

# Math 241

## Vector Analysis

Books:

Vector analysis- by Spiegel-Second edition

Vector analysis- by Raisinghania-Third edition

## Vector Algebra

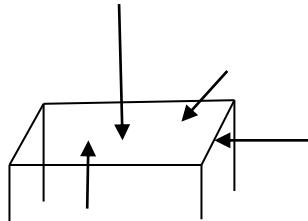
The quantities are classified into two classes **Scalars** and **Vectors**

**Scalars:** The quantities having magnitude only are called Scalars.  
Examples- length, mass, temperature, time etc.

**Vectors:** The quantities having both magnitude and direction are called Vectors.

Examples- displacement, force, velocity, acceleration etc.

Apply a force on a table. You will ask me which direction I shall apply it.



**Representation of vectors:** A vector quantity can be represented by a directed line segment as shown in the fig.

$$A \xrightarrow{\text{a or } \vec{a} \text{ or } a} B$$

The vector from the initial point A to the terminal point B is denoted by **AB**. Its length is  $AB$  or  $|AB|$  called the magnitude or

the modulus and its direction is from A to B as shown by arrow head.

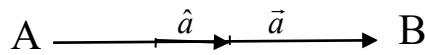
$$|\vec{a}| = a$$

**Unit vector**-Unit vector is that vector whose magnitude is unity. Unit vector is obtained when a given vector is divided by its length. Along the vector  $\vec{a}$  it is denoted by  $\hat{a}$

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\vec{a}}{a} \quad |\hat{a}| = \frac{|\vec{a}|}{a} = \frac{a}{a} = 1$$

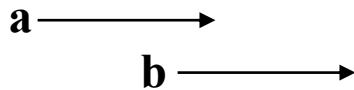
$\vec{a} = a\hat{a}$ =magnitude multiplied by the unit vector along that direction

$$AB = \vec{a}$$



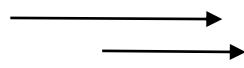
**Fig1.**

**Equal vector**- Equal vectors are those vectors which have equal magnitude and same direction.  $\mathbf{a}=\mathbf{b}$



**Fig2.**

**Like vectors**-Like vectors are those vectors which have same directions but magnitude may be different.



**Fig3.**

**Unlike vectors**-Unlike vectors are those vectors which have opposite directions but magnitude may be different.

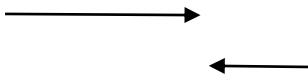


Fig4.

**Negative vector**- Negative vector is a vector whose magnitude is equal to that of the given vector but having opposite direction.

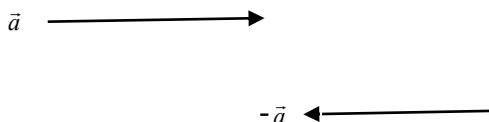


Fig5.

### Zero vector or Null vector

The vector whose length or modulus is zero is called a Zero vector or Null vector and it is denoted by  $\mathbf{0}$

### Addition of vectors

Triangle law of addition

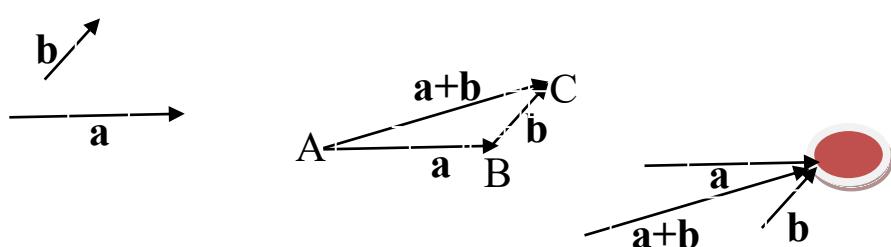
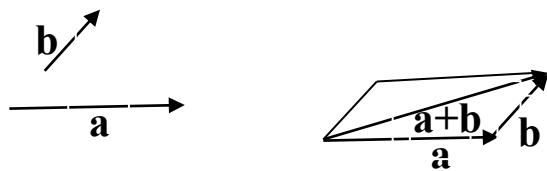


