

Online Course Materials :

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Topic / Title : Problems on product of three vectors

17(b) show that the four pts whose position vectors are $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\delta}$ are coplanar if and only if

$$[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\delta}]$$

Solution: Let A, B, C & D be four pts whose position vectors are $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\delta}$ respectively.

Then A, B, C, D are coplanar iff $\vec{AB}, \vec{AC}, \vec{AD}$ are coplanar

Now $\vec{AB} = \vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}, \vec{AC} = \vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}, \vec{AD} = \vec{\delta} - \vec{\alpha}$

Then $\vec{AB}, \vec{AC} \text{ \& } \vec{AD}$ will be coplanar iff $[\vec{AB} \vec{AC} \vec{AD}]$

$$= 0$$

ie iff $(\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) \cdot \{ (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}) \times (\vec{\delta} - \vec{\alpha}) \} = 0$

ie iff $(\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) \cdot \{ \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\delta} - \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\delta} - \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} \} = 0$

ie iff $[\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}] - [\vec{\beta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] - [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] - [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}] = 0$

ie iff $[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\delta}]$

Thus four pts whose position vectors $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\delta}$ are coplanar iff $[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] + [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\delta}]$

17(c) If the four pts vectors $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ & \vec{d} be such that $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} + \vec{d} = \vec{0}$, then show that $\frac{|\vec{a}|}{[\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}]} = \frac{-|\vec{b}|}{[\vec{c} \vec{d} \vec{a}]}$

$= \frac{|\vec{c}|}{[\vec{d} \vec{a} \vec{b}]} = \frac{-|\vec{d}|}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}$ where $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\delta}$ are unit vectors along $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}$ respectively.

Solution: Since $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ & $\vec{\delta}$ are unit vectors along $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ & \vec{d} respectively, so we can write

$$\vec{a} = |\vec{a}| \vec{\alpha}$$

$$\vec{b} = |\vec{b}| \vec{\beta}$$

$$\vec{c} = |\vec{c}| \vec{\gamma}$$

$$\vec{d} = |\vec{d}| \vec{\delta}$$

Since $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} + \vec{d} = \vec{0}$, so $|\vec{a}| \vec{\alpha} + |\vec{b}| \vec{\beta} + |\vec{c}| \vec{\gamma} + |\vec{d}| \vec{\delta} = \vec{0}$ (1)

taking dot product from both sides of (1) by $(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\delta})$

$$|\vec{a}| [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\delta}] + |\vec{c}| [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\beta} \vec{\delta}] = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{|\vec{a}|}{[\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta}]} = \frac{-|\vec{c}|}{[\vec{\delta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}]} \quad \dots (II)$$

Again taking dot product from both sides of (1) by $(\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma})$ we get $|\vec{b}| [\vec{\beta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\gamma}] + |\vec{d}| [\vec{\delta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\gamma}] = 0$

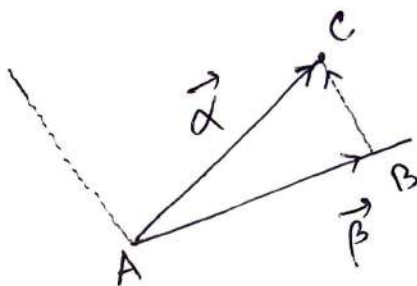
$$\therefore \frac{-|\vec{b}|}{[\vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta} \vec{\alpha}]} = \frac{-|\vec{d}|}{[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]} \quad \dots (III)$$

Again taking dot product from both sides of (1) by $(\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\delta})$ we get $|\vec{b}| [\vec{\beta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] + |\vec{c}| [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\delta}] = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{|\vec{c}|}{[\vec{\delta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}]} = \frac{-|\vec{b}|}{[\vec{\gamma} \vec{\delta} \vec{\alpha}]} \quad \dots (IV)$

* From (II) & (III) we get the required result.

16 (b). If a vector $\vec{\alpha}$ be resolved into components parallel and perpendicular to another vector $\vec{\beta}$, then show that the components are $\frac{\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha}}{|\vec{\beta}|^2} \vec{\beta}$ and $\frac{\vec{\beta} \times (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})}{|\vec{\beta}|^2}$ respectively.

Solution:



Here components of $\vec{\alpha}$ ($= \vec{AC}$) along $\vec{\beta}$ is \vec{AB} and perpendicular to $\vec{\beta}$ is \vec{BC} .

~~The projection of $\vec{\alpha}$ along~~

Let $\vec{AB} = c \vec{\beta}$, then $c \vec{\beta} + \vec{BC} = \vec{\alpha}$... (1)

taking dot product from both sides of (1) by $\vec{\beta}$ we get $c \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta} + 0 = \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}$ [since $\vec{\beta}$ and \vec{BC} are orthogonal]

$$\text{or } c = \frac{\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}}{|\vec{\beta}|^2}$$

Hence components of $\vec{\alpha}$ along $\vec{\beta}$ is $c \vec{\beta} = \frac{\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}}{|\vec{\beta}|^2} \vec{\beta}$

Again, from (1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{BC} &= \vec{\alpha} - c \vec{\beta} = \vec{\alpha} - \frac{\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}}{|\vec{\beta}|^2} \vec{\beta} \\ &= \frac{|\vec{\beta}|^2 \vec{\alpha} - (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \vec{\beta}}{|\vec{\beta}|^2} = \frac{\vec{\beta} \times (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})}{|\vec{\beta}|^2} \end{aligned}$$

Hence component of $\vec{\alpha}$ perpendicular to $\vec{\beta}$ is $\frac{\vec{\beta} \times (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})}{|\vec{\beta}|^2}$.

