

Vector products

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = ab \cos \theta$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = ab \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) - \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$$

Suffix notation

1. A suffix that appears twice implies a summation.
2. Any suffix cannot appear more than twice in any term.

We define the **Kronecker delta** as:

$$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

and the **Levi-Civita** as:

$$\epsilon_{ijk} = \begin{cases} +1 & 123, 312, 231 \\ -1 & 132, 213, 321 \\ 0 & \text{repeat indices.} \end{cases}$$

Consequently:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{ijk} &= \epsilon_{kij} = \epsilon_{jki} \\ &= -\epsilon_{jik} = -\epsilon_{ikj} = -\epsilon_{kji} \end{aligned}$$

and we have the following identities:

$$\mathbf{a} = \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i \mathbf{e}_i = a_i \mathbf{e}_i$$

$$\delta_{ii} = 3$$

$$[\dots]_j \delta_{jk} = [\dots]_k$$

$$\mathbf{e}_i \cdot \mathbf{e}_j = \delta_{ij}$$

$$\mathbf{e}_i \times \mathbf{e}_j = \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{e}_k$$

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \epsilon_{ijk} a_j b_k \mathbf{e}_i$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \epsilon_{ijk} a_i b_j c_k$$

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{klm} = \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}$$

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijl} = 2\delta_{kl} \text{ and } \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijk} = 6.$$

Transformations

Let matrix L relate basis $\{\mathbf{e}_i\}$ to basis $\{\mathbf{e}'_i\}$ with rule:

$$\mathbf{e}'_i = \ell_{ij} \mathbf{e}_j \text{ where } (L)_{ij} = \ell_{ij}.$$

Then $L^T L = L L^T = I$, and:

$$\ell_{ik} \ell_{jk} = \ell_{ki} \ell_{kj} = \delta_{ij}$$

$$p'_i = \ell_{ij} p_j \text{ for } \mathbf{p} = p_i \mathbf{e}_i = p'_i \mathbf{e}'_i.$$

Tensors

A rank 3 tensor is defined as:

$$T'_{ijk} = \ell_{ip} \ell_{jq} \ell_{kr} T_{pqr}$$

which relates frame S in $\{\mathbf{e}_i\}$ to frame S' in $\{\mathbf{e}'_i\}$ with rule $\mathbf{e}'_i = \ell_{ij} \mathbf{e}_j$, etc.

Properties of tensors:

1. The addition of two rank n tensors is also a rank n tensor.
2. The multiplication of a rank m tensor with a rank n tensor yields a rank $m + n$ tensor.
3. If $T_{ijk\dots s}$ is a rank m tensor then $T_{\mathbf{ii}k\dots s}$ is a rank $m - 2$ tensor.
4. If T_{ij} is a tensor then T_{ji} is also a tensor. Explicitly:

$$T'_{ij} = \ell_{ip} \ell_{jq} T_{pq}$$

$$T'_{\mathbf{ji}} = \ell_{jp} \ell_{iq} T_{pq}.$$

Symmetric tensors

T_{ij} is a symmetric tensor when $T_{ij} = T_{ji}$ in frame S . Then $T'_{ij} = T'_{ji}$ in frame S' .

Similarly T_{ij} is an anti-symmetric tensor if $T_{ij} = -T_{ji}$ and $T'_{ij} = -T'_{ji}$.

Finally **any tensor** can be written as a sum of symmetric and anti-symmetric parts:

$$T_{ij} = \frac{1}{2}(T_{ij} + T_{ji}) + \frac{1}{2}(T_{ij} - T_{ji}).$$

Quotient theorem

Consider 9 entities T_{ij} in frame S and T'_{ij} in frame S' . Let $b_i = T_{ij} a_j$ where a_j is a vector. If b_i always transforms as a vector then T_{ij} is a rank 2 tensor.

Generalising, let $R_{ijk\dots r}$ be a rank m tensor and $T_{ijk\dots s}$ a set of 3^n numbers where $n > m$. If $T_{ijk\dots s} R_{ijk\dots r}$ is a rank $n - m$ tensor then $T_{ijk\dots s}$ is a rank n tensor.

Matrices

We define a $m \times n$ matrix A as $(A)_{ij} = a_{ij}$ where $i = 1, \dots, m$ and $j = 1, \dots, n$.