Fig6

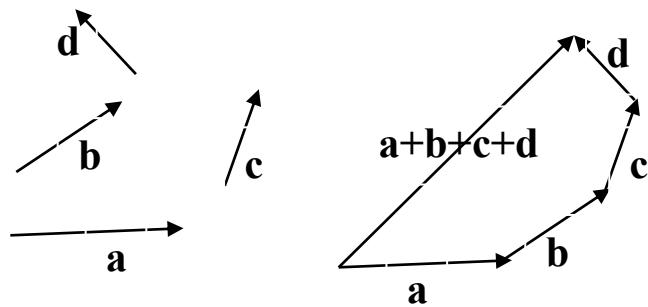
If a particle is displaced from A to B and then B to C ultimately it is from A to C. This suggests that  $\mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{BC} = \mathbf{AC}$

### Parallelogram law of addition



**Fig7**

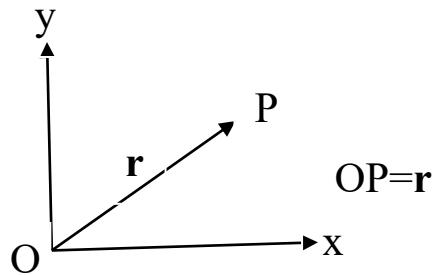
### Polygon law of addition



**Fig8.**

**Position vector**-Let O be the origin of the coordinate system. Then the vector  $\mathbf{r}$  joining the origin to any point P

is called the position vector of the point P.  $\overrightarrow{OP} = \mathbf{r}$  is the position vector of the point P. Sometimes denoted as  $P(\mathbf{r})$ .



**Fig9.**

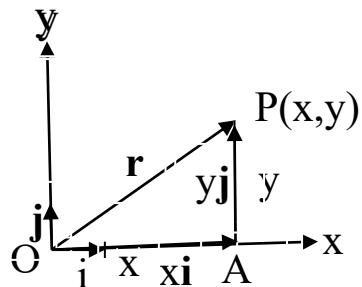
$\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  or  $\hat{\mathbf{i}}, \hat{\mathbf{j}}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}$

### Vectors in rectangular cartesian coordinates-

Let  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}$  be the unit vectors along x and y respectively

Then  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$ . In three dimensions  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$

$$|\vec{r}| = r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$



$$\overrightarrow{OA} = x\mathbf{i}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AP} = y\mathbf{j}$$

$$\overrightarrow{OP} = \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{AP}$$

$$\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$$

$$|\vec{r}| = r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

**Fig10.**

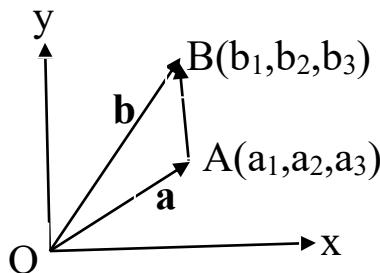
**AB in cartesian form**-Let O be the origin of the coordinate system and the coordinates of A and B are  $(a_1, a_2, a_3)$  and  $(b_1, b_2, b_3)$  respectively.

$$\mathbf{OA} = \mathbf{a} = a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{OB} = \mathbf{b} = b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j} + b_3\mathbf{k}$$

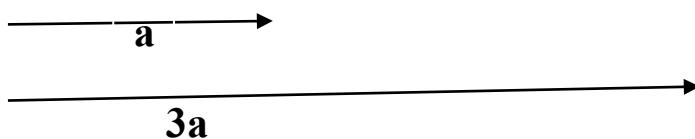
$$\mathbf{OA} + \mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{OB}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{AB} &= \mathbf{OB} - \mathbf{OA} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a} = (b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j} + b_3\mathbf{k}) - (a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}) \\ &= (b_1 - a_1)\mathbf{i} + (b_2 - a_2)\mathbf{j} + (b_3 - a_3)\mathbf{k}\end{aligned}$$



