

SCALAR TRIPLE PRODUCT

Topics Covered

1. Scalar triple product
2. Vector equation of plane in different forms
3. Skew lines, shortest distance between skew lines
4. Vector triple product
5. Scalar product of four vectors
6. Vector product of four vectors

Def:- 1. If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are the three vectors, then the real numbers $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}$ is called scalar triple product denoted by $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$. This is read as 'box' $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$

2. If V is the volume of the parallelepiped with coterminous edges $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ then $V = |[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]|$

3. If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ form the right handed system of vectors then $V = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$

4. If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ form left handed system of vectors then $-V = [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}]$

5. Properties of scalar triple product :-

i) The scalar triple product is independent of the position of dot and cross.

i.e. $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} = \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c}$

ii) The value of the scalar triple product is unaltered so long as the cyclic order remains unchanged

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

iii) The value of a scalar triple product is zero if two of its vectors are equal

$$[\vec{a} \vec{a} \vec{b}] = 0 \quad [\vec{b} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 0$$

iv) If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are coplanar then $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 0$

v) If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ form right handed system then $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] > 0$

vi) If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ form left handed system then $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] < 0$

vii) The value of the triple product changes its sign when two vectors are interchanged

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

viii) If l, m, n are three scalars $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are three vectors then $[l\vec{a} m\vec{b} n\vec{c}] = lmn[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$

Theorem 1 : Three non zero non parallel vectors $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are coplanar iff $[\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] = 0$

Theorem 2 : If $\vec{a} = a_1\vec{i} + a_2\vec{j} + a_3\vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = b_1\vec{i} + b_2\vec{j} + b_3\vec{k}$, $\vec{c} = c_1\vec{i} + c_2\vec{j} + c_3\vec{k}$ then $[\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

Theorem 3 : If $\vec{a} = a_1\vec{l} + a_2\vec{m} + a_3\vec{n}$, $\vec{b} = b_1\vec{l} + b_2\vec{m} + b_3\vec{n}$, $\vec{c} = c_1\vec{l} + c_2\vec{m} + c_3\vec{n}$ where $\vec{l}, \vec{m}, \vec{n}$ form a right

handed system of non coplanar vectors, then $[\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{m} \times \vec{n} & \vec{n} \times \vec{l} & \vec{l} \times \vec{m} \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

Theorem 4 : The vector equation of plane passing through the points A, B, C having position vectors $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ is $[\vec{r} - \vec{a}, \vec{b} - \vec{a}, \vec{c} - \vec{a}] = 0$ (or) $\vec{r} \cdot \{(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) + (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})\} = [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}]$

Sol: Let $\vec{OP} = \vec{r}$ be any point on the plane $\vec{OA} = \vec{a}$, $\vec{OB} = \vec{b}$, $\vec{OC} = \vec{c}$ are the given points

$\vec{AP}, \vec{AB}, \vec{AC}$ are coplanar

$$[\vec{AP}, \vec{AB}, \vec{AC}] = 0$$

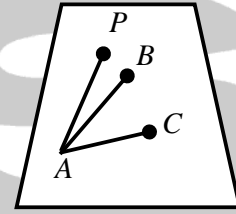
$$[\vec{r} - \vec{a}, \vec{b} - \vec{a}, \vec{c} - \vec{a}] = 0$$

$$(\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{b} - \vec{a}) \times (\vec{c} - \vec{a}) = 0$$

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

$$\vec{r} \cdot \{\vec{b} \times \vec{c} + \vec{c} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{b}\} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{c} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{a} - \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot \{\vec{b} \times \vec{c} + \vec{c} \times \vec{a} + \vec{a} \times \vec{b}\} = [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] \{ \because \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{a} = 0 \quad \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = 0 \}$$



Theorem 5 : The vectors equation of plane passing through the points A, B with position vectors \vec{a}, \vec{b} and parallel to the vector \vec{c} is $[\vec{r} - \vec{a}, \vec{b} - \vec{a}, \vec{c}] = 0$ (or) $[\vec{r}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] + [\vec{r}, \vec{c}, \vec{a}] = [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}]$

Theorem 6 : The vector equation of the plane passing through the point A with position vector \vec{a} and parallel to \vec{b}, \vec{c} is $[\vec{r} - \vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] = 0$ i.e. $[\vec{r}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}] = [\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}]$

Skew lines :- Two lines are said to be skew lines if there exist no plane passing through them i.e. the lines lie on two different planes

Def:- l_1 and l_2 are two skew lines. If P is a point on l_1 and Q is a point on l_2 such that $\overline{PQ} \perp l_1$ and $\overline{PQ} \perp l_2$ then PQ is called shortest distance and \overline{PQ} is called shortest distance line between the lines l_1 and l_2 .

