



Prof. Dr. Dorin Andrica

Asist. Drd. Tudor Micu

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## Geometry 1 (Analytic Geometry)

### Exercise Sheet 4-5

**Exercise 1.** Consider the triangle  $\triangle ABC$  and the midpoint  $A'$  of the side  $[BC]$ . Show that  $4AA'^2 - BC^2 = 4\overline{AB} \cdot \overline{AC}$ .

**Exercise 2.** For a tetrahedron  $ABCD$ :

$$\cos(\widehat{AB, CD}) = \frac{AD^2 + BC^2 - AC^2 - BD^2}{2AB \cdot CD}$$

(the 3D version of the **cosine theorem**)

**Exercise 3.** Let  $ABCD$  be a tetrahedron and  $G_A$  the center of mass of the  $BCD$  side. Then the following equality holds:

$$9AG_A^2 = 3(AB^2 + AC^2 + AD^2) - (BC^2 + CD^2 + BD^2)$$

(the 3D version of the **median line theorem**)

**Exercise 4.** Let  $\triangle ABC$  and  $\triangle A'B'C'$  be two triangles in the same plane, so that the perpendicular lines through  $A, B, C$  on  $B'C', C'A'$  and  $A'B'$ , respectively, are concurrent. Then the perpendicular lines through  $A', B', C'$  on  $BC, CA$  and  $AB$ , respectively are also concurrent.

(Steiner's theorem on **orthologic triangles**)

*Remark.* The result remains true if, instead of the vertices of a triangle, the points  $A', B'$  and  $C'$  are the feet of the perpendiculars from  $A, B, C$  to a

line  $d$ . The point of intersection of the perpendiculars from  $A'$ ,  $B'$  and  $C'$  to  $BC$ ,  $AC$  and  $AB$ , respectively, is called the **orthopole**. Try to prove this!

**Exercise 5.** If two pairs of opposite edges of a tetrahedron  $ABCD$  are perpendicular,  $AB \perp CD$  and  $AD \perp BC$ , show that:

- (a) The third pair of opposite edges also consists of perpendicular lines,  $AC \perp BD$ ;
- (b)  $AB^2 + CD^2 = AC^2 + BD^2 = BC^2 + AD^2$ ;
- (c) The heights of the tetrahedron, the perpendicular lines through the vertices on the faces opposite to them, are concurrent. (such a tetrahedron is called **orthocentric**)

*Remark.* Using exercise 2 here makes everything almost too easy. Try to solve this exercise without it. The proofs here will be similar to the proof of 2, in any case.

**Exercise 6.** Using the dot product, prove the **Cauchy–Bunyakovsky–Schwarz** inequality: if  $a_1, a_2, a_3, b_1, b_2, b_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$(a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3)^2 \leq (a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)(b_1^2 + b_2^2 + b_3^2)$$

**Exercise 7.** Let  $\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c}$  be three noncollinear vectors. Show that there exists a triangle  $ABC$  with  $\overline{BC} = \bar{a}$ ,  $\overline{CA} = \bar{b}$  and  $\overline{AB} = \bar{c}$  if and only if  $\bar{a} \times \bar{b} = \bar{b} \times \bar{c} = \bar{c} \times \bar{a}$ .

**Exercise 8.** Find the area of the plane triangle having the vertices  $A(1, 0, 1)$ ,  $B(0, 2, 3)$ ,  $C(2, 1, 0)$ .

**Exercise 9.** Let  $\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c}$  be vectors in  $\mathcal{V}_3$ . Prove the following formulae:

$$1. \quad \bar{a} \times (\bar{b} \times \bar{c}) = (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{c}) \cdot \bar{b} - (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b}) \cdot \bar{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \bar{b} & \bar{c} \\ \bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} & \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \end{vmatrix};$$

$$2. (\bar{a} \times \bar{b}) \times \bar{c} = (\bar{a} \cdot \bar{c}) \cdot \bar{b} - (\bar{b} \cdot \bar{c}) \cdot \bar{a} = \begin{vmatrix} \bar{b} & \bar{a} \\ \bar{b} \cdot \bar{c} & \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \end{vmatrix}$$

(the **double cross product** rules);

$$3. (\bar{a} \times \bar{b}) \cdot (\bar{c} \times \bar{d}) = \begin{vmatrix} \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} & \bar{a} \cdot \bar{d} \\ \bar{b} \cdot \bar{c} & \bar{b} \cdot \bar{d} \end{vmatrix} \text{ (\textbf{Laplace's formula})};$$

$$4. (\bar{a} \times \bar{b}) \times (\bar{c} \times \bar{d}) = (\bar{a}, \bar{c}, \bar{d}) \cdot \bar{b} - (\bar{b}, \bar{c}, \bar{d}) \cdot \bar{a} = (\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{d}) \cdot \bar{c} - (\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c}) \cdot \bar{d};$$

$$5. (\bar{a} \times \bar{b}, \bar{b} \times \bar{c}, \bar{c} \times \bar{a}) = (\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c})^2$$

**Exercise 10.** Let  $\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w}$  be noncoplanar vectors in  $\mathcal{V}_3$ . Their **reciprocal vectors** are defined to be

$$\bar{u}' = \frac{\bar{v} \times \bar{w}}{(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w})}, \quad \bar{v}' = \frac{\bar{w} \times \bar{u}}{(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w})}, \quad \bar{w}' = \frac{\bar{u} \times \bar{v}}{(\bar{u}, \bar{v}, \bar{w})}$$

1. Find the reciprocal vectors of  $\bar{i}, \bar{j}$  and  $\bar{k}$ ;

2. If  $\bar{a} = x\bar{u} + y\bar{v} + z\bar{w}$ , prove that

$$x = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{u}', \quad y = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{v}', \quad z = \bar{a} \cdot \bar{w}'$$

3. Show that the mutual vectors of  $\bar{u}', \bar{v}'$  and  $\bar{w}'$  are respectively  $\bar{u}, \bar{v}$  and  $\bar{w}$ .

**Exercise 11.** Show that the sum of some outer-pointing vectors perpendicular to the faces of a tetrahedron  $ABCD$ , whose lengths are proportional to the areas of the faces is the zero vector. In other words, if  $\bar{v}_A, \bar{v}_B, \bar{v}_C, \bar{v}_D$  are perpendicular to  $(BCD), (ACD), (ABD)$  and  $(ABC)$ , they point outwards and

$$\frac{|\bar{v}_A|}{S_{BCD}} = \frac{|\bar{v}_B|}{S_{ACD}} = \frac{|\bar{v}_C|}{S_{ABD}} = \frac{|\bar{v}_D|}{S_{ABC}}$$

then  $\bar{v}_A + \bar{v}_B + \bar{v}_C + \bar{v}_D = \bar{0}$ .