**Fig11.**

**Scalar multiplication of vector**-Let  $\mathbf{a}$  be a vector and  $\lambda$  is a scalar then  $\lambda \mathbf{a}$  is a vector parallel to  $\mathbf{a}$  whose magnitude is  $\lambda$  times magnitude of  $\mathbf{a}$



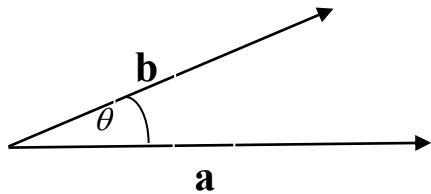
if  $\lambda = 3$

**Fig12.**

## Product of vectors

### 1. Scalar or dot product

Def.  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ab \cos \theta$



**Fig12a.**

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} = b a \cos \theta = a b \cos \theta = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}$$

If parallel  $\theta = 0$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ab$$

If perpendicular  $\theta = 90^\circ$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{i} = \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 1$$

$$\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{i} = 0$$

### Analytic form of the dot product

$$\mathbf{a} = a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} + a_3 \mathbf{k} \quad \mathbf{b} = b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j} + b_3 \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = (a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} + a_3 \mathbf{k}) \cdot (b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j} + b_3 \mathbf{k}) = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ab \cos \theta$$

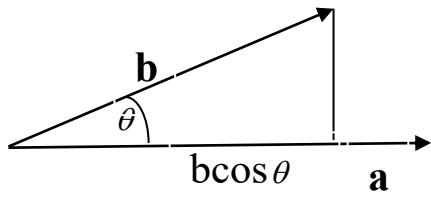
$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{ab}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2}}$$

### Geometrical interpretation of dot product

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ab \cos \theta = a(b \cos \theta) = |\vec{a}| \times \text{Projection}_{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{b}$$

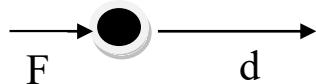
$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ba \cos \theta = b(a \cos \theta) = |\vec{b}| \times \text{Projection}_{\mathbf{b}} \mathbf{a}$$



**Fig13.**

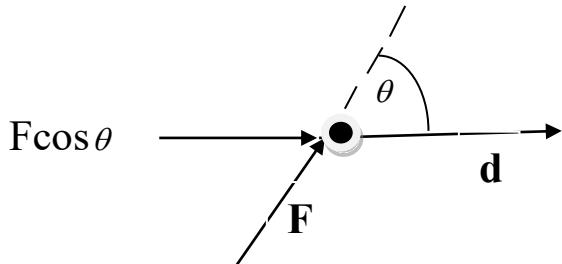
**Physical interpretation of the dot product:**

$W = \text{Force} \times \text{displacement} = Fd$



**Fig14.**

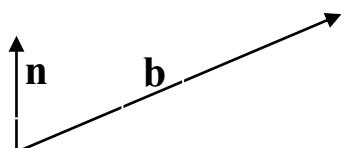
$$W = F \cos \theta \times d = \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{d} \quad F \cos \theta \text{ is the effective force}$$

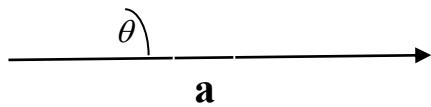


**Fig15.**

## 2. Vector or Cross product

Def.  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = ab \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$





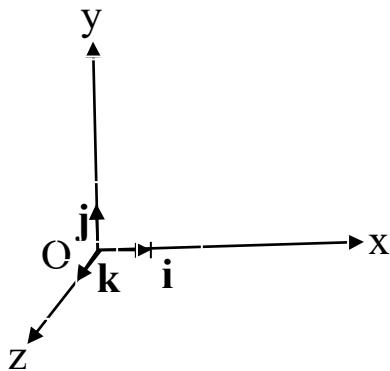
**Fig 16**

$$\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a} = -a \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}$$

$$\text{if } \theta = 0 \quad \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0} \quad \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$|\mathbf{i}| = |\mathbf{j}| = |\mathbf{k}| = 1 \quad \mathbf{i} \times \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{k} \quad \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{i} = -\mathbf{k}$$