The shortest distance between the skew lines $\vec{r} = \vec{a} + t\vec{b}$ and $\vec{r} = \vec{c} + t\vec{d}$ is $\frac{|\vec{a} - \vec{c} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{d}|}{|\vec{b} \times \vec{d}|}$

VECTOR TRIPLE PRODUCT :-

Theorem: If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are three vectors then

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

Proof: i) Let $\vec{a} = a_1\vec{i} + a_2\vec{j} + a_3\vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = b_1\vec{i} + b_2\vec{j} + b_3\vec{k}$, $\vec{c} = c_1\vec{i} + c_2\vec{j} + c_3\vec{k}$ be three

vectors $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(a_2b_3 - a_3b_2) - \vec{j}(a_1b_3 - a_3b_1) + \vec{k}(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)$

$(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_2b_3 - a_3b_2 & a_3b_1 - a_1b_3 & a_1b_2 - a_2b_1 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

$= \vec{i}\{c_3(a_3b_1 - a_1b_3) - c_2(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)\} - \vec{j}\{c_3(a_2b_3 - a_3b_2) - c_1(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)\} + \vec{k}\{c_2(a_2b_3 - a_3b_2) - c_1(a_3b_1 - a_1b_3)\}$

$(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{b} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{a} = (a_1c_1 + a_2c_2 + a_3c_3)\{b_1\vec{i} + b_2\vec{j} + b_3\vec{k}\}$

$(a_1b_1c_1 + a_2b_1c_2 + a_3b_1c_3 - a_1b_2c_2 - a_1b_3c_3)\vec{i} + (a_1b_2c_1 + a_2b_3c_2 + a_3b_3c_3 - a_2b_1c_1 - a_2b_2c_2 - a_2b_3c_3)\vec{j}$
 $+ (a_1b_3c_1 + a_2b_3c_2 + a_3b_3c_3 - a_3b_1c_1 - a_3b_2c_2 - a_3b_3c_3)\vec{k}$

$\Rightarrow \{c_3(a_3b_1 - a_1b_3) - c_2(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)\}\vec{i} + \{c_3(a_2b_3 - a_3b_2) - c_1(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)\}\vec{j} + \{c_2(a_2b_3 - a_3b_2) - c_1(a_3b_1 - a_1b_3)\}\vec{k}$

Hence proved

Proof ii ; $\vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

$= \vec{i}(b_2c_3 - b_3c_2) - \vec{j}(b_1c_3 - b_3c_1) + \vec{k}(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)$

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2c_3 - b_3c_2 & b_3c_1 - b_1c_3 & b_1c_2 - b_2c_1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{i}\{a_2(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) - a_3(b_3c_1 - b_1c_3)\} - \vec{j}\{a_1(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) - a_3(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)\} + \vec{k}\{a_1(b_3c_1 - b_1c_3) - a_2(b_2c_3 - b_3c_2)\}$$

R.H.S. $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$

$$(a_1c_1 + a_2c_2 + a_3c_3)\{b_1\vec{i} + b_2\vec{j} + b_3\vec{k}\} - (a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3)\{c_1\vec{i} + c_2\vec{j} + c_3\vec{k}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{i}\{a_2(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1) - a_3(b_3c_1 - b_1c_3)\} - \vec{j}\{a_1cb_1c_2 - b_2c_1) - a_3(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)\} + \vec{k}\{a_1(b_3c_1 - b_1c_3) - a_2(b_2c_3 - b_3c_2)\}$$

Product of four vectors :-

Theorem: If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}$ are four vectors then $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{d} \\ \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{d} \end{vmatrix}$

Proof: $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = \{(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c}\} \cdot \vec{d}$ {∴ dot and cross are inter changeable}

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

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{d} \\ \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{d} \end{vmatrix}$$

Theorem: If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}$ are four vectors then $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{d}] \vec{c} - [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] \vec{d} = [\vec{a} \vec{c} \vec{d}] \vec{b} - [\vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d}] \vec{a}$

Proof:- $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = (\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}) \vec{c} - (\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}) \vec{d}$

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

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

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

EXERCISE 4(a)

I. Very Short Answer Questions:

1. Find the angle between the vectors $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$ and $3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