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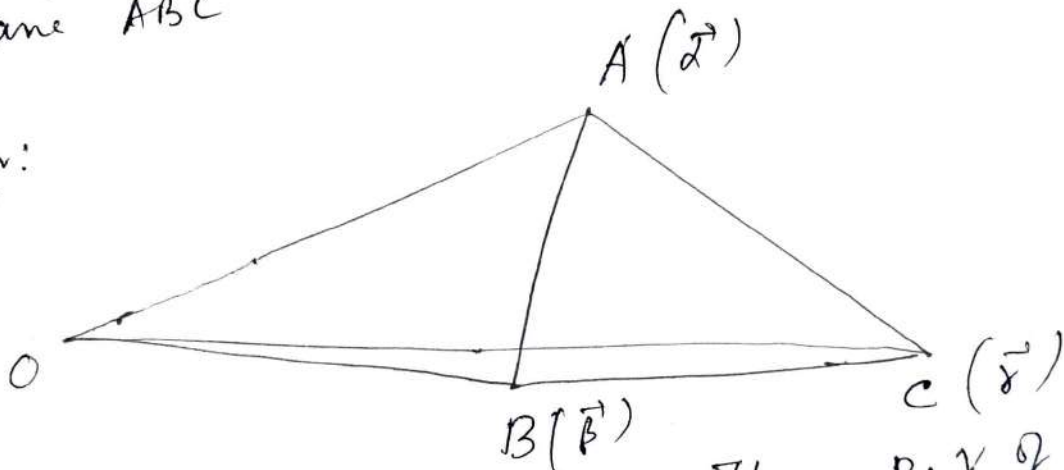
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Kolkata-700009

Page - 1/15/10/15 - Vector Triple Product

12(a) If $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ be three vectors from the origin to the pts A, B, C respectively, then show that the vector $(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})$ is perpendicular to the plane ABC

Solution:



Here O is the base pt. Then p.v of A, B and C are respectively $(\vec{\alpha}), \vec{\beta}$ & $\vec{\gamma}$

Then $\vec{AB} = (\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha})$

$$\vec{AC} = \vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}$$

$$\vec{BC} = \vec{\gamma} - \vec{\beta}$$

Then $(\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}), (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha})$ and $(\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\beta})$ lie on the plane ABC.

Then any vector \vec{d} on the plane ABC can be put as

$$\vec{d} = c_1 (\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) + c_2 (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}) + c_3 (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\beta})$$

Now, $(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (c_1 (\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) + c_2 (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}) + c_3 (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\beta}))$

$$= c_1 (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) + c_2$$

$$(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\alpha}) +$$

$$c_3 (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\gamma} - \vec{\beta})$$

$$= c_1 ([\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] - [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]) + c_2 ($$

$$= 0.$$

$\therefore \vec{d}$ is perpendicular to the vector $(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})$.

16(a) Prove that three mutually perpendicular unit vectors $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ form, in the ~~form~~ given order, a right handed system iff $[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 1$

Solution: Let ^{we assume that} $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ form a right handed system.

Then we get.

$$\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta} = \vec{\gamma}, \quad \vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} = \vec{\alpha} \text{ and}$$

$$\vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} = \vec{\beta}$$

$$\text{Now, } [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = \vec{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma})$$

$$= \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}$$

$$= |\vec{\alpha}|^2$$

$$= 1 \quad (\because |\vec{\alpha}| = 1)$$

which is one part.

Conversely let $[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 1$. We shall show that $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ form a right handed system in the given order.

For this we need to show that $\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta} = \vec{\gamma}$
 $\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} = \vec{\alpha}$ & $\vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} = \vec{\beta}$.

Since $\vec{\alpha}$, $\vec{\beta}$ & $\vec{\gamma}$ are mutually perpendicular to each other, so $\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} = K \vec{\alpha}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma}) = K \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = K |\vec{\alpha}|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow K = \frac{[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]}{|\vec{\alpha}|^2} = 1 \quad (\because |\vec{\alpha}|^2 = 1)$$

$$\text{and } [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 1$$

$$\therefore \vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} = \vec{\alpha}$$

Again we can write

$$\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta} = \lambda \vec{\gamma}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot \vec{\gamma} = \lambda \quad (\because |\vec{\gamma}| = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}] = [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 1$$

$$\therefore \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta} = \vec{\gamma}$$

Similarly we get $\vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} = \vec{\beta}$

Then $\vec{\alpha}$, $\vec{\beta}$, $\vec{\gamma}$ in the given order, form a right handed system.

