

11.4 #2

(a) Note that $\vec{i} - \vec{j}$ and $\vec{j} - \vec{i}$ are parallel, so $(\vec{i} - \vec{j}) \times (\vec{j} - \vec{i}) = \vec{0}$.

OR

$$\begin{aligned}(\vec{i} - \vec{j}) \times (\vec{j} - \vec{i}) &= (\vec{i} \times \vec{j}) - (\vec{i} \times \vec{i}) - (\vec{j} \times \vec{j}) + (\vec{j} \times \vec{i}) \\&= (\vec{i} \times \vec{j}) - \vec{0} - \vec{0} + (\vec{j} \times \vec{i}) \quad [\vec{v} \times \vec{v} = \vec{0} \text{ for any } \vec{v}] \\&= (\vec{i} \times \vec{j}) - (\vec{i} \times \vec{j}) \quad [\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = -(\vec{w} \times \vec{v})] \\&= \vec{0}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(b) \quad \vec{i} - \vec{j} &= \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle - \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle = \langle 1, -1, 0 \rangle \\ \vec{j} - \vec{i} &= \langle 0, 1, 0 \rangle - \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle = \langle -1, 1, 0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } (\vec{i} - \vec{j}) \times (\vec{j} - \vec{i}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} - \vec{j} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + \vec{k} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(0) - \vec{j}(0) + \vec{k}(0)$$

$$= \vec{0}$$