- $\text{Tr } A = a_{ii}$
- $(A^T)_{ij} = a_{ji}$
- $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$
- $(I)_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$

The determinant of a 3×3 matrix A is:

$$\begin{aligned} \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \epsilon_{lmn} a_{1l} a_{2m} a_{3n} \\ &= \epsilon_{lmn} a_{l1} a_{m2} a_{n3}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore:

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \det A = \epsilon_{lmn} a_{il} a_{jm} a_{kn}$$

$$\epsilon_{lmn} \det A = \epsilon_{ijk} a_{il} a_{jm} a_{kn}$$

$$\det A = \frac{1}{3!} \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{lmn} a_{il} a_{jm} a_{kn}.$$

Properties of determinants:

1. Adding rows to each other does not change the determinant.
2. Interchanging two rows changes determinant signs.
3. $\det A = \det A^T$
4. $\det(AB) = \det A \cdot \det B$

These also apply to columns. Finally:

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{lmn} \det A = \begin{vmatrix} a_{il} & a_{im} & a_{in} \\ a_{jl} & a_{jm} & a_{jn} \\ a_{kl} & a_{km} & a_{kn} \end{vmatrix}$$

and setting $A = I$ yields:

$$\epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{lmn} = \begin{vmatrix} \delta_{il} & \delta_{im} & \delta_{in} \\ \delta_{jl} & \delta_{jm} & \delta_{jn} \\ \delta_{kl} & \delta_{km} & \delta_{kn} \end{vmatrix}.$$

Linear equations

Let $\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}$. Then $x_i = A_{ij}^{-1} y_j$ with:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{ij}^{-1} &= \frac{1}{\det A} \epsilon_{imn} \epsilon_{jpk} a_{pm} a_{qn} \\ &= \frac{1}{\det A} C_{ij}^T \end{aligned}$$

where C is the cofactor matrix of A .

Pseudotensors

A rank 2 pseudotensor is defined as:

$$T'_{ij} = (\det L) \ell_{ip} \ell_{jq} T_{pq}$$

where $(L)_{ij} = \ell_{ij}$.

Pseudovectors are rank 1 pseudotensors.

Invariant tensors

Tensor T is invariant or isotropic if:

$$T_{ijk\dots} = \ell_{i\alpha} \ell_{j\beta} \ell_{k\gamma} \dots T_{\alpha\beta\gamma\dots}$$

for every orthogonal matrix L .

- If a_{ij} is a rank 2 invariant tensor then $a_{ij} = \lambda \delta_{ij}$.
- The most general rank 3 invariant pseudotensor is $a_{ijk} = \lambda \epsilon_{ijk}$. There are no rank 3 invariant true tensors.
- Invariant true tensors can only be even ranked.
- Invariant pseudotensors can only be odd ranked.

Rotation tensors

The clockwise rotation of position vector \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} about unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is given by:

$$y_i = R_{ij}(\theta, \hat{\mathbf{n}})x_j$$

$$R_{ij}(\theta, \hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \delta_{ij} \cos \theta + (1 - \cos \theta)n_i n_j - \epsilon_{ijk} n_k \sin \theta$$

and is the rotation tensor.

Reflections and inversions

The reflection of vector \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} in plane with unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is:

$$y_i = \sigma_{ij}x_j$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - 2n_i n_j.$$

The inversion of vector \mathbf{x} to \mathbf{y} is given by $\mathbf{y} = -\mathbf{x}$ and is defined as:

$$y_i = P_{ij}x_j$$

$$P_{ij} = \delta_{ij}.$$

Projections

We define P to be a parallel projection operator to vector \mathbf{u} if:

$$P\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u} \text{ and } P\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

where $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$. Then:

$$P_{ij} = \frac{u_i u_j}{u^2}.$$

Similarly we define Q to be an orthogonal projection to vector \mathbf{u} if:

$$Q\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0} \text{ and } Q\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}.$$

Here $Q = I - P$.

Inertia tensors

Let \mathbf{L} denote the angular momentum of a rigid body about the origin of mass m , volume V and density ρ at position \mathbf{r} with velocity \mathbf{v} . Then:

$$L_i = I_{ij}\omega_j$$

$$I_{ij} = I_{ij}(O) = \int_V \rho(r^2 \delta_{ij} - x_i x_j) dV$$

where $I_{ij}(O)$ is the inertia tensor about the origin. The kinetic energy of such a body is:

$$T = \frac{1}{2} I_{ij} \omega_i \omega_j = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{L} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}.$$

Parallel axis theorem

Consider the same rigid body now with centre of mass G and let $\overrightarrow{OG} = \mathbf{R}$. Then:

$$I_{ij}(O) = I_{ij}(G) + M(R^2 \delta_{ij} - X_i X_j)$$

$$M = \int_V \rho'(\mathbf{r}') dV'.$$

Diagonalisation