18(iii) ^{Show that} $[\vec{p} \vec{q} \vec{r}] [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{q} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{q} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{q} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{r} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{r} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix}$

Solution. Let $\vec{p} = p_1 \hat{i} + p_2 \hat{j} + p_3 \hat{k}$

$\vec{q} = q_1 \hat{i} + q_2 \hat{j} + q_3 \hat{k}$

$\vec{r} = r_1 \hat{i} + r_2 \hat{j} + r_3 \hat{k}$

$\vec{a} = a_1 \hat{i} + a_2 \hat{j} + a_3 \hat{k}$

$\vec{b} = b_1 \hat{i} + b_2 \hat{j} + b_3 \hat{k}$

$\vec{c} = c_1 \hat{i} + c_2 \hat{j} + c_3 \hat{k}$

Then $[\vec{p} \vec{q} \vec{r}] = \begin{vmatrix} p_1 & p_2 & p_3 \\ q_1 & q_2 & q_3 \\ r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \end{vmatrix}$

and $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

Now, $[\vec{p} \vec{q} \vec{r}] [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} p_1 & p_2 & p_3 \\ q_1 & q_2 & q_3 \\ r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} p_1 a_1 + p_2 a_2 + p_3 a_3 & p_1 b_1 + p_2 b_2 + p_3 b_3 & p_1 c_1 + p_2 c_2 + p_3 c_3 \\ q_1 a_1 + q_2 a_2 + q_3 a_3 & q_1 b_1 + q_2 b_2 + q_3 b_3 & q_1 c_1 + q_2 c_2 + q_3 c_3 \\ r_1 a_1 + r_2 a_2 + r_3 a_3 & r_1 b_1 + r_2 b_2 + r_3 b_3 & r_1 c_1 + r_2 c_2 + r_3 c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{q} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{q} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{q} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{r} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{r} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix} \quad (\text{proved}).$$

11 (b) Reduce the expression $(\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) \cdot \{ (\vec{\gamma} + \vec{\alpha}) \times (\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) \}$ to its simplest form and prove that it vanishes when $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$ & $\vec{\gamma}$ are coplanar

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) \cdot \{ (\vec{\gamma} + \vec{\alpha}) \times (\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) \} \\
 &= (\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) \cdot \{ \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\beta} + \vec{0} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta} \} \\
 &= [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] + [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\beta}] + [\vec{\beta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}] \\
 &+ [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] + [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\beta}] + [\vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}] \\
 &= 2 [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] \quad \text{--- (1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the simplest form of the given expression.

2nd part: since $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}$ & $\vec{\gamma}$ are coplanar, so

then from (1), we get

$$[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 0.$$

which is the required result.

$$(\vec{\beta} + \vec{\gamma}) \cdot \{ (\vec{\gamma} + \vec{\alpha}) \times (\vec{\alpha} + \vec{\beta}) \} = 0.$$

11(c) If \vec{a}, \vec{b} & \vec{c} be three unit vectors such that $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{b}$, then find the angles which \vec{a} makes with \vec{b} and \vec{c} , \vec{b} & \vec{c} being non parallel.

Solution: $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \frac{1}{2} \vec{b}$

or $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{b} \dots (1)$

Then taking cross product from both sides of (1)

by \vec{c} we get

$$(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c} \times \vec{c} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$$

$$\text{or } (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} - \frac{1}{2}) (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \vec{0}$$

$$\therefore \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \quad \left(\text{since } \vec{b} \times \vec{c} \neq \vec{0} \text{ as } \vec{b} \text{ \& } \vec{c} \text{ are non parallel unit vectors} \right).$$

$$\text{or } |\vec{a}| |\vec{c}| \cos(\vec{a}, \vec{c}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

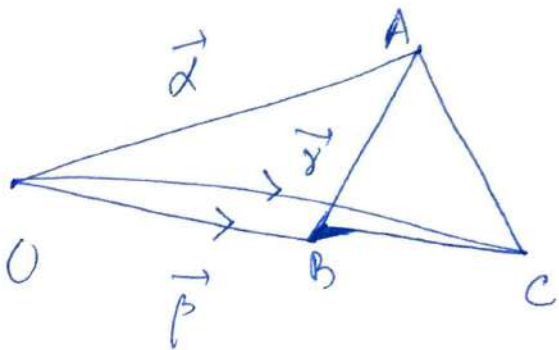
$$\text{or } (\vec{a}, \vec{c}) = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

where (\vec{a}, \vec{c}) denote the angle between the vectors \vec{a} & \vec{c} .

Again taking cross product from both sides of (1) by \vec{b} we get

$$(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{c} \times \vec{b}) = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \Rightarrow |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = 0 \therefore (\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

12(a) If $\vec{\alpha}$, $\vec{\beta}$, $\vec{\gamma}$ be three vectors from the origin to the pts A , B & C respectively. Show that the vector $(\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})$ is perpendicular to the plane ABC .



Solution:

Here, \vec{AB} = p.v of the pt B -
p.v of the pt A

$$= \vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}$$

Then $\vec{AB} \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})$

$$= (\vec{\beta} - \vec{\alpha}) \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta})$$

$$= [\vec{\beta} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] + [\vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] + [\vec{\beta} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}] -$$

$$[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] + [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\gamma} \vec{\alpha}] - [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta}]$$

$$= [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] - [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = 0$$

$\therefore \vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma} + \vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\alpha} + \vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}$ is perpendicular to \vec{AB} .

Similarly ~~So~~ $\vec{p} \times \vec{r} + \vec{r} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{p}$ is perpendicular to both \vec{BC} and \vec{CA} .

