

Definition: Cross Product

The cross product of two vectors $\vec{a}, \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ is a vector \vec{c} perpendicular to both \vec{a} and \vec{b} and whose magnitude is equal to the area of the parallelogram generated by \vec{a} and \vec{b} :

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \stackrel{\text{D}}{=} \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \sin(\theta) \vec{n}$$

with θ being the angle in the range $[0, \pi]$ between \vec{a} and \vec{b} and \vec{n} a unit vector that is normal to both \vec{a} and \vec{b} oriented with respect to the right hand rule.