

Q Let  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ ;  $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{c} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ . Find the vector  $\vec{d}$  which is perpendicular to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  and satisfy  $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d} = 15$ .

Sol:  $\vec{d} = \lambda (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \quad \text{---(1)}$

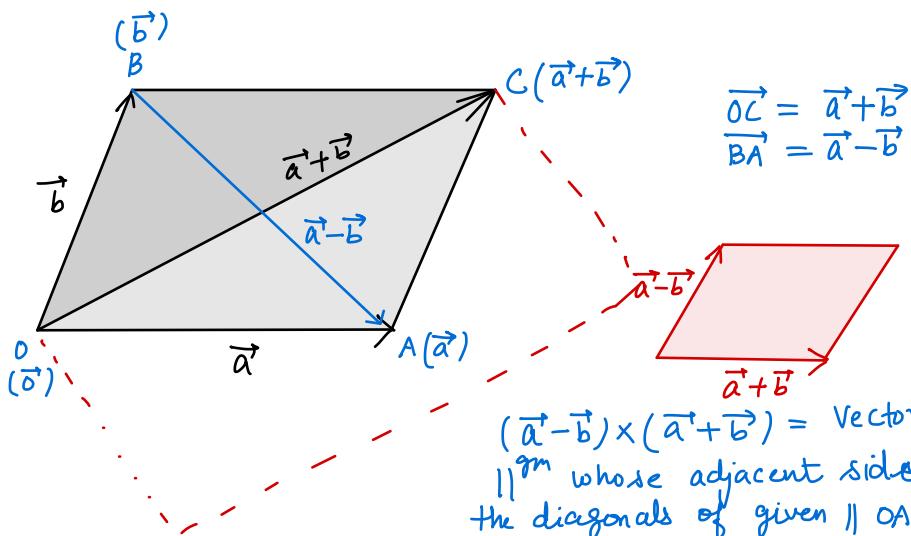
$$\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d} = 15$$

Ans:

$$\frac{5}{3}(32\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 14\hat{k})$$

Q Prove the identity  $(\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \times (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = 2(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$  and give its geometrical interpretation.

Sol: LHS:  $(\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \times (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = \vec{a} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{b} - \vec{b} \times \vec{a} - \vec{b} \times \vec{b}$   
 $= 0 + \vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = 2(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$



Q Let  $\vec{OA} = \vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{OB} = 10\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{OC} = \vec{b}$  where O, A & C are non-collinear points. Let 'p' denote the area of the quadrilateral OABC, and let 'q' denote the area of the parallelogram with OA and OC as adjacent sides. If  $p = kq$ . Find k.

Sol<sup>n</sup>

Area of quad OABC =  $p = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{OB} \times \vec{AC}|$

$$B(10\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}) = \frac{1}{2} |(10\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}) \times (\vec{b} - \vec{a})|$$

$$p = \frac{1}{2} |2(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})| = 6 |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$$

$$q = |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$$

$$p = kq \Rightarrow \boxed{k=6}$$

$$L_1: \vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda \vec{p}$$

$$SD = \left| \text{projection } \vec{BA} \text{ on } \vec{n} \right|$$

$$= \left| (\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \cdot \hat{n} \right| = \frac{|(\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{p} \times \vec{q})|}{|\vec{p} \times \vec{q}|}$$

$$L_2: \vec{r} = \vec{b} + \mu \vec{q}$$

M-2  $\vec{RS} = \circlearrowleft \circlearrowright$

$$\begin{cases} \vec{RS} \cdot \vec{p} = 0 \\ \vec{RS} \cdot \vec{q} = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \lambda \mu$$

$\therefore L = 0$  dir<sup>n</sup> vector :  $\vec{p} \times \vec{q} = \vec{n}$

## **SHORTEST DISTANCE BETWEEN 2 SKEW LINES :**

**Note that**

(i) 2 lines in a plane if not  $\parallel$  must intersect and 2 lines in a plane if not intersecting must be parallel.  
Conversely 2 intersecting or parallel lines must be coplanar.

(ii) In space, however we come across situation when two lines neither intersect nor  $\parallel$ .

**Two such lines**

in space are known as **skew lines** or **non coplanar lines**. S.D. between two such skew lines is the segment intercepted between the two lines which is perpendicular to both lines.