Since $\vec{p} \times \vec{r} + \vec{r} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{p}$ is perpendicular to \vec{AB} , \vec{BC} and \vec{CA} vectors, so $\vec{p} \times \vec{r} + \vec{r} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{p}$ is perpendicular to the plane of ABC .

Show that the vectors $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$, $\vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a})$ and $\vec{c} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$ are coplanar.

Solution: let $\vec{\alpha} = \vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c}$
 $\vec{\beta} = \vec{b} \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) = (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{c} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{a}$
 $\vec{\gamma} = \vec{c} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b}$

Then $[\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}] = \vec{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma})$

$$= \vec{\alpha} \cdot \left\{ [(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{c} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{a}] \times [(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b}] \right\}$$

$$= \vec{\alpha} \cdot \left\{ (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \times \vec{b}) + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \right\}$$

$$= (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{b}) + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) (\vec{\alpha} \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}))$$

$$= (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) \left\{ ((\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \right\} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \left\{ [(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c}] \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{b}) \right\} + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \left\{ [(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c}] \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \right\}$$

$$= (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) [\vec{c} \vec{a} \vec{b}]$$

$$= 0 \quad [\because [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] = [\vec{c} \vec{a} \vec{b}]], \text{ so } \vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta} \text{ \& \ } \vec{\gamma} \text{ are coplanar.}$$

13(c) Prove that any vector \vec{d} can be expressed as

$$\vec{d} = \frac{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) + (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}$$

where \vec{a}, \vec{b} & \vec{c} are non coplanar vectors.

Solution: Since \vec{a}, \vec{b} & \vec{c} are non coplanar, so $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$ and $\vec{c} \times \vec{a}$ are also non coplanar. Then any vector \vec{d} can be expressed as the linear combination of the vectors $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$ and $\vec{c} \times \vec{a}$.

$$\text{Let } \vec{d} = \lambda_1 (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + \lambda_2 (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \lambda_3 (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \quad \dots (1)$$

where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ are three scalars to be determined.

taking dot product from both sides of (1) by \vec{a} , we

$$\text{get } \vec{a} \cdot \vec{d} = \lambda_2 [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$$

$$\therefore \lambda_2 = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}$$

Again taking dot product from both sides of (1) by \vec{b}

$$\text{we get } \vec{b} \cdot \vec{d} = \lambda_3 [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}]$$

$$\therefore \lambda_3 = \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}$$

$$\text{Similarly } \lambda_1 = \frac{\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}$$

Then putting the values of $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ in (1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{d} &= \frac{\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \\ &= \frac{(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d})(\vec{c} \times \vec{a})}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} \end{aligned}$$

13(a) If \vec{a} , \vec{b} and \vec{c} be three non coplanar vectors, then show that $\vec{b} \times \vec{c}$, $\vec{c} \times \vec{a}$ & $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ are also non coplanar.

Solution: Since \vec{a} , \vec{b} & \vec{c} are non coplanar, so

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] \neq 0.$$

Now $[(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})]$

$$= (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot \left\{ (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \right\}$$

$$= (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot \left\{ \left((\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{b} \right) \vec{a} - \left((\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{a} \right) \vec{b} \right\}$$

$$= (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot \left\{ [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] \vec{a} - \vec{0} \right\} \quad \left[\because [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{a}] = 0 \right]$$

$$= [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{a} \right)$$

$$= [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{a}] [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$$

$$= [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]^2 \neq 0$$

($\because [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] \neq 0$).

This shows that $(\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$, $(\vec{c} \times \vec{a})$ and $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$ are non coplanar.

13(b) show that, three non coplanar vectors \vec{a} , \vec{b} & \vec{c} can be put as $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{c} \times \vec{a})$

$$+ \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$$

Solution: Since \vec{a}, \vec{b} & \vec{c} are non coplanar, so

$\vec{a} \times \vec{b}, \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$ & $\vec{c} \times \vec{a}$ are also non coplanar (see 13(a))

Since any vector can be expressed as the linear combination of the vector three non coplanar vectors, so we assume

$$\vec{a} = l (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + m (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + n (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \quad \text{where} \quad \text{---(1)}$$

l, m & n are suitable constants.

Taking dot product by \vec{a} from both sides of (1) we get

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = l [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b}] + m [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}] + n [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{a}]$$

$$\text{or } \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} = m [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}] \quad \left[\because [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b}] = [\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{a}] = 0 \right]$$

$$\therefore m = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]}$$

Again taking dot product by \vec{b} from both sides of (1) we get

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = n [\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{a}]$$

$$\therefore n = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]}$$

Similarly $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} = l [\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b}]$

$$\therefore l = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]}$$

Thus from (1) we have

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]} (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]} (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) + \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}}{[\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$$

(viii) Show that $[\vec{p} \vec{m} \vec{n}] (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{m} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{n} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix}$ where \vec{p}, \vec{m} & \vec{n} are three non coplanar vectors.

Solution: Since \vec{p}, \vec{m} & \vec{n} are three non coplanar vectors
 so, $\vec{a} = a_1 \vec{p} + a_2 \vec{m} + a_3 \vec{n}$ & $\vec{b} = b_1 \vec{p} + b_2 \vec{m} + b_3 \vec{n}$
 where $a_i (i=1,2,3)$ & $b_i (i=1,2,3)$ are scalars.

