vector triple product $A \times (B \times C)$ using the identity:

$$A \times (B \times C) = (A \cdot C) B - (A \cdot B) C$$

```
return np.dot(A, C) * B - np.dot(A, B) * C
```

Python Code: Direct

```
def prove_parallel_to_a(a, b, c, d):
```

Proves that $(a \times b) \times (c \times d) + (a \times c) \times (d \times b) + (a \times d) \times (b \times c)$
is parallel to a , given that b, c, d are not coplanar.

```
# Term 1:  $(a \times b) \times (c \times d)$ 
```

```
term1 = np.dot(np.cross(a, b), d) * c - np.dot(np.cross(a, b), c) * d
```

```
# Term 2:  $(a \times c) \times (d \times b)$ 
```

```
term2 = np.dot(np.cross(a, c), b) * d - np.dot(np.cross(a, c), d) * b
```

```
# Term 3:  $(a \times d) \times (b \times c)$ 
```

```
term3 = np.dot(np.cross(a, d), c) * b - np.dot(np.cross(a, d), b) * c
```

Python Code: Direct

```
# Sum of the three terms
result_vector = term1 + term2 + term3

return result_vector

# --- Example Usage and Visualization ---
# Define non-coplanar vectors b, c, d
b = np.array([1, 0, 0])
c = np.array([0, 1, 0])
d = np.array([0, 0, 1])

# Define vector a
a = np.array([2, 3, 4])
# Prove the identity
result_vector = prove_parallel_to_a(a, b, c, d)
```

Python Code: Direct

```
# Check if result_vector is parallel to a
cross_product_check = np.cross(result_vector, a)

print(fVector a: {a})
print(fResulting vector: {result_vector})
print(fCross product of result_vector and a (should be close to
      zero for parallel): {cross_product_check})

# Calculate a scalar multiple to show parallelism
scalar_multiple = np.dot(b, np.cross(c, d))
expected_result = scalar_multiple * a

print(fExpected result based on identity [b c d] * a: {
      expected_result})
```

Python Code: Direct

```
# Numerical check for parallelism
is_parallel = np.allclose(np.cross(result_vector, a), [0, 0, 0])
print(fIs the resulting vector parallel to a? {is_parallel})

# --- 3D Plotting ---
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10, 8))
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')

# Plot vectors a, b, c, d
origin = [0, 0, 0]
ax.quiver(*origin, *a, color='red', label='a', arrow_length_ratio=0.1)
ax.quiver(*origin, *b, color='blue', label='b',
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2)
ax.quiver(*origin, *c, color='green', label='c',
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2)
```

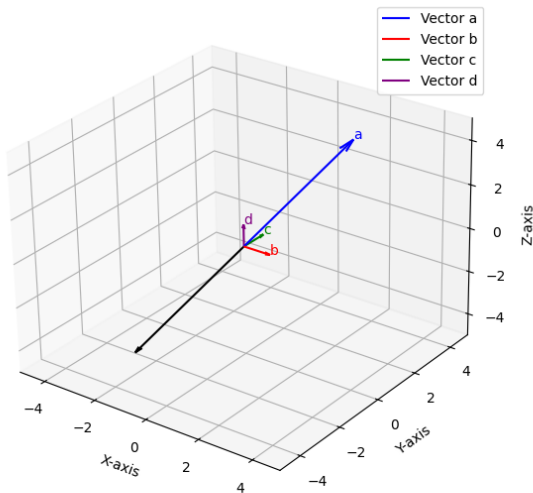

Python Code: Direct

```
ax.quiver(*origin, *d, color='purple', label='d',  
          arrow_length_ratio=0.2)  
# Plot the resulting vector  
ax.quiver(*origin, *result_vector, color='black', label='Result  
Vector', arrow_length_ratio=0.1)  
  
# Set plot limits  
max_val = np.max(np.abs(np.array([a, b, c, d, result_vector])))  
ax.set_xlim([-max_val, max_val])  
ax.set_ylim([-max_val, max_val])  
ax.set_zlim([-max_val, max_val])
```

Python Code: Direct

```
ax.set_xlabel('X-axis')
ax.set_ylabel('Y-axis')
ax.set_zlabel('Z-axis')
ax.set_title(Vector Identity Proof: Result Vector Parallel to 'a'
)
ax.legend()
plt.tight_layout()
plt.savefig(fig2.png)
plt.show()
```

Plot by Python using shared output from C



Plot by Python only

