

Hints to Solutions and Proofs of Some
Supplementary Problems of Chapter 1 : **Vectors**
and Scalars of *Schaum's Outlines of Vector*
Analysis, Second Edition

Deepak Thanvi

17 March 2021

1 Vectors and Scalars

1.1 Question 1.34

The first important thing to do in mathematics is to draw figures and imagine it.

Draw a figure of ABCDEF Regular Hexagon with forces represented as vectors **AB**, **AC**, **AD**, **AE** and **AF**.

Now, observe by looking at the figure that :

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{ED}$$

$$\mathbf{AF} = \mathbf{CD}$$

$$\mathbf{BC} = \mathbf{FE}$$

Let the Resultant force between **AB** and **AC** is R_1 , **AF** and **AE** is R_2 , R_2 and **AD** is R_3 , R_3 and R_1 is R_4 respectively.

Now,
$$R_4 = R_1 + R_3$$

Using above all observations, Simplifying R_4

$$R_4 = \mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{AC} + R_2 + \mathbf{AD}$$

$$R_4 = \mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{AC} + \mathbf{AF} + \mathbf{AE} + \mathbf{AD}$$

Also,
 $\mathbf{AC}=\mathbf{AB}+\mathbf{BC}$

$$\mathbf{AE}=\mathbf{AF}+\mathbf{FE}$$

Considering all the observations and using it in previous expression of R_4

$$R_4=\mathbf{AB}+\mathbf{AC}+\mathbf{AF}+\mathbf{AE}+\mathbf{AD}$$

$$R_4=\mathbf{AB}+\mathbf{AB}+\mathbf{BC}+\mathbf{AF}+\mathbf{AF}+\mathbf{FE}+\mathbf{AD}$$

Since, $\mathbf{AB}+\mathbf{BC}+\mathbf{CD}=\mathbf{AD}$,
and

$$\mathbf{AB}=\mathbf{ED}$$

$$\mathbf{AF}=\mathbf{CD}$$

$$\mathbf{BC}=\mathbf{FE}$$

$$R_4=3\mathbf{AD}$$

Hence, the resultant of the forces is $3\mathbf{AD}$.

1.2 Question 1.39

Given :

$$\mathbf{A}=(x+4y)\mathbf{a}+(2x+y+1)\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{B}=(y-2x+2)\mathbf{a}+(2x-3y-1)\mathbf{b}$$

$$\text{Now, } 3\mathbf{A}=2\mathbf{B}$$

$$3\mathbf{A}=2\mathbf{B}$$

$$3\mathbf{A}-2\mathbf{B}=\mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow (3x+12y)\mathbf{a}+(6x+3y+3)\mathbf{b}-(2y-4x+4)\mathbf{a}+(4x-6y-2)\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow (7x+10y-4)\mathbf{a}+(2x+9y+5)\mathbf{b}=\mathbf{0}$$

Since, \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} are **Non-Collinear**,

$$7x+10y=4,$$

$$2x+9y=-5$$

By solving above equations, we get $x=2$ and $y=-1$.

1.3 Question 1.43

It is given that \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} are non-coplanar vectors.

Also,

$$r_1 = 2\mathbf{a} - 3\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} ,$$

$$r_2 = 3\mathbf{a} - 5\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c} ,$$

$$r_3 = 4\mathbf{a} - 5\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} ,$$

We need to check whether r_1, r_2 and r_3 are linearly independent or linearly dependent.

Let $L = xr_1 + yr_2 + cr_3$ be a Linear Combination of r_1, r_2 and r_3 , where x, y and z are any scalars.

$$L = xr_1 + yr_2 + cr_3$$

$$L = x(2\mathbf{a} - 3\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c}) + y(3\mathbf{a} - 5\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c}) + z(4\mathbf{a} - 5\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c})$$

$$L = (2x + 3y + 4z)\mathbf{a} + (-3x - 5y - 5z)\mathbf{b} + (x + 2y + z)\mathbf{c}$$

Since, \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} and \mathbf{c} are non-coplanar vectors,

$$L = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$2x + 3y + 4z = 0$$

$$-3x - 5y - 5z = 0$$

$$x + 2y + z = 0$$

By solving above equations, we get $y = 2z$ and $x = -5z$.

Taking $z = 1$, yields $y = 2$ and $x = -5$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence, } L &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow xr_1 + yr_2 + cr_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 5r_1 = 2r_2 + r_3$$

Therefore, r_1, r_2 and r_3 are linearly dependent.

1.4 Question 1.44

Part (a)

It is given that if O is any point within triangle ABC and P,Q, and R are midpoints of the sides AB,BC and CA respectively.

We need to prove that :

$$\mathbf{OA} + \mathbf{OB} + \mathbf{OC} = \mathbf{OP} + \mathbf{OQ} + \mathbf{OR}$$

First of all, we need to draw a triangle ABC with sides representing vectors.

By looking at the figure, we find :

$$\mathbf{AP} = \mathbf{PB}$$

$$\mathbf{BQ} = \mathbf{QC}$$

$$\mathbf{CR} = \mathbf{RA}$$

$$\mathbf{OA} = \begin{cases} 1. & \mathbf{OR} + \mathbf{RA} \\ 2. & \mathbf{OP} - \mathbf{AP} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{OB} = \begin{cases} 3. & \mathbf{OP} + \mathbf{PB} \\ 4. & \mathbf{OQ} - \mathbf{BQ} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{OC} = \begin{cases} 5. & \mathbf{OQ} + \mathbf{QC} \\ 6. & \mathbf{OR} - \mathbf{CR} \end{cases}$$

Adding all above 6 equations,

$$2(\mathbf{OA} + \mathbf{OB} + \mathbf{OC}) = (\mathbf{OR} + \mathbf{RA} + \mathbf{OP} + \mathbf{PB} + \mathbf{OQ} + \mathbf{QC}) + (\mathbf{OP} - \mathbf{AP} + \mathbf{OQ} - \mathbf{BQ} + \mathbf{OR} - \mathbf{CR})$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(\mathbf{OP} + \mathbf{OQ} + \mathbf{OR}) + (\mathbf{RA} - \mathbf{AP} + \mathbf{PB} - \mathbf{CR} + \mathbf{QC} - \mathbf{BQ})$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{OA} + \mathbf{OB} + \mathbf{OC} = \mathbf{OP} + \mathbf{OQ} + \mathbf{OR}$$

Hence Proved.

Part (b)

Yes. You can do on your own.

Hint: Consider Point O outside the triangle ABC and follow Part (a).

1.5 Question 1.46

Consider a triangle ABC with vertices **A**, **C** and **B** and with mid point P of **BA** joining Q, the mid point of **CB**.

We need to prove that $\mathbf{PQ} \parallel \mathbf{AC}$ and $PQ = \frac{1}{2}AC$

First draw the figure with given conditions. By looking at the figure :

$$\mathbf{BP} = \mathbf{PA} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{BA}$$

$$\mathbf{CQ} = \mathbf{QB} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{CB}$$

Also,

$$\mathbf{PQ} = \mathbf{QB} + \mathbf{BP}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{CB} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{BA}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{CB} + \mathbf{BA})$$

$$\Rightarrow PQ = \frac{1}{2}AC$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{PQ} \parallel \mathbf{AC} \text{ and } PQ = \frac{1}{2}AC$$

Hence Proved.