Now $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (a_1 \vec{p} + a_2 \vec{m} + a_3 \vec{n}) \times (b_1 \vec{p} + b_2 \vec{m} + b_3 \vec{n})$
 $= a_1 b_2 \vec{p} \times \vec{m} + a_1 b_3 \vec{p} \times \vec{n} + a_2 b_1 \vec{m} \times \vec{p} + a_2 b_3 \vec{m} \times \vec{n} + a_3 b_1 \vec{n} \times \vec{p} + a_3 b_2 \vec{n} \times \vec{m}$
 $= (a_1 b_2 - b_1 a_2) \vec{p} \times \vec{m} + (a_2 b_3 - b_2 a_3) \vec{m} \times \vec{n} + (a_3 b_1 - b_3 a_1) \vec{n} \times \vec{p}$

Again $\begin{vmatrix} \vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{p} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{m} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{n} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix}$

$= (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{n} - (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{m} \} - (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{n} - (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{p} \} + (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{m} - (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{p} \}$
 $= (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ \vec{b} \times (\vec{n} \times \vec{m}) \} - (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ \vec{b} \times (\vec{n} \times \vec{p}) \} + (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a}) \{ \vec{b} \times (\vec{m} \times \vec{p}) \}$

$$= \vec{b} \times \left\{ (\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{n} \times \vec{m}) - (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{n} \times \vec{l}) + (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{m} \times \vec{l}) \right\}$$

$$= -\vec{b} \times \left\{ (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{l} \times \vec{m}) + (\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{m} \times \vec{n}) + (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{n} \times \vec{l}) \right\} \dots (1)$$

Since \vec{l}, \vec{m} & \vec{n} are non coplanar vectors, so $\vec{l} \times \vec{m}, \vec{m} \times \vec{n}, \vec{n} \times \vec{l}$ are also non coplanar, then we can write

$$\vec{a} = c_1 (\vec{l} \times \vec{m}) + c_2 (\vec{m} \times \vec{n}) + c_3 (\vec{n} \times \vec{l}) \quad \text{where} \quad (11)$$

c_1, c_2 & c_3 are scalar to be determined. Taking dot product from both sides of (11) by \vec{l} we get

$$\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a} = c_2 [\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}]$$

$$\therefore c_2 = \frac{\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}]} \quad \left(\because [\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}] \neq 0 \right)$$

$$\text{Similarly } c_3 = \frac{\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}]} \quad \text{and } c_1 = \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a}}{[\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}]}$$

Then from (11) we get

$$\vec{a} = \frac{(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{l} \times \vec{m}) + (\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{m} \times \vec{n}) + (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{n} \times \vec{l})}{[\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}]}$$

$$\therefore [\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}] \vec{a} = (\vec{n} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{l} \times \vec{m}) + (\vec{l} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{m} \times \vec{n}) + (\vec{m} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{n} \times \vec{l})$$

$$\text{Then from } \begin{vmatrix} \vec{l} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{l} \cdot \vec{l} & \vec{l} \cdot \vec{n} \\ \vec{m} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{l} & \vec{m} \cdot \vec{n} \\ \vec{n} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{l} & \vec{n} \cdot \vec{n} \end{vmatrix} = -\vec{b} \times \left([\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}] \vec{a} \right) = [\vec{l} \vec{m} \vec{n}] (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$$

14(b) If \vec{u} , \vec{v} , \vec{w} be three mutually perpendicular unit vectors s.t. $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{w}$, then prove that $\vec{v} = \vec{w} \times \vec{u}$ and $\vec{u} = \vec{v} \times \vec{w}$

Solution: Since $\vec{w} = \vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ --- (1)

Taking cross product from both sides of (1) by \vec{u}

we get
$$\vec{w} \times \vec{u} = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}) \times \vec{u}$$

or
$$\vec{w} \times \vec{u} = |\vec{u}|^2 \vec{v} - (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}) \vec{u}$$

or
$$\vec{w} \times \vec{u} = \vec{v} \quad [\because |\vec{u}| = 1 \text{ and } \vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0]$$

Again taking cross product from both sides of (1) by \vec{v}

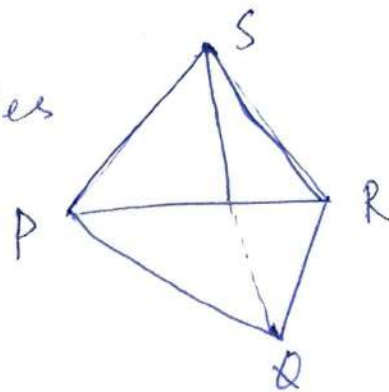
we get
$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \vec{v} \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{v})$$

or
$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = |\vec{v}|^2 \vec{u} - (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{u}) \vec{v}$$

or
$$\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \vec{u} \quad [\because |\vec{v}| = 1 \text{ and } \vec{v} \cdot \vec{u} = 0]$$

10(a) $P(1, 3, -1)$, $Q(0, 1, 6)$, $R(-1, 3, 1)$ are three pts in space. Find the co-ordinates of a pt S on the y -axis, such that the volume of the tetrahedron $PQRS$ is 10 cubic units

