

# ASSIGNMENT 2

PUNDI BINDUSREE  
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# outline

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## Question

### Question

Show that the four points A,B,C and D with position vectors  $4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ ,  $-\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ ,  $3\hat{i} + 9\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$  and  $4(-\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$  respectively, are coplanar.

# solution

Given four points with position vectors as below

1

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

2

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

3

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

## solution

4

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

# solution

- Need to prove the above four position vectors are coplanar.

# solution

Proof:

- The four position vectors  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  are coplanar if the scalar triple product of  $\mathbf{AB}, \mathbf{AC}$  and  $\mathbf{AD}$  is 0.

# solution

- In other way scalar triple product of above vectors is

$$\mathbf{AB} \cdot (\mathbf{AC} \times \mathbf{AD}) = \text{determinant of the matrix } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{AB} \\ \mathbf{AC} \\ \mathbf{AD} \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Therefore need to prove determinant of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{AB} \\ \mathbf{AC} \\ \mathbf{AD} \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad (6)$$



# solution

The vectors **AB**, **AC**, **AD** can be found as below

## solution

1

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 - 4 \\ -1 - 5 \\ -1 - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -6 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

## solution

2

$$\mathbf{AC} = \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A} \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbf{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 3 - 4 \\ 9 - 5 \\ 4 - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

## solution

3

$$\mathbf{AD} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A} \quad (11)$$

$$\mathbf{AD} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -4 - 4 \\ 4 - 5 \\ 4 - 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

## solution

- Let  $X$  be a matrix and

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} AB \\ AC \\ AD \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

# solution

- Now the scalar dot product of above three vectors is determinant of matrix  $X = |X|$

$$|X| = \begin{vmatrix} -4 & -6 & -2 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 \\ -8 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

# solution

- Applying row reduction method for above determinant  $|X|$ .
- Let  $C_1, C_2, C_3$  be first, second, third columns respectively and  $R_1, R_2, R_3$  be first, second, third columns respectively.

## solution

- ① Multiplying the determinant with 2 and dividing  $R_1$  in the determinant with 2 gives

$$|X| = 2 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -3 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 \\ -8 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (14)$$



## solution

② taking common factor -1 from the  $R_1$  in the determinant gives

$$|X| = -2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 \\ -8 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (15)$$

## solution

③ on interchanging  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  gives

$$|X| = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 4 & -1 & 3 \\ -1 & -8 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (16)$$

## solution

4  $C_1 \longrightarrow C_1 - C_2$  gives

$$|X| = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & 3 \\ 7 & -8 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (17)$$

## solution

5  $C_2 \longrightarrow C_2 - C_3$  gives

$$|X| = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 5 & -4 & 3 \\ 7 & -11 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (18)$$

## solution

6  $C_1 \rightarrow C_1 - C_2$  gives

$$= 2 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 9 & -4 & 3 \\ 18 & -11 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (19)$$

## solution

7  $C_2 \longrightarrow C_2 - C_3$  gives

$$|X| = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 9 & -7 & 3 \\ 18 & -14 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (20)$$

## solution

- ⑧ taking common factor 9 from  $C_1$  and -7 from  $C_2$  gives

$$|X| = -156 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (21)$$

finally two columns are obtained with the same entries

# solution

- If a determinant have two rows or two columns with same entries, then the value of the determinant is zero.  
As the above determinant have two columns with same entries the value of the determinant of matrix X i.e.,  $|X| = 0$ .



# solution

- As determinant of matrix  $X = 0$  it says that scalar triple product of the vectors **AB**, **AC** and **AD** is zero.

# solution

- Therefore the given four position vectors **A**, **B**, **C** and **D** are coplanar.  
Hence proved.