Sol: Let $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$ $\vec{b} = 3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

Let θ be the angle between vectors \vec{a} and \vec{b}

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|} \\ &= \frac{3 - 2 + 6}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2} \sqrt{3^2 + 1^2 + 2^2}} \\ &= \frac{7}{12} = \frac{1}{2} \\ \theta &= 60^\circ \end{aligned}$$

2. If the vectors $2\vec{i} + \lambda\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ and $4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ are perpendicular to each other then find λ

Sol: Let $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + \lambda\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ $\vec{b} = 4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ be the given vectors

Given that $\vec{a} \perp \vec{b}$ $\therefore \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$

$$(2\vec{i} + \lambda\vec{j} - \vec{k}) \cdot (4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) = 0$$

$$8 - 2\lambda - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow 6 = 2\lambda \Rightarrow \lambda = 3$$

3. For what values of λ the vectors $\vec{i} - \lambda\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ and $8\vec{i} + 6\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ are at right angles

Sol: Let $\vec{a} = \vec{i} - \lambda\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ $\vec{b} = 8\vec{i} + 6\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ be the given vectors

\vec{a} , \vec{b} are perpendicular

$$\therefore \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \Rightarrow (\vec{i} - \lambda\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) \cdot (8\vec{i} + 6\vec{j} - \vec{k}) = 0$$

$$= 8 - 6\lambda - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow 6 = 6\lambda \Rightarrow \lambda = 1$$

4. $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = \vec{i} - 3\vec{j} - 5\vec{k}$. Find the vector \vec{c} such that \vec{a} , \vec{b} and \vec{c} form the sides of a triangle

Sol: since $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are the sides of a triangle $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$

$$\therefore \vec{c} = -\vec{a} - \vec{b}$$

$$= -2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k} - \vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + 5\vec{k}$$

$$\therefore \vec{c} = -3\vec{i} + \vec{j} + 4\vec{k}$$

5. Find the angle between the planes $\vec{r} \cdot (2\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) = 3$ and $\vec{r} \cdot (3\vec{i} + 6\vec{j} + \vec{k}) = 4$

Sol: Angle between the planes be θ

$$\cos \theta = \frac{|\vec{m}_1 \cdot \vec{m}_2|}{|\vec{m}_1| |\vec{m}_2|}$$

$$= \frac{(2\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) \cdot (3\vec{i} + 6\vec{j} + \vec{k})}{\sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + 2^2} \sqrt{3^2 + 6^2 + 1^2}}$$

$$= \frac{6 - 6 + 2}{\sqrt{9} \sqrt{6}}$$

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{3\sqrt{6}} \right)$$

6. Find the radius of the sphere whose equation is $\vec{r}^2 = 2\vec{r} \cdot (4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k})$

Sol: $\vec{r}^2 - 2\vec{r} \cdot (4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) = 0$

This is of the form $\vec{r}^2 - 2\vec{r} \cdot \vec{c} = a^2 - c^2$

Here $\vec{c} = 4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

And $a^2 - c^2 = 0$

$$a^2 = |\vec{c}|^2 \Rightarrow a^2 = |4\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}|^2$$

$$a^2 = \{ \sqrt{16 + 4} \}^2$$

$$a = \sqrt{24}$$

\therefore Radius of sphere = $\sqrt{24}$

7. If $(\vec{r}-2\vec{j}-4\vec{k}) \cdot (\vec{r}+2\vec{j}+2\vec{k})=0$ is the equation of sphere then find its centre

Sol: $\{\vec{r}-(2\vec{i}-\vec{j}+4\vec{k})\} \cdot \{\vec{r}-(-2\vec{i}+2\vec{j}+2\vec{k})\}=0$

This is of the form $(\vec{r}-\vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{r}-\vec{b})=0$

$\vec{a}=2\vec{i}-\vec{j}+4\vec{k}$, $\vec{b}=-2\vec{i}+2\vec{j}+2\vec{k}$

Centre = $\frac{\vec{a}+\vec{b}}{2} = \frac{2\vec{i}+\vec{j}+4\vec{k}-2\vec{i}+2\vec{j}+2\vec{k}}{2}$

$= \frac{\vec{j}+2\vec{k}}{2}$

Centre = $\left(0, \frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$

8. Let \vec{e}_1 and \vec{e}_2 be the unit vector containing angle θ . If $\frac{1}{2}|\vec{e}_1-\vec{e}_2| = \sin \lambda\theta$ then find λ

Sol: Given that $|\vec{e}_1|=1$ $|\vec{e}_2|=1$

$\frac{1}{2}|\vec{e}_1-\vec{e}_2| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}(\vec{e}_1-\vec{e}_2)^2}$

$= \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}\{1+1-2|\vec{e}_1||\vec{e}_2|\cos\theta\}}$

$\therefore \sin \lambda\theta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}\{2-2\cos\theta\}}$

$= \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}4\sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}}$

$\sin \lambda\theta = \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{2}$

9. If $\vec{a}=(4,3,5)$ is the centre of the sphere which passes through the point $(-1, -1, 2)$ then find the cartesian equation of the sphere.

