

Math Document Template

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Abstract—This is a simple document explaining how to get the area of a parallelogram with the given adjacent sides that are vectors.

Download all and latex-tikz codes from

svn co <https://github.com/gadepall/school/trunk/ncert/geometry/figs>

1 PROBLEM

Find the area of a parallelogram whose adjacent sides are given by the vectors $(3 \ 1 \ 4)^T$ and $(1 \ -1 \ 1)^T$

2 CONSTRUCTION

- 2.1. The figure for the parallelogram obtained in the question looks like Fig. 2.1. with with vectors **a** and **b**.

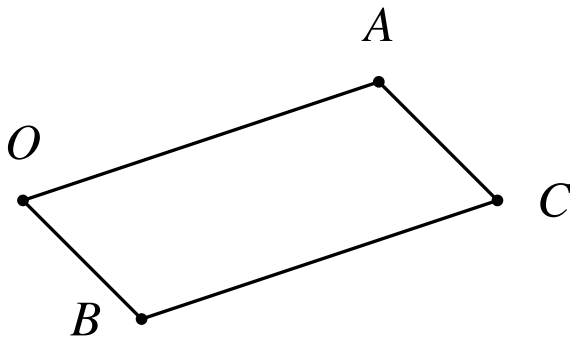


Fig. 2.1: Parallelogram by Latex-Tikz

- 2.2. List the design parameters for construction

Solution: See Table. 2.2.

- 2.3. Find the various values in Fig. 2.1

Solution: From the given information,

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.3.1)$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.3.2)$$

Parameters	Values
OA (a)	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
OB (b)	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

TABLE 2.2: To construct the Parallelogram OACB

The vector **a** can also be written as:

$$\mathbf{a} = 3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 4\hat{k},$$

And the vector **b** can also be written as:

$$\mathbf{b} = \hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

The values are listed in Table. 2.4

- 2.4. List the derived values.

Solution: See Table. 2.4

- 2.5. Draw Fig. 2.1.

Solution: The following Python code generates Fig. 2.5

codes/parallelogram.py

The following Python code verifies the cross-product value.

codes/cross_product_check.py

and the equivalent latex-tikz code generating Fig. 2.1 is

figs/parallelo.tex

3 SOLUTION

The area of a parallelogram can be defined as:
 $Area = |\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad (5.1)$$

Derived Values.	
O	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
A	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
B	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$
C	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

TABLE 2.4: To get the vertices of the Parallelogram $OACB$

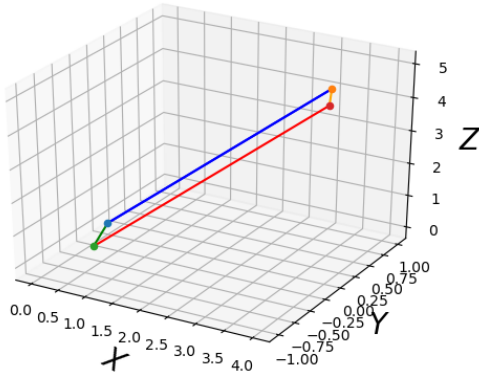


Fig. 2.5: Parallelogram generated using python 3D-plot

So, $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = 5\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$.

Now, $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2}$

or, $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{27}$

or, $Area = \sqrt{27}$

Hence, the area of the parallelogram in the above problem statement is $\sqrt{27}$.

or,

The cross-product can also be calculated as:

$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = [\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b}$ where $[\mathbf{a}]_x = \mathbf{a} \times \hat{e}$ and \hat{e} is the unit vector.

If \mathbf{a} can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.2)$$

and

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.3)$$

Then $[\mathbf{a}]_x$ can be expressed as:

$$[\mathbf{a}]_x = [\mathbf{a} \times \hat{i} \quad \mathbf{a} \times \hat{j} \quad \mathbf{a} \times \hat{k}]$$

$$\text{or, } [\mathbf{a}]_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.4)$$

So, the $[\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b}$ can be calculated as:

$$[\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.5)$$

or, $[\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b} = 5\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$.

Now, $|\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2}$

or, $|\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{27}$

or, $Area = |\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}]_x \mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{27}$

Hence, the area of the parallelogram in the above problem statement is $\sqrt{27}$.