Solution: Since the pt S lies on the y -axis, so we take co-ordinates of S as $(0, y, 0)$.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \vec{PS} &= \text{p.v of } S - \text{p.v of } P \\ &= (0, y, 0) - (1, 3, -1) \\ &= (-1, y-3, 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{PR} &= \text{p.v of } R - \text{p.v of } P \\ &= (-1, 3, 1) - (1, 3, -1) \\ &= (-2, 0, 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \& \vec{PQ} &= \text{p.v of } Q - \text{p.v of } P \\ &= (0, 1, 6) - (1, 3, -1) \\ &= (-1, -2, 7) \end{aligned}$$

Then volume of the tetrahedron $PQRS$ is

$$= \frac{1}{6} [\vec{PS} \vec{PR} \vec{PQ}]$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & y-3 & 1 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 & 7 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left\{ -1(0+4) - (y-3)(+2+14) + 1(4) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left\{ -4 + 2(y-3) + 4 \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \left\{ 2y - 6 \right\} = 2y - 6$$

According to the problem,

$$2y - 6 = \pm 10$$

$$\therefore 2y = \pm 10 + 6$$

$$\therefore y = 8, -2$$

20(vi) Show that $|\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}|^2 |\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}|^2 - \{(\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma})\}^2$
 $= |\vec{\alpha}|^2 [\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]^2$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}|^2 \\
 &= (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \\
 &= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \times \vec{\alpha} \right\} \cdot \vec{\beta} \quad \left(\text{by dot and cross} \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \text{interchanging property} \right) \\
 &= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \vec{\beta} - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \vec{\alpha} \right\} \cdot \vec{\beta} \\
 &= (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \\
 &= |\vec{\alpha}|^2 |\vec{\beta}|^2 - \{(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta})\}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly $|\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}|^2 = |\vec{\alpha}|^2 |\vec{\gamma}|^2 - \{(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma})\}^2$

Now, $(\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma})$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \times \vec{\alpha} \right\} \cdot \vec{\gamma} \\
 &= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \vec{\beta} - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \vec{\alpha} \right\} \cdot \vec{\gamma}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= |\vec{\alpha}|^2 (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma})$$

$$\text{Now, L.H.S} = |\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}|^2 |\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}|^2 - \{ (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}) \}^2$$

$$= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta}) - \{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \}^2 \right\} \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - \{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \}^2 \right\}$$

$$- \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \right\}^2$$

$$= \{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \}^2 \left((\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - \{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \}^2 \right)$$

$$- \{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \}^2 (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma})$$

$$- (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \}^2$$

$$+ 2 (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma})$$

$$\text{R.H.S} = |\vec{\alpha}|^2 [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]^2$$

$$= (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \begin{vmatrix} \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha} & \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta} & \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma} \\ \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha} & \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta} & \vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma} \\ \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\alpha} & \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\beta} & \vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \left[(\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - \{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \}^2 \} - \right.$$

$$\left. - (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \} \right.$$

$$\left. + (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\alpha})(\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta})(\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \right\}^2 \left\{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta}) (\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) - \left\{ (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) \right\}^2 \right\} \\
&\quad - \left\{ (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \right\}^2 (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) (\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) + \\
&\quad 2 (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\beta}) (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\gamma}) (\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) - (\vec{\beta} \cdot \vec{\beta}) \left\{ (\vec{\gamma} \cdot \vec{\alpha}) \right\}^2 \\
&\quad \quad \quad (\vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{\alpha})
\end{aligned}$$

= R.H.S.

So, $|\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}|^2 |\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}|^2 - \left((\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}) \right)^2$

$$= |\vec{\alpha}|^2 [\vec{\alpha} \vec{\beta} \vec{\gamma}]^2 \text{ (proved)}$$

Find two vectors \vec{a} & \vec{b} which are of equal magnitude and mutually perpendicular, each have the x-component 5 and are each perpendicular to $3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$

Solution: According to problem, we take

$$\vec{a} = 5\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j} + z_1\hat{k}$$
$$\& \vec{b} = 5\hat{i} + y_2\hat{j} + z_2\hat{k}$$

Since \vec{a} & \vec{b} are mutually perpendicular, so we get

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad 25 + y_1 y_2 + z_1 z_2 = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

Again as \vec{a} & \vec{b} have equal magnitude, so we have

$$25 + y_1^2 + z_1^2 = 25 + y_2^2 + z_2^2$$
$$\Rightarrow y_1^2 + z_1^2 = y_2^2 + z_2^2 \quad \dots (2)$$

As \vec{a} & \vec{b} also perpendicular to the vector $(3\hat{j} + 4\hat{k})$, then

$$3y_1 + 4z_1 = 0 \quad \dots (3)$$

$$\& 3y_2 + 4z_2 = 0 \quad \dots (4)$$

With help of (3) & (4), (2) $\Rightarrow \frac{16}{9} z_1^2 + z_1^2 = \frac{16}{9} z_2^2 + z_2^2$

$$\Rightarrow z_1^2 = z_2^2$$
$$\Rightarrow z_1 = \pm z_2$$

When $z_1 = z_2$, then from (1) we get

$$25 + \left(-\frac{4}{3} z_2\right) \left(-\frac{4}{3} z_2\right) + z_2^2 = 0 \quad (\text{with help of (3) \& (4)})$$

$$\Rightarrow 25 + \frac{16}{9} z_2^2 + z_2^2 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow z_2^2 = -9$, which gives imaginary values of z_2

Thus $z_1 = z_2$ is not possible.

