

# 20. Vector Algebra

EE24BTECH11047 - Niketh Prakash Achanta

## I. D: MCQs WITH ONE OR MORE THAN ONE CORRECT

- 1) Three lines  $L_1 : \mathbf{r} = \lambda \hat{\mathbf{i}}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $L_2 : \mathbf{r} = \hat{\mathbf{k}} + \mu \hat{\mathbf{j}}, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$  and  
 $L_3 : \mathbf{r} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \nu \hat{\mathbf{k}}, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$   
 are given. For which point(s)  $\mathbf{Q}$  on  $L_2$  can we find a point  $\mathbf{P}$  on  $L_1$  and a point  $\mathbf{R}$  on  $L_3$  so that  $\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  are collinear? (JEE Adv. 2019)
- a)  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} - \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{j}}$   
 b)  $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$   
 c)  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}}$   
 d)  $\hat{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{j}}$

## II. E: SUBJECTIVE PROBLEMS

- 1) From a point  $\mathbf{O}$  inside the triangle  $ABC$ , perpendiculars  $OD, OE, OF$  are drawn to the sides  $BC, CA, AB$  respectively. Prove that the perpendiculars from  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$  to the sides  $EF, FD, DE$  are concurrent. (1978)
- 2)  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are the vertices of a regular plane polygon with  $n$  sides and  $\mathbf{O}$  is its centre. Show that  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\mathbf{OA}_i \times \mathbf{OA}_{i+1}) = (1-n)(\mathbf{OA}_2 \times \mathbf{OA}_1)$  (1982 - 2Marks)
- 3) Find all values of  $\lambda$  such that  $x, y, z \neq (0, 0, 0)$  and  $(\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + 3\hat{\mathbf{k}})_x + (3\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{j}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}})_y + (-4\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 5\hat{\mathbf{j}})_z = \lambda(\mathbf{x}\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \mathbf{y}\hat{\mathbf{j}} + \mathbf{z}\hat{\mathbf{k}})$  where  $\hat{\mathbf{i}}, \hat{\mathbf{j}}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}$  are unit vectors along the coordinate axes. (1982 - 3Marks)
- 4) A vector  $\mathbf{A}$  has components  $A_1, A_2, A_3$  in a right-handed rectangular Cartesian coordinate system  $oxyz$ . The coordinate system is rotated about the  $x$ -axis through an angle  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Find the components of  $\mathbf{A}$  in the new coordinate system, in terms of  $A_1, A_2, A_3$ . (1983 - 2Marks)
- 5) The position vectors of the points  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  are  $(3\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 2\hat{\mathbf{j}} - \hat{\mathbf{k}}), (2\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 3\hat{\mathbf{j}} - 4\hat{\mathbf{k}}), (-\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + 2\hat{\mathbf{k}})$  and  $(4\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 5\hat{\mathbf{j}} + \lambda\hat{\mathbf{k}})$ , respectively. If the points  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$  (and)  $\mathbf{D}$  lie on a plane, find the value of  $\lambda$ . (1986 - 2.5Marks)
- 6) If  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{D}$  are any four points in space, prove that- (1987 - 2Marks)  
 $|\mathbf{AB} \times \mathbf{CD} + \mathbf{BC} \times \mathbf{AD} + \mathbf{CA} \times \mathbf{BD}| = 4(\text{area of triangle } ABC)$
- 7) Let  $OACB$  be a parallelogram with  $\mathbf{O}$  at the origin and  $OC$  a diagonal. Let  $\mathbf{D}$  be the midpoint of  $OA$ . Using vector methods prove that  $BD$  and  $CO$  intersect in the same ratio. Determine this ratio. (1988 - 3Marks)
- 8) If vectors  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$  are coplanar, show that  $\begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \end{vmatrix} = 0$  (1989 - 2Marks)
- 9) In a triangle  $OAB$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  is the midpoint of  $BO$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  is a point on  $AB$  such that  $AD:DB=2:1$ . If  $OD$  and  $AE$  intersect at  $\mathbf{P}$ , determine the ratio  $OP:PD$  using vector methods. (1989 - 4Marks)
- 10) Let  $\mathbf{A} = 2\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}}, \mathbf{B} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}},$  and  $\mathbf{C} = 4\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{j}} + 7\hat{\mathbf{k}}.$  Determine a vector  $\mathbf{R}$  satisfying  $\mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$  (1990 - 3Marks)
- 11) Determine the value of 'c' so that for all real  $x$ , the vector  $c\mathbf{x}\hat{\mathbf{i}} - 6\hat{\mathbf{j}} - 3\hat{\mathbf{k}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 2\hat{\mathbf{j}} + 2c\mathbf{x}\hat{\mathbf{k}}$  make an obtuse angle with each other. (1991 - 4Marks)
- 12) In a triangle  $ABC$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  are points on  $BC$  and  $AC$  respectively, such that  $BD = 2DC$  and  $AE = 3EC$ . Let  $\mathbf{P}$  be the point of intersection of  $AD$  and  $BE$ . Find  $BP/PE$  using vector methods. (1993 - 5Marks)
- 13) 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  $\mathbf{a}$ .  
(1994 – 4Marks)

- 14) The position vectors of the vertices **A**, **B** and **C** of a tetrahedron ABCD are  $\hat{\mathbf{i}} + \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{i}}$  and  $3\hat{\mathbf{i}}$  respectively. The altitude from vertex **D** to the opposite face ABC meets the median line through **A** of the triangle ABC at a point **E**. If the length of the side AD is 4 and the volume of the tetrahedron is  $\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$ , find the position vector of the point **E** for all its possible positions.  
(1996 – 5Marks)