### Analytic form of the cross product

$$\mathbf{a} = a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} + a_3 \mathbf{k} \quad \mathbf{b} = b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j} + b_3 \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = (a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} + a_3 \mathbf{k}) \times (b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j} + b_3 \mathbf{k})$$

$$= a_1 b_2 \mathbf{k} - a_1 b_3 \mathbf{j} - a_2 b_1 \mathbf{k} + a_2 b_3 \mathbf{i} + a_3 b_1 \mathbf{j} - a_3 b_2 \mathbf{i}$$

$$= i(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) + j(a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3) + k(a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \quad |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = \sqrt{(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2)^2 + (a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3)^2 + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)^2}$$

$$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = ab \sin \theta$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|}{ab}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2)^2 + (a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3)^2 + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)^2}}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2}}$$

## Geometrical interpretation of the cross product

### Area of a parallelogram

If  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  are the adjacent sides of a parallelogram then  $|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$  represents the area of the parallelogram

$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = ab \sin \theta =$  Area of the parallelogram ABCD having  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  as the adjacent sides.

$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = ab \sin \theta \mathbf{n} =$  Vector area of the parallelogram ABCD having  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  as the adjacent sides.

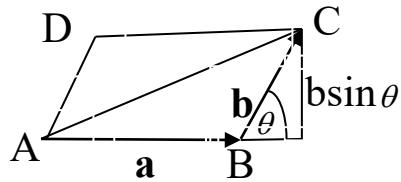


Fig17.

### Area of a triangle

If  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  are the adjacent sides of a triangle then  $\frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$  represents the area of the triangle.

$$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = ab \sin \theta$$

$$\text{Area of the triangle} = \frac{1}{2} ab \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$$

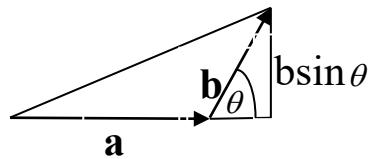


Fig18.

## ABC16-11-21

### Physical interpretation of the cross product of two vectors

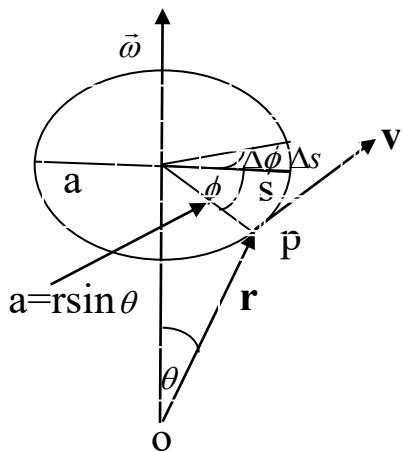
Let a particle be moving in a circular path about an axis passing through the centre of the circle and perpendicular to the plane of the circle.

Let the particle at P describes an arc  $\Delta s$  in time  $\Delta t$ . If  $\Delta\phi$  is the central angle subtended by  $\Delta s$  then

$$\omega = \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \text{angular speed}$$

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt}$$

$$s = a\phi$$



$$\frac{ds}{dt} = a \frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

$$v = a\omega$$

$v$  is along the tangent to the circle

$\omega$  is perpendicular to the plane of the circle

Let  $\mathbf{r}$  be the position vector of P inclined at an angle  $\theta$  with the direction of  $\omega$

$$a = r \sin \theta$$

$$v = a\omega$$

$$v = \omega r \sin \theta$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \vec{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}$$

As from the figure it is seen that  $\mathbf{v}$  has the direction of  $\omega \times \mathbf{r}$

$$\text{Moment} = \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$$


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## Triple product of vectors

### 1. Scalar triple product

#### Analytic form of the Scalar triple product

$$\mathbf{a} = a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} + a_3 \mathbf{k} \quad \mathbf{b} = b_1 \mathbf{i} + b_2 \mathbf{j} + b_3 \mathbf{k} \quad \mathbf{c} = c_1 \mathbf{i} + c_2 \mathbf{j} + c_3 \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} = i(b_2 c_3 - b_3 c_2) + j(b_3 c_1 - b_1 c_3) + k(b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1)$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = a_1(b_2 c_3 - b_3 c_2) + a_2(b_3 c_1 - b_1 c_3) + a_3(b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1)$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

#### Problem

Prove that in scalar triple product dot and cross can be interchanged.

