Vector Analysis
Mathematical Methods in the Physical Sciences

Steve Mazza

Naval Postgraduate School
Monterey, CA

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We will extend our discussion of vectors from chapters 3, 4, & 5 with the following broad overview of topics

- Vector products
- Differentiation
- Integration

The end of the chapter contains discussions of vector theorems, which we will save for another lecture.

Applications of Vector Multiplication

We can apply the dot and cross products introduced in Chapter 3, Section 4, to calculate

$$\text{Work:} \quad Fd \, \cos\theta = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{d}$$

$$\text{Torque:} \quad rF \, \sin\theta = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$$

$$\angle \text{Velocity:} \quad \omega r \, \sin\theta = |\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}|$$

Angular velocity is solved by considering that the linear velocity $\vec{v}$ of some point P is equal to $\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}$, and that the magnitude of $\vec{v} = |\vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}|$, which is also equal to $\omega r \, \sin\theta$.

Triple Products

Triple Scalar Product

$$\vec{A} \cdot \left(\vec{B} \times \vec{C} \right)$$

- Can be thought of as the volume of a parallelepiped.
- Is the determinant of a 3×3 matrix.
- The product is invariant under a circular shift:

Circular Shift Invariant

$$\vec{A} \cdot \left(\vec{B} \times \vec{C} \right) = \vec{B} \cdot \left(\vec{C} \times \vec{A} \right) = \vec{C} \cdot \left(\vec{A} \times \vec{B} \right)$$

- Satisfies an equality under cross product negation:

Negative Cross Product

$$\vec{A} \cdot \left(\vec{B} \times \vec{C} \right) = -\vec{A} \cdot \left(\vec{C} \times \vec{B} \right)$$

Triple Vector Product

$$\vec{A} \times \left(\vec{B} \times \vec{C} \right) = \left(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{C} \right) \vec{B} - \left(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \right) \vec{C}$$

- Known as the "BAC-CAB" product.
- Useful for simplifying some calculations in physics.
- Is anticommutative:

Anticommutative

$$\left(\vec{A} \times \vec{B} \right) \times \vec{C} = -\vec{C} \times \left(\vec{A} \times \vec{B} \right)$$

- Satisfies Lagrange:

Jacobi Identity

$$\vec{A} \times \left(\vec{B} \times \vec{C} \right) + \vec{B} \times \left(\vec{C} \times \vec{A} \right) + \vec{C} \times \left(\vec{A} \times \vec{B} \right) = 0$$

6.3.2

Applying: $W = Fd\cos\theta$
$$= F \cdot d$$

Find: $\vec{B} \cdot \vec{C} = B_i C_i + b_j C_j + B_k C_k$
$$= 2 \cdot 0 + (-1) \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot (-5)$$
$$= 0 + (-1) + (-15)$$
$$= 0 - 1 - 15$$
$$= -16$$

Differentiation of Vectors

Definition

$$\frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} = i\frac{dA_x}{dt} + j\frac{dA_y}{dt} + k\frac{dA_z}{dt}$$

6.4.3