

Geometric Algebra HW 1 (Wedge Product)
MultiV 2021-22 / Dr. Kessner

1. For each of the following pairs of vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} , find the wedge product $\mathbf{u} \wedge \mathbf{v}$. Draw the vectors and make sure your answer makes sense geometrically.

a. $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

b. $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

c. $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

d. $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

2. Find the area of the triangle determined by the two vectors $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$.

Find a general formula for the area of a triangle determined by two vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} .

3. Find the distance from the point $(2, 2)$ to the line $2x + 2y = 2$.
4. Find the distance from the point $(7, 7)$ to the line $6x + 8y = 48$.

Answers:

1a. $2\mathbf{e}_1 \wedge \mathbf{e}_2$

1b. $-2\mathbf{e}_1 \wedge \mathbf{e}_2$

1c. $9\mathbf{e}_1 \wedge \mathbf{e}_2$

1d. $8\mathbf{e}_1 \wedge \mathbf{e}_2$

2. $A = \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{u} \wedge \mathbf{v}| = \frac{1}{2}(8) = 4$

3. $\sqrt{2}$

4. 5