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = a_1(b_2 c_3 - b_3 c_2) + a_2(b_3 c_1 - b_1 c_3) + a_3(b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1)$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{c} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{c} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{c}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{c}$$

$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}$  proved

### Geometrical interpretation of the Scalar triple product

If  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$  are the edges of a parallelepiped then  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$  represents the volume of the parallelepiped

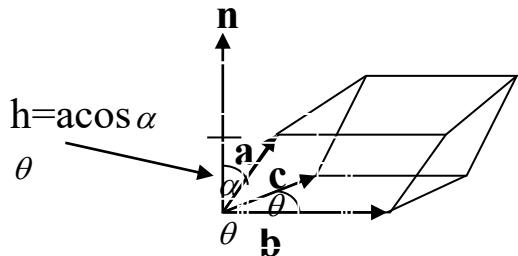


Fig 20

If  $A$  is area of the base and  $h$  is the height of the parallelepiped then volume of the parallelepiped  $V = Ah$

Area of the base  $= A = b c \sin \theta$   $h = a \cos \alpha$

$\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} = b c \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot b c \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

$$= b c \sin \theta \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

$$= b c \sin \theta \cos \alpha = Ah = V = \text{Volume of the parallelepiped}$$

For this reason it is also known as box product.

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = [\mathbf{abc}] \quad [\mathbf{aab}] = 0 \quad [ijk] = ijk \cdot k = 1$$

$$[\mathbf{abc}] = [\mathbf{bca}] = [\mathbf{cab}]$$

$$[\mathbf{abc}] = -[\mathbf{acb}]$$

**Coplanarity condition**  $[\mathbf{abc}] = 0$

### Problems

1. If three vectors  $\mathbf{a} = i - j + k$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = 2i + j - k$  and  $\mathbf{c} = \lambda i - j + \lambda k$  are coplanar find the value of  $\lambda$ .

If  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$  are coplanar then  $[\mathbf{abc}] = 0$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ \lambda & -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad 3\lambda - 3 = 0, \quad \lambda = 1$$

2. If the volume of the parallelepiped with edges  $\mathbf{a} = 2i - j - k$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = 3i + 2j + 2k$  and  $\mathbf{c} = 5i - \lambda j + 3\lambda k$  is 4 find  $\lambda$ .

$$\text{here } [\mathbf{abc}] = 4 \quad \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 5 & -\lambda & 3\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 4 \quad 28\lambda = 4 \quad \lambda = \frac{1}{7}$$

### Volume of a tetrahedron

If  $A$  is area of the base triangle and  $h$  is the height of a tetrahedron then volume of the tetrahedron  $V = \frac{1}{3}Ah$

$$\text{Area of the base triangle} = A = \frac{1}{2}bc \sin \theta \quad h = a \cos \alpha$$

$$\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} = bc \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot bc \sin \theta \mathbf{n}$$

$$= bc \sin \theta \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

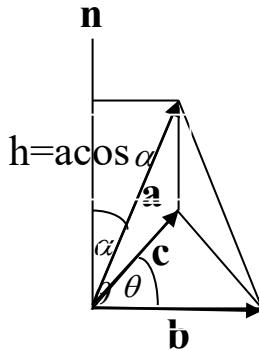
$$= bc \sin \theta \cos \alpha$$

$$= 2Ah$$

$$= 6 \frac{1}{3} Ah$$

$$= 6V$$

$$V = \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \frac{1}{6} [\mathbf{abc}]$$



**Fig 21.**

### Problem

Prove that  $[(\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b})(\mathbf{b}+\mathbf{c})(\mathbf{c}+\mathbf{a})] = 2[\mathbf{abc}]$

