

1 Vectors

1.1 Rules

1. The angle between vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} is the angle one should rotate vector \mathbf{a} to align it with \mathbf{b} . Then:

(a) $\angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = -\angle(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{a})$

(b) $\angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) + \angle(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}) = \angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c})$

(c) $\angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \angle(-\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) - 180^\circ$

2. The dot product (also inner product or scalar product) of vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} is:

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \equiv (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \cos \angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$$

Then:

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

(b) $|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}| \leq |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}|$

(c) $(\lambda\mathbf{a} + \mu\mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{c} = \lambda\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} + \mu\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}$

(d) If $|\mathbf{a}|, |\mathbf{b}| \neq 0$, then $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$ if and only if when $\mathbf{a} \perp \mathbf{b}$.

3. The cross product (also vector product) of vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} has direction for which $\mathbf{c} \perp \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{c} \perp \mathbf{b}$ and magnitude of:

$$|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a}||\mathbf{b}| \sin \angle(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$$

Alternatively:

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$ are unit vectors. Then:

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

(b) $(\lambda\mathbf{a} + \mu\mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{c} = \lambda\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c} + \mu\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$

(c) If $|\mathbf{a}|, |\mathbf{b}| \neq 0$, then $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = 0$ if and only if when $\mathbf{a} \parallel \mathbf{b}$.

1.2 Problems

1. Prove that $|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}|^2 + |\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}|^2 = 2(|\mathbf{a}|^2 + |\mathbf{b}|^2)$.
2. Prove that if $(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) \perp (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b})$, then $|\mathbf{a}| = |\mathbf{b}|$.
3. Let $\overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OC} = 0$ and $|OA| = |OB| = |OC|$. Prove that ABC is an equilateral triangle
4. Prove that it is possible to make another triangle $A_1B_1C_1$ from the medians AA_1, BB_1, CC_1 of a triangle ABC . Prove that $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle A_1B_1C_1$ and find their similarity coefficient.
5. From a point inside a convex n -gon, the rays are drawn perpendicular to the sides and intersecting the sides (or their continuations). On these rays the vectors $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$ whose lengths are equal to the lengths of the corresponding sides are drawn. Prove that $\mathbf{a}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{a}_n = 0$.
6. Consider n pairwise non-codirected vectors ($n \geq 3$) whose sum is equal to zero. Prove that there exists a convex n -gon such that the set of vectors formed by its sides coincides with the given set of vectors.
7. (*Napoleon's theorem*) Three equilateral triangles ABD, BCE, CAF are constructed outside the triangle ABC . Prove that the centres of the constructed triangles form an equilateral triangle.
8. (a) Let A, B, C and D be arbitrary points on a plane. Prove that

$$\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{CD} + \overrightarrow{BC} \cdot \overrightarrow{AD} + \overrightarrow{CA} \cdot \overrightarrow{BD} = 0$$

(b) Prove that the heights of a triangle intersect at one point.

9. Let O be the centre of the circumcircle of triangle ABC and let point H satisfy $\overrightarrow{OH} = \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OC}$. Prove that H is the intersection point of heights of triangle.
10. Given points A, B, C and D . Prove that $AB^2 + BC^2 + CD^2 + DA^2 \geq AC^2 + BD^2$, where the equality is attained only if $ABCD$ is a parallelogram.
11. Points A_1, \dots, A_n lie on a circle with center O and $\overrightarrow{OA_1} + \dots + \overrightarrow{OA_n} = 0$. Prove that for any point X we have $XA_1 + \dots + XA_n \geq nR$, where R is the radius of the circle.
12. Prove Ceva's theorem: X, Y and Z are points on the sides BC, CA and AB of a triangle ABC respectively. Then, lines AX, BY, CZ intersect at a single point if and only if

$$\frac{\overrightarrow{BX}}{\overrightarrow{XC}} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{CY}}{\overrightarrow{YA}} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{AZ}}{\overrightarrow{ZB}} = 1$$

13. Prove Menelaus's theorem: X, Y and Z are points on the sides (or their elongations) BC, CA and AB of a triangle ABC respectively. Then, X, Y and Z lie on the same line if and only if

$$\frac{\overrightarrow{BX}}{\overrightarrow{XC}} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{CY}}{\overrightarrow{YA}} \cdot \frac{\overrightarrow{AZ}}{\overrightarrow{ZB}} = -1$$

14. Let ABC be an acute-angled triangle with orthocentre H , and let W be a point on the side BC , lying strictly between B and C . The points M and N are the feet of the altitudes from B and C , respectively. Denote by ω_1 the circumcircle of BWN , and let X be the point on ω_1 such that WX is a diameter of ω_1 . Analogously, denote by ω_2 the circumcircle of CWM , and let Y be the point on ω_2 such that WY is a diameter of ω_2 . Prove that X , Y and H are collinear.
15. Is it possible to construct a triangle for which both coordinates of each vertex are integers?
16. The angles of a triangle are 22.5° , 45° and 112.5° . Prove that inside this triangle there exists a point that is located on the median through one vertex, the angle bisector through another vertex and the altitude through the third vertex.