

# 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  $KLM$  from the medians  $AA_1, BB_1, CC_1$  of a triangle  $ABC$ . Similarly, triangle  $XYZ$  is formed from the medians of  $KLM$ . Prove that  $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle XYZ$  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  $\omega_1$  the circumcircle of  $BWN$ , and let  $X$  be the point on  $\omega_1$  such that  $WX$  is a diameter of  $\omega_1$ . Analogously, denote by  $\omega_2$  the circumcircle of  $CWM$ , and let  $Y$  be the point on  $\omega_2$  such that  $WY$  is a diameter of  $\omega_2$ . 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  $22.5^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$  and  $112.5^\circ$ . 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.