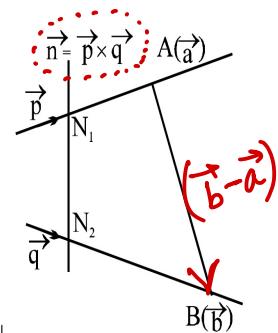
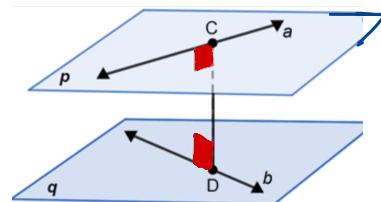
**Method 1:** Two ways to determine the S.D.

$$L_1 : \vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda \vec{p}$$

$$L_2 : \vec{r} = \vec{b} + \mu \vec{q}$$

$$\vec{n} = \vec{p} \times \vec{q}$$

$$\vec{AB} = (\vec{b} - \vec{a})$$



$$\text{S.D.} = |\text{Projection of } \vec{AB} \text{ on } \vec{n}| = \left| \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{n}}{|\vec{n}|} \right| = \left| \frac{(\vec{b} - \vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{p} \times \vec{q})}{|\vec{p} \times \vec{q}|} \right|$$

If S.D. = 0  $\Rightarrow$  lines are intersecting and hence coplanar.

**Method 2 :** p.v. of  $N_1 = \vec{a} + \lambda \vec{p}$  ; p.v. of  $N_2 = \vec{b} + \mu \vec{q}$

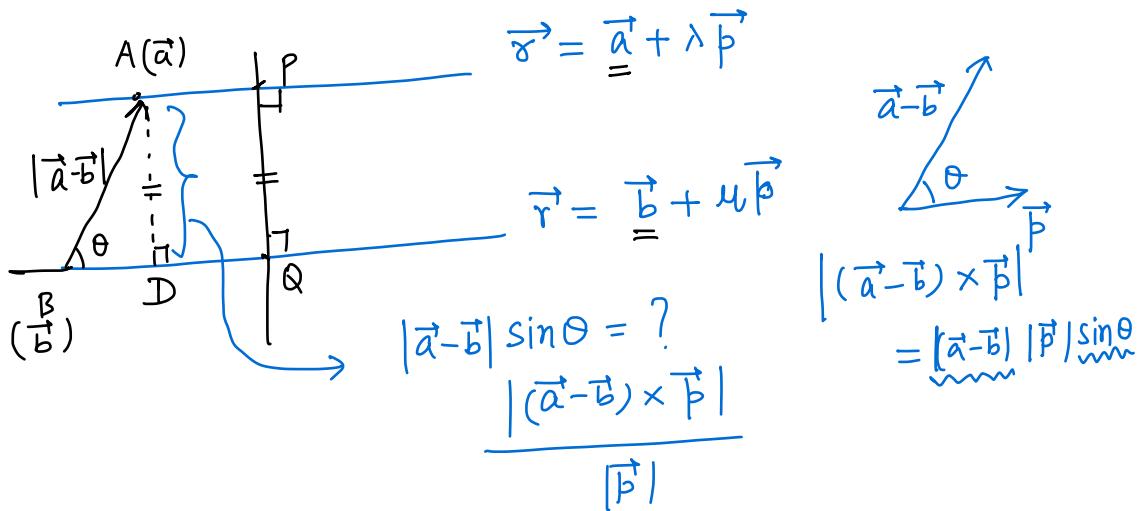
$$\overrightarrow{N_1 N_2} = (\vec{b} - \vec{a}) + (\mu \vec{q} - \lambda \vec{p})$$

now  $\overrightarrow{N_1 N_2} \cdot \vec{p} = 0$  and  $\overrightarrow{N_1 N_2} \cdot \vec{q} = 0$  (two linear equations to get the unique values of  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ )

One p.v's of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are known we can also determine the equation to the line of shortest distance and the S.D.

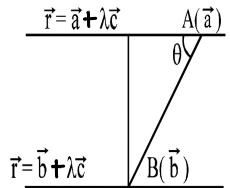
Ex  $\vec{r} = \underbrace{\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}}_{\text{given}} + \lambda(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) ; \vec{r} = \underbrace{2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}}_{\text{given}} + \mu(2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$ . Find SD.

Sol<sup>n</sup>  $S.D = \left| \frac{(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}) \cdot (2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})}{|(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \times (2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})|} \right| = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$



### Shortest Distance between two parallel lines

HW  $d = |\vec{a} - \vec{b}| \sin \theta \Rightarrow \left| \frac{(\vec{a} - \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}}{|\vec{c}|} \right|$



Find the distance between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  given by

$$\vec{r} = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}) + \lambda(2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k})$$

and  $\vec{r} = (3\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - 5\hat{k}) + \mu(2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k})$

Ans :  $\frac{\sqrt{293}}{7}$

## PRODUCT OF 3 OR MORE VECTORS :

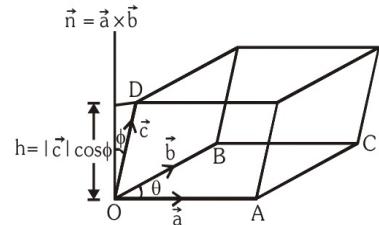
When 3 vectors are involved with a dot or a cross between them, then 6 different symbols are

✓ (1)  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$    
 ✗ (2)  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}).\vec{c}$    
 ✗ (3)  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}$    
 ✗ (4)  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\vec{c}$    
 ✓ (5)  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).\vec{c}$    
 ✓ (6)  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}$

STP   
 VTP.