Sol: Centre of sphere = $(4, 3, 5)$

Point of sphere = $(-1, -1, 2)$

Radius = $\sqrt{(4+1)^2 + (3+1)^2 + (5-2)^2}$

$$\sqrt{25+16+9} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

∴ Equation of sphere is $(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2 = r^2$

$$(x-4)^2 + (y-3)^2 + (z-5)^2 = (5\sqrt{2})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-4)^2 + (y-3)^2 + (z-5)^2 = 50$$

10. Let $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ find

i) The projection vector of \vec{b} on \vec{a} and its magnitude

ii) The vector components of \vec{b} in the direction of \vec{a} and \perp to \vec{a}

Sol: i) The projection vector of \vec{b} on \vec{a} is

$$\frac{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|^2} = \frac{(2+3+1)(\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k})}{(\sqrt{1+1+1})^2}$$

$$= 2\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$$

$$\therefore \text{Magnitude} = \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2 + 2^2} = 2\sqrt{3}$$

ii) The projection of vector of \vec{b} on $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ the projection vector of

$$\vec{b} \perp \vec{a} = \vec{b} - \frac{(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|^2}$$

$$(2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}) - (2\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) = \vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

11. Find the equations of the plane through the point (3, -2, 1) and perpendicular to the vector (4, 7, -4)

Sol: Vector equation of plane passing through the point \vec{a} and perpendicular to \vec{m} is

$$(\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{m} = 0$$

$$\text{Here } \vec{a} = 3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k} \quad \vec{m} = 4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

$$\therefore \text{Equation is } (\vec{r} - (3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k})) \cdot (4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}) = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot (4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}) - (3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}) = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot (4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}) - \{12 - 14 - 4\} = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot (4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} - \vec{k}) = -6$$

12. If $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - 3\vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = 3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ then find the angle between $2\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ and $\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}$

Sol: $2\vec{a} = 4\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} - 6\vec{k}$
 $\vec{b} = 3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

 $2\vec{a} + \vec{b} = 7\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 4\vec{k}$

$\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - 3\vec{k}$
 $2\vec{b} = 6\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 4\vec{k}$

 $\vec{a} + 2\vec{b} = 8\vec{i} + \vec{k}$

Let θ be the angle between the vectors

$$\cos \theta = \frac{(7\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 4\vec{k}) \cdot (8\vec{i} + \vec{k})}{\sqrt{7^2 + 3^2 + 4^2} \sqrt{8^2 + 12}}$$

$$= \frac{56 - 4}{\sqrt{74} \sqrt{65}} \Rightarrow \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{52}{\sqrt{74 \times 65}} \right)$$

II. Short Answer Questions:

1) If α, β and γ be the angles made by the vector $3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ with positive directions of the co ordinate axis then find $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta$ and $\cos \gamma$.

Sol: Let $\vec{a} = 3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$

Unit vector in the direction of $\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|}$

$$= \frac{3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + 6^2 + 2^2}}$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{7}\right)\vec{i} - \left(\frac{6}{7}\right)\vec{j} + \left(\frac{2}{7}\right)\vec{k}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{3}{7} \quad \cos \beta = -\frac{6}{7} \quad \cos \gamma = \frac{2}{7}$$

2. Find the angles made by the straight line passing through the points (1, -3, 2) and (3, -5, 1) with the coordinate axes

Sol: Let A = (1, -3, 2) B = (3, -5, 1) be the given points

Dr's of AB = 3 - 1, -5 + 3, 1 - 2

$$2, \quad -2, -1$$

$$\text{DC's of AB} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2^2+2^2+1^2}}, \frac{-2}{\sqrt{2^2+2^2+1^2}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2^2+2^2+1^2}}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{2}{3}, \cos \beta = -\frac{2}{3}, \cos \gamma = \frac{-1}{3}$$