Or, Prove that the volume of the parallelepiped whose edges are the vectors  $\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}+\mathbf{c}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}+\mathbf{a}$  is twice the volume whose edges are  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & [\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b} \ \mathbf{b}+\mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{c}+\mathbf{a}] \\
 & = (\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{b}+\mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{c}+\mathbf{a}) \\
 & = (\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) \\
 & = (\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a} \\
 & = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a} \\
 & = [\mathbf{abc}] + [\mathbf{bca}] \\
 & = [\mathbf{abc}] + [\mathbf{abc}] \\
 & = 2[\mathbf{abc}]
 \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Vector triple product

Prove that  $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c}$

hence show that  $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{b} \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{a} &= a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k} & \mathbf{b} &= b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j} & \mathbf{c} &= c_1\mathbf{i} \\
 \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} &= (b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j}) \times c_1\mathbf{i} = -b_2c_1\mathbf{k} \\
 \mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) &= (a_1\mathbf{i} + a_2\mathbf{j} + a_3\mathbf{k}) \times (-b_2c_1\mathbf{k}) = a_1b_2c_1\mathbf{j} - a_2b_2c_1\mathbf{i} \\
 (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} &= (a_1c_1)(b_1\mathbf{i} + b_2\mathbf{j}) - (a_1b_1 + a_2b_2)c_1\mathbf{i} = a_1b_2c_1\mathbf{j} - a_2b_2c_1\mathbf{i} \\
 \mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) &= (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{b} \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \\
 &= (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{c} - (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{a} + (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{a} - (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{b} \\
 &= \mathbf{0}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{c} \\
 &= -\mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \\
 &= -\{(\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{a} - (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{b}\} \\
 &= (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{a}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{c} = (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{a}$$

## Product of four vectors

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{1. Scalar product of four vectors} \\
 &(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) \\
 &= \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) \\
 &= \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) \\
 &= \mathbf{a} \cdot \{(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d})\mathbf{c} - (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{d}\} \quad \mathbf{ax(bxc)=(a.c)b-(a.b)c} \\
 &= (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) - (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d}) \\
 &= \begin{vmatrix} a.c & a.d \\ b.c & b.d \end{vmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Vector product of four vectors

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b})\times(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}) \quad \text{suppose } \mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{e} \\ & = \mathbf{e}\times(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}) \quad \mathbf{a}\times(\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})=(\mathbf{a}\cdot\mathbf{c})\mathbf{b}- (\mathbf{a}\cdot\mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} \\ & = (\mathbf{e}\cdot\mathbf{d})\mathbf{c}- (\mathbf{e}\cdot\mathbf{c})\mathbf{d} \\ & = (\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{d})\mathbf{c}- (\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{c})\mathbf{d} \\ & = [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{d}]\mathbf{c}-[\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}]\mathbf{d} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b})\times(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}) \\ & = -(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d})\times(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}) \quad \text{suppose } \mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}=\mathbf{e} \\ & = -\mathbf{e}\times(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}) \\ & = -\{(\mathbf{e}\cdot\mathbf{b})\mathbf{a}- (\mathbf{e}\cdot\mathbf{a})\mathbf{b}\} \\ & = -\{(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}\cdot\mathbf{b})\mathbf{a}- (\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d}\cdot\mathbf{a})\mathbf{b}\} \\ & = [\mathbf{c}\mathbf{d}\mathbf{a}]\mathbf{b}-[\mathbf{c}\mathbf{d}\mathbf{b}]\mathbf{a} \end{aligned}$$

### Problem

Prove that  $[\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c} \ \mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{a} \ \mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}] = [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}]^2$

Or, Prove that the volume of the parallelepiped whose edges are the vectors  $\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{a}$  is square of the volume whose edges are  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$

$$\begin{aligned} & [(\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{a})(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b})] \\ & = (\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})\cdot\{(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{a})\times(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{b})\} \\ & = (\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})\cdot\{[\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}]\mathbf{a}-[\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}]\mathbf{b}\} \\ & = [\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}]\{(\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})\cdot\mathbf{a}\} \\ & = [\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}][\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}] \quad [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}]=[\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}]=[\mathbf{c}\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}] \\ & = [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}] [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}] \\ & = [\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}]^2 \end{aligned}$$

