

Calculus III

Homework on Lecture 3

1. Find the area of the triangle $\triangle ABC$. The answer key has not been proofread, use with caution.

(a) $A(1, 0, 0), B(0, 1, 0), C(0, 0, 1)$.

ANSWER: $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

(b) $A(1, -1, 0), B(0, 1, -1), C(-1, 0, 1)$.

ANSWER: $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

(c) $A(1, 2, 3), B(5, 7, 11), C(13, 17, 19)$.

ANSWER: $4\sqrt{41}$

2. Find a vector orthogonal to the two given vectors. The answer key has not been proofread, use with caution.

(a) $\mathbf{u} = (2, 3, 5), \mathbf{v} = (3, 5, 7)$.

ANSWER: $(-1, 1, 1)$

(b) $\mathbf{u} = (2, -5, -3), \mathbf{v} = (3, 5, 7)$.

ANSWER: $(-20, -23, 25)$

3. Let the 4 vertices of a tetrahedron be O, A, B, C . Let $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{OA}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{OB}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{OC}$ (the vectors given by the edges of the tetrahedron that pass through O). It can be shown that the volume of the tetrahedron equals $\frac{1}{3!} = \frac{1}{6}$ of the volume of the slanted box spanned by $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$. Using that information find the volumes of the following tetrahedra.

(a) The volume of the tetrahedron with vertices $(1, 1, 1), (1, -1, -1), (-1, 1, -1), (-1, -1, 1)$.

ANSWER: $\frac{8}{3}$

(b) The volume of the tetrahedron with vertices $(1, 2, 3), (2, 3, 5), (3, 5, 7), (5, 7, 13)$.

ANSWER: $\frac{3}{4}$

(c) The volume of the tetrahedron with vertices $A(1, 2, 2), B(1, 3, 3), C(1, 0, 2), D(-2, 3, 2)$.

4. Do the points $(1, 2, 3), (2, 3, 5), (3, 5, 7), (5, 7, 11)$ lie in one plane?

ANSWER: yes.

5. Let $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}$ be arbitrary vectors. Show that the Jacobi identity for the cross product holds, i.e., show that

$$\mathbf{u} \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{v} \times (\mathbf{w} \times \mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{w} \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{0}.$$

This problem will not appear on the quiz.