Now, when $z_1 = -z_2$, from (1) we get

$$25 + \left(\frac{4}{3} z_1\right) \left(-\frac{4}{3} z_1\right) - z_1^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow z_1^2 = 9 \quad \Rightarrow z_1 = \pm 3$$

When $z_2 = 3$, from (4), $y_2 = -4$

and $z_1 = -3$, $y_1 = 4$

Since the vectors are

$$\vec{a} = 5\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - 3\hat{k} \quad \& \quad \vec{b} = 5\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$$

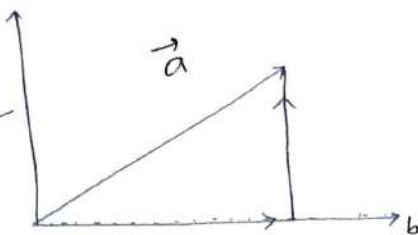
Express a vector \vec{a} as the sum of two component vectors one parallel and the other perpendicular to the vector \vec{b} in the form:

$$\vec{a} = \frac{1}{|\vec{b}|} \left((\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \right)$$

Solution:

Any vector perpendicular to the vector \vec{b} and coplanar with \vec{a} & \vec{b} can be taken as

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



Now the component of \vec{a} along a vector parallel to \vec{b} is $\frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|} \left(\frac{\vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|} \right)$
 is $= \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|}$ Thus the vector parallel to \vec{b} is $= \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|^2} \vec{b}$.

Again the component of the vector \vec{a} along parallel to $(\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}$ is

$$\frac{\vec{a} \cdot ((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b})}{|(\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}|} = \frac{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})}{|(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b}|}$$

Thus the component vector of \vec{a} parallel to $(\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}$ is

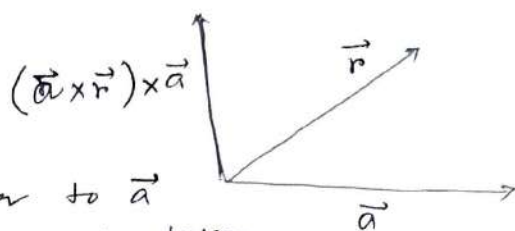
$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})}{\left\{ |(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b}| \right\} |(\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})^2}{\left\{ (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b} \right\} \cdot \left\{ (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{a} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b} \right\}} \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} \right) \\ &= \frac{(|\vec{b}|^2 |\vec{a}|^2 - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})^2) \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} \right)}{(|\vec{b}|^2 |\vec{a}|^2 - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})^2) \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} \right)} = \frac{1}{|\vec{b}|} \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\vec{a} =$ component vector parallel to \vec{b} + component vector parallel to $(\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}$
 $= \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{b}|^2} \vec{b} + \frac{1}{|\vec{b}|} \left((\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} \right) = \frac{1}{|\vec{b}|^2} \left\{ (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \right\}$

Q(2) Decompose a vector \vec{r} as a linear combination of a vector \vec{a} and another vector perpendicular to \vec{a} and coplanar with \vec{r} & \vec{a} .

Solution:

Solution



Any vector perpendicular to \vec{a} and coplanar with \vec{r} & \vec{a} can be taken as $(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) \times \vec{a}$.

Now, we express \vec{r} as the linear combination of vectors \vec{a} & $(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) \times \vec{a}$.

Since \vec{r} , \vec{a} & $(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) \times \vec{a}$ are coplanar, hence there exist two scalar x & y such that

$$\vec{r} = x\vec{a} + y(\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) \times \vec{a} \quad \dots \text{--- (0)}$$

taking dot product by \vec{a} from both sides of (1) we get

$$\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} = x(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) + y \left\{ (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}) \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \right\} \quad \dots \text{--- (1)}$$

taking dot product by \vec{a} from both sides of (1) we get

$$\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} = x(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) + y \left\{ (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}) - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}) (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a}|^2 x = \vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|^2}$$

Again taking cross product by \vec{a} from both sides of (1) we get

$$\vec{r} \times \vec{a} = x(\vec{a} \times \vec{a}) + y \left\{ (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}) (\vec{r} \times \vec{a}) - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}) (\vec{a} \times \vec{a}) \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r} \times \vec{a} = y |\vec{a}|^2 (\vec{r} \times \vec{a})$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{r} \times \vec{a}) \{ 1 - |\vec{a}|^2 y \} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - |\vec{a}|^2 y = 0 \quad [\because \vec{r} \times \vec{a} \neq \vec{0}]$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{|\vec{a}|^2}$$

Thus
$$\vec{r} = \frac{\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|^2} \vec{a} + \frac{1}{|\vec{a}|^2} \left((\vec{a} \times \vec{r}) \times \vec{a} \right)$$

Scalar + vector product :

Find a unit vector parallel to the xy -plane & perpendicular to the vector $4\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}$

Solution. Any vector parallel to xy plane can be taken as $\vec{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}$... (1) where x & y are some scalar and \hat{i} & \hat{j} are two unit vector along positive direction of x axis & y axis respectively.