### Scalar Triple product (or Box product) :

- (a) Definition :**  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).\vec{c} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \sin\theta \hat{n} \cdot \vec{c}$   
 $= |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \sin\theta \cos\phi = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$
- where  $\theta = \vec{a} \wedge \vec{b}$ ;  $\phi = \hat{n} \wedge \vec{c}$   
 but  $|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin\theta$  = area of ||gm OACB and  $|\vec{c}| \cos\phi = h$ .  
 Hence  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).\vec{c}$  geometrically describes the volume of the parallelopiped whose three coterminous edges are the vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$ .



- (b)**  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).\vec{c}$  is also known as box product and is written  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$
- (c)** If the vector  $\vec{c}$  also lies in the plane of  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$  then  $\phi$  (angle between  $\hat{n}$  and  $\vec{c}$ ) is  $90^\circ$  and  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 0$ .  
 Hence for three vectors, if  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are coplanar or linearly dependent & conversely.
- (d)** If  $\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}$  are unit vectors such that their box product is unity i.e.  $[\hat{a} \hat{b} \hat{c}] = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow \sin\theta \cos\phi = 1$ . This is possible only if  $\theta = 90^\circ$  and  $\phi = 0^\circ$  i.e.  $\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}$  are mutually perpendicular to each other and conversely true e.g.  $[\hat{i} \hat{j} \hat{k}] = 1$

### General expression for $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$ :

When  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are expressed in terms of  $\hat{i}, \hat{j}, \hat{k}$

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}).\vec{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \cdot (c_1 \hat{i} + c_2 \hat{j} + c_3 \hat{k}) = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Q If  $\vec{u} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ ;  $\vec{v} = \hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$  and  $\vec{w}$  is a unit vector then the maximum value of  $[\vec{u} \vec{v} \vec{w}]$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Sol}^{\wedge} \quad [\vec{u} \vec{v} \vec{w}] &= (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \cdot \vec{w} \\
 &= |\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| \underbrace{|\vec{w}|}_{\max = 1} \underbrace{\cos \theta}_{\downarrow} \\
 [\vec{u} \vec{v} \vec{w}]_{\max} &= \sqrt{6.3 - (2\sqrt{3})^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

### Properties of STP :

- (i) Scalar triple product of three vectors when two of them are collinear / linearly dependent or equal is zero. (two rows identical  $\Rightarrow$  determinant is zero).
- (ii) If the cyclic order of vector retains then the value of the STP does not change  
i.e.  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] = [\vec{c} \vec{a} \vec{b}]$  and if the cyclic order is changed, then the value of STP changes in sign (Prove considering properties of determinants i.e.  $[\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{b}] = -[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$ )
- (iii) The position of dot and cross can be interchanged provided the cyclic order of the vectors  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  remains undisturbed.

we have  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c} = (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{a} = (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{b}$

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

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

As dot is commutative

(iv)  $[\vec{a} + \vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}] = [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{d}] + [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}]$

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

**Proof :** Let  $\vec{a} = a_1 \hat{i} + a_2 \hat{j} + a_3 \hat{k}$  and so on

Now L.H.S. = 
$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + b_1 & a_2 + b_2 & a_3 + b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ d_1 & d_2 & d_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ d_1 & d_2 & d_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ d_1 & d_2 & d_3 \end{vmatrix} = [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{d}] + [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}]$$