### Problem:

Prove that  $\mathbf{d}.\left[\mathbf{a}\times\{\mathbf{b}\times(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d})\}\right]=(\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{d})[\mathbf{a}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{d}]$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{d}.\left[\mathbf{a}\times\{\mathbf{b}\times(\mathbf{c}\times\mathbf{d})\}\right] \\ & = \mathbf{d}.\left[\mathbf{a}\times\{(\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{d})\mathbf{c}- (\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{c})\mathbf{d}\}\right] \quad \mathbf{a}\times(\mathbf{b}\times\mathbf{c})=(\mathbf{a}\cdot\mathbf{c})\mathbf{b}- (\mathbf{a}\cdot\mathbf{b})\mathbf{c} \\ & = \mathbf{d}.\left[(\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{d})(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{c})- (\mathbf{b}\cdot\mathbf{c})(\mathbf{a}\times\mathbf{d})\right] \end{aligned}$$

$$= (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}) - (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{d}) \}$$

$$= (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d})[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}]$$

Prove that  $(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{d}) + (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{d}) + (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = -2[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d}$

$$= [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} - [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{a}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{d} \mathbf{a}] \mathbf{c} + [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{d} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{a} + [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{c} - [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d}$$

$$= [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} - [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d} - [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{d} \mathbf{a}] \mathbf{c} - [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{c} \mathbf{d}] \mathbf{a} + [\mathbf{b} \mathbf{d} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{a} - [\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d}$$

$$= -2[\mathbf{a} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}] \mathbf{d}$$

## Reciprocal vectors

If  $\vec{a}_1 = \frac{\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]}$ ,  $\vec{a}_2 = \frac{\vec{b}_3 \times \vec{b}_1}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]}$ ,  $\vec{a}_3 = \frac{\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]}$  then the set  $\vec{a}_1$ ,  $\vec{a}_2$  and  $\vec{a}_3$  are called reciprocal set of  $\vec{b}_1$ ,  $\vec{b}_2$  and  $\vec{b}_3$ .  $ab=1$   $b=1/a$ ,  $b$  is the reciprocal of  $a$ . Now

$$\vec{a}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_1 = \frac{\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_1}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]} = 1 \quad \text{similarly } \vec{a}_2 \cdot \vec{b}_2 = 1 \quad \vec{a}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_3 = 1$$

$$[\vec{a}_1 \vec{a}_2 \vec{a}_3] = \frac{[\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3 \cdot \vec{b}_3 \times \vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2]}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]^3} = \frac{(\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3) \cdot \{(\vec{b}_3 \times \vec{b}_1) \times (\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2)\}}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]^3}$$

$$= \frac{(\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3) \cdot \{[\vec{b}_3 \vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2] \vec{b}_1 - [\vec{b}_3 \vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_1] \vec{b}_2\}}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]^3} = \frac{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]^2}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]^3} = \frac{1}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]}$$

$$[\vec{a}_1 \vec{a}_2 \vec{a}_3] [\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3] = 1$$

### Problem:

Obtain the set of vectors reciprocal to the set of vectors  $-\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{i}-\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}-\mathbf{k}$

Let  $\vec{b}_1 = -\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\vec{b}_2 = \mathbf{i}-\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{k}$  and  $\vec{b}_3 = \mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}-\mathbf{k}$

$$\vec{a}_1 = \frac{\vec{b}_2 \times \vec{b}_3}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]} \quad \vec{a}_2 = \frac{\vec{b}_3 \times \vec{b}_1}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]} \quad \vec{a}_3 = \frac{\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]}$$

$$[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3] = \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 4$$

$$\vec{b}_2 x \vec{b}_3 = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k} \quad \vec{a}_1 = \frac{\vec{b}_2 x \vec{b}_3}{[\vec{b}_1 \vec{b}_2 \vec{b}_3]} = \frac{1}{4} (2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})$$

Similarly  $\vec{a}_2 = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k})$   $\vec{a}_3 = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j})$