Thus the unit vector along $\vec{r} = \frac{x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$... (2)

Let (2) be the required vector which is perpendicular to $4\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}$

Then we get

$$\frac{x\hat{i} + y\hat{j}}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \cdot (4\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x - 3y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{3}{4}y$$

Putting $x = \frac{3}{4}y$ in (2) we get $\vec{r} = \frac{\frac{3}{4}\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{\frac{9}{16} + 1}} = \frac{3\hat{i} + 4\hat{j}}{5}$

Thus the required vector is $= \pm \frac{1}{5}(3\hat{i} + 4\hat{j})$.

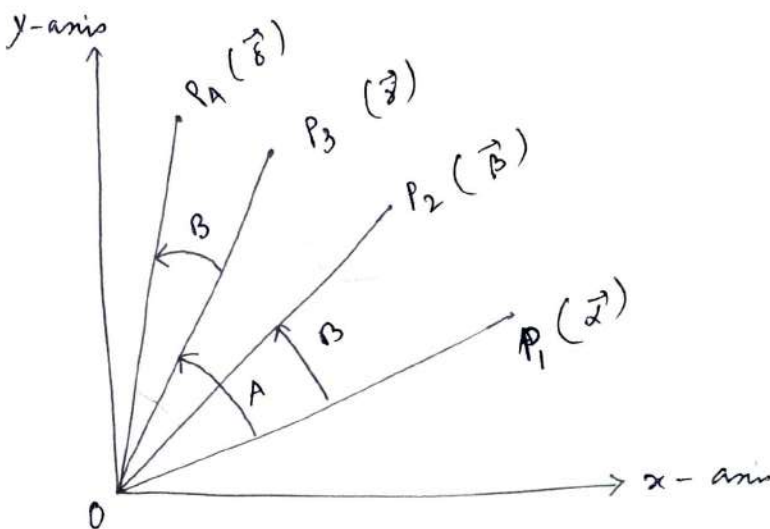
Vector Algebra. (Vector triple product).

(19) Use $(\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\beta}) \cdot (\vec{\gamma} \times \vec{\delta}) + (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\gamma}) \cdot (\vec{\delta} \times \vec{\beta}) + (\vec{\alpha} \times \vec{\delta}) \cdot (\vec{\beta} \times \vec{\gamma}) = 0$ show that

(i) $\sin(A+B) \sin(A-B) = \sin^2 A - \sin^2 B.$

(ii) $\cos(A+B) \cos(A-B) = \cos^2 A - \cos^2 B.$

Solution:



We consider 'O' as origin and two mutually perpendicular lines through 'O' as axes respectively.

We take ^{four pts} P_1, P_2, P_3, P_4 in the xy plane s.t

$\angle P_1 O P_2 = B, \angle P_1 O P_3 = A$ and $\angle P_1 O P_4 = A+B.$

We also take $\vec{OP}_1 = \vec{\alpha}, \vec{OP}_2 = \vec{\beta}, \vec{OP}_3 = \vec{\gamma}$ and $\vec{OP}_4 = \vec{\delta}$. Then $\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\beta}, \vec{\gamma}$ & $\vec{\delta}$ are coplanar vectors lying in the xy plane. Let \hat{n} be ~~the~~ unit perpendicular to ~~the~~ ~~plane~~ the xy-plane. Then from the given result, using the defⁿ of cross product we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (|\vec{\alpha}| |\vec{\beta}| \sin B \hat{n}) \cdot (|\vec{\gamma}| |\vec{\delta}| \sin B \hat{n}) + (|\vec{\alpha}| |\vec{\gamma}| \sin A \hat{n}) \cdot \\ & (|\vec{\delta}| |\vec{\beta}| \sin(-A) \hat{n}) + (|\vec{\alpha}| |\vec{\delta}| \sin(A+B) \hat{n}) \cdot (|\vec{\beta}| |\vec{\gamma}| \sin(A-B) \hat{n}) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \sin^2 B - \sin^2 A + \sin(A+B) \sin(A-B) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \sin(A+B) \sin(A-B) = \sin^2 A - \sin^2 B.$

Again from the given result, we have

$$(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + \vec{a} \cdot \{ \vec{c} \times (\vec{d} \times \vec{b}) \} + \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{d} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + \vec{a} \cdot \{ (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{d} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d}) \vec{b} \} \\ + \vec{a} \cdot \{ (\vec{d} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{b} - (\vec{d} \cdot \vec{b}) \vec{c} \} = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}) (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d}) (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) \\ + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{d} \cdot \vec{c}) - (\vec{d} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}) (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) - (\vec{d} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c}) = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow (|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin B \hat{n}) \cdot (|\vec{c}| |\vec{d}| \sin B \hat{n}) + |\vec{a}| |\vec{d}| \cos(A+B) |\vec{c}| |\vec{b}| \\ \cos(A-B) - |\vec{d}| |\vec{b}| \cos A |\vec{a}| |\vec{c}| \cos A = 0 \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{using defn of} \\ \text{dot product in} \\ \text{cross product} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin^2 B + \cos(A+B) \cos(A-B) - \cos^2 A = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(A+B) \cos(A-B) = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 B.$$