(v) For right handed system

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] > 0$$

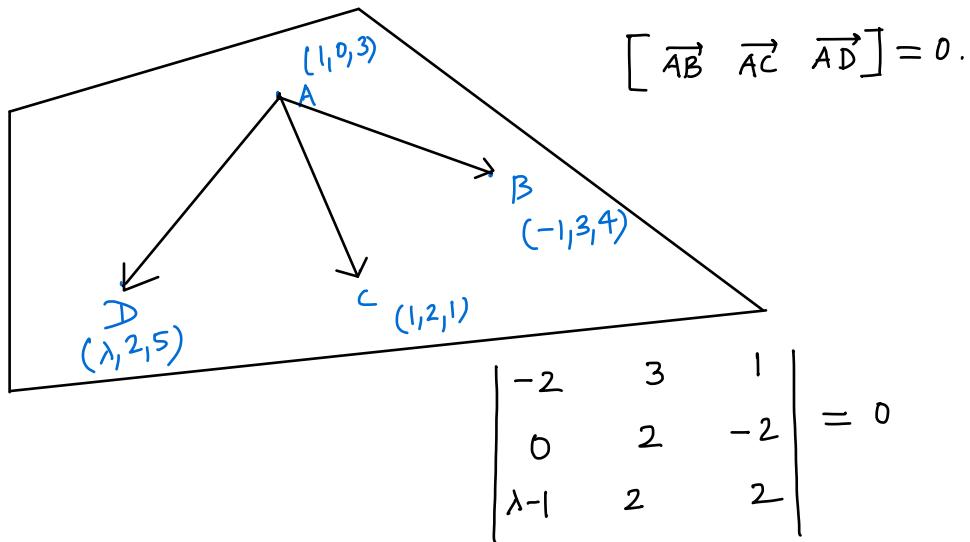
and for left handed system

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] < 0$$

where  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are non-coplanar

**Q** Find the value of  $\lambda$  for which points with p.v.'s A(1,0,3); B(-1,3,4); C(1,2,1) and D( $\lambda, 2, 5$ ) are in the same plane.

**Sol**



**Q**

Find the value of  $p$  for which the vectors  $(p+1)\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + p\hat{k}$ ;  $\hat{p}\hat{i} + (p+1)\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$  and  $-3\hat{i} + \hat{p}\hat{j} + (p+1)\hat{k}$  are linearly dependent/coplanar.

$$\begin{vmatrix} p+1 & -3 & p \\ p & p+1 & -3 \\ -3 & p & p+1 \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Note :-

$$[\vec{a} + \vec{b}, \vec{b} + \vec{c}, \vec{c} + \vec{a}] = 2[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$$

This identity can be geometrically interpreted as:

(Volume of a  $\text{||piped}$  whose three coterminous edges are the face diagonals of the  $\text{||piped}$  is twice the volume of the  $\text{||piped}$ , whose three coterminous edges are the vectors  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ ). This is also conclusive that if  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are coplanar then  $\vec{a} + \vec{b}, \vec{b} + \vec{c}, \vec{c} + \vec{a}$  are also coplanar.

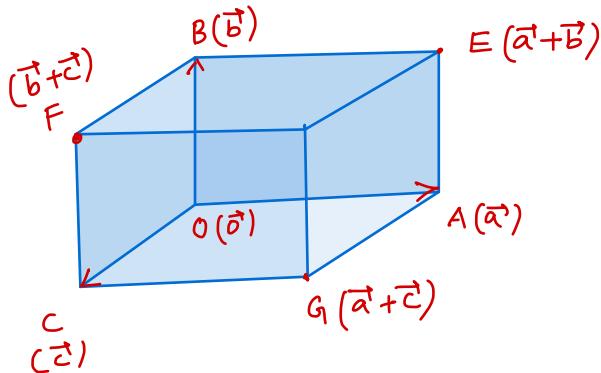
Rem

$$[\vec{a} + \vec{b} \quad \vec{b} + \vec{c} \quad \vec{c} + \vec{a}] = 2 [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$$

Proof : LHS :  $((\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \times (\vec{b} + \vec{c})) \cdot (\vec{c} + \vec{a})$

$$(\vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{a} \times \vec{c} + \vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot (\vec{c} + \vec{a})$$

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] + [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{a}] + [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{c}] + [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{a}] + [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{c}] + [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] = 2[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$$



Rem  $[\vec{a} - \vec{b} \ \vec{b} - \vec{c} \ \vec{c} - \vec{a}]$  is always zero.

$\Rightarrow \vec{a} - \vec{b}, \vec{b} - \vec{c}, \vec{c} - \vec{a}$  are always Coplanar  
whether  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are Coplanar or not.

Rem  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = [\hat{i} \ \vec{a} \ \vec{b}] \hat{i} + [\hat{j} \ \vec{a} \ \vec{b}] \hat{j} + [\hat{k} \ \vec{a} \ \vec{b}] \hat{k}$

We know,

$$\vec{r} = (\vec{r} \cdot \hat{i}) \hat{i} + (\vec{r} \cdot \hat{j}) \hat{j} + (\vec{r} \cdot \hat{k}) \hat{k}$$

(put)  $\vec{r} = \vec{a} \times \vec{b}$

HW :

0-1 Q 21 to 32. & 36 to 39.

5-1 Q 1 to 8.