

Assignment 1

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Abstract—This document illustrates scalar and vector products of two vectors

Download python code from :

<https://github.com/shreeprasadbhat/matrix-theory/tree/master/assignment1/codes>

Problem

Find scalar and vector products of the two vectors

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, b = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution :

Scalar product :

$$a \cdot b = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} = (a_1 \times b_1 + a_2 \times b_2 + a_3 \times b_3)$$

Substituting $a_1 = 3$, $a_2 = -4$, $a_3 = 5$ and $b_1 = -2$, $b_2 = 1$, $b_3 = -3$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (3 \times -2) + (-4 \times 1) + (5 \times -3) \\ &= -25 \end{aligned}$$

Vector product :

The vector cross product also can be expressed as the product of a skew-symmetric matrix and a vector

$$a \times b = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_3 & a_2 \\ a_3 & 0 & -a_1 \\ -a_2 & a_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting $a_1 = 3$, $a_2 = -4$, $a_3 = 5$ and $b_1 = -2$, $b_2 = 1$, $b_3 = -3$

$$\begin{aligned} a \times b &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -5 & -4 \\ 5 & 0 & -3 \\ 4 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (0 \times -2) + (-5 \times 1) + (-4 \times -3) \\ (5 \times -2) + (0 \times 1) + (-3 \times -3) \\ (4 \times -2) + (3 \times 1) + (0 \times -3) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$