

Assignment 1 EE5609

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Abstract—This assignment finds the vector triple product.

Download python code from

https://github.com/Atul191/EE-5609-Assignment_1/blob/master/vectors.py

1 PROBLEM STATEMENT

1.1 Find the value of:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}^T \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

1.2 Solution

Equate these matrices as linearly independent vectors as \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} such as:

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Using scalar triple product property we deduce

$$\mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b}^T (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \quad (2)$$

Note: Cross product is given by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

1.3 Step 1

Equating (1) with problem statement we deduce the following:

$$\mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{b}^T (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \quad (4)$$

As Cross Product is anti-commutative we get:

$$\mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{b}^T (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{c}^T (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \quad (5)$$

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

$$= \mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) \quad (7)$$

1.4 Step 2

So instead of calculating each step we just calculate one iteration by referring (3) and (7) i.e.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (1) \quad (9)$$

1.5 Step 3 (Answer)

As the terms in the given problem are equal. so we have computed only one term as in step 2 and the solution to the problem statement looks like $(1) + (-1) + (1) = (1)$