3. Find unit vector parallel to the XOY – plane and perpendicular to the vector $4\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}$

Sol: Let $a\vec{i} + b\vec{j}$ be the vector in XOY plane since we want unit vector

$$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = 1 \quad a^2 + b^2 = 1 \rightarrow (1)$$

The vector $a\vec{i} + b\vec{j}$ is \perp to $4\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}$

$$\therefore (a\vec{i} + b\vec{j}) \cdot (4\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} + \vec{k}) = 0$$

$$4a - 3b = 0$$

$$4a = 3b$$

$$\frac{a}{3} = \frac{b}{4} = k$$

$$a = 3k \quad b = 4k$$

sub a, b in (1)

$$9k^2 + 16k^2 = 1 \Rightarrow k^2 = \frac{1}{25}$$

$$k = \pm \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\therefore \text{Vector} = \pm \frac{1}{5}(3\vec{i} + 4\vec{j})$$

4. In triangle $\angle ACB = 90^\circ$ if P and Q are points of trisection of AB then prove that

$$CP^2 + CQ^2 = \frac{5}{9}(AB)^2$$

Sol: Let $C(\vec{O})$ be the origin of vectors

$$\vec{CA} = \vec{a}, \vec{CB} = \vec{b}$$

P divides AB in the ratio 1:2

$$\vec{CP} = \frac{2\vec{a} + \vec{b}}{3}$$

Q divides AB in the ratio 2:1

$$\vec{CQ} = \frac{\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}}{3}$$

$$\therefore \angle ACB = 90^\circ \Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

$$\text{And } |\vec{CA}|^2 + |\vec{CB}|^2 = |\vec{AB}|^2$$

$$|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 = |\vec{AB}|^2$$

$$CP^2 + CQ^2 = |\vec{CP}|^2 + |\vec{CQ}|^2$$

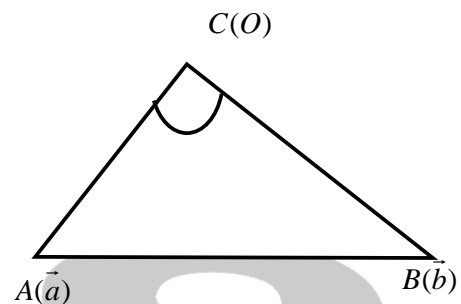
$$= \left| \frac{2\vec{a} + \vec{b}}{3} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}}{3} \right|^2$$

$$= \frac{4|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + |\vec{a}|^2 + 4|\vec{b}|^2}{9} \quad \because \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

$$= \frac{5}{9} \{ |\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 \}$$

$$= \frac{5}{9} |\vec{AB}|^2$$

$$CP^2 + CQ^2 = \frac{5}{9} AB^2$$



5. If $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = 0$, $|\vec{a}| = 3$, $|\vec{b}| = 5$ and $|\vec{c}| = 7$ then find the angle between \vec{a} and \vec{b}

Sol: Given that $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = 0$

$$\vec{a} + \vec{b} = -\vec{c}$$

$$|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = |-\vec{c}|$$

Squaring on both sides

$$|\vec{a} + \vec{b}|^2 = |-\vec{c}|^2$$

$$|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{c}|^2$$

$$|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \cos \theta = |\vec{c}|^2$$

Where $\theta = (\vec{a}, \vec{b})$

$$9 + 25 + 2 \times 3 \times 5 \cos \theta = 7^2$$

$$30 \cos \theta = 49 - 34$$

$$(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) - \{z\}^2 = x^2 + y^2 \Rightarrow \theta = 60^\circ$$

\therefore Angle between \vec{a} and $\vec{b} = 60^\circ$

6. If $|\vec{a}| = 2$, $|\vec{b}| = 3$ and $|\vec{c}| = 4$ and each $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ is perpendicular to sum of the other two vector then find the magnitude of $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$

Sol: Given that $\vec{a} \perp \vec{b} + \vec{c}$; $\vec{b} \perp (\vec{a} + \vec{c})$ and $\vec{c} \perp (\vec{a} + \vec{b})$

$$\therefore \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) = 0 \rightarrow (1), \quad \vec{b} \cdot (\vec{c} + \vec{a}) = 0, \quad \vec{c} \cdot (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = 0$$

\therefore Adding (1), (2), (3) we have

$$2(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) = 0$$

$$|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| = \sqrt{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}|^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + |\vec{c}|^2 + 2(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})}$$

$$= \sqrt{2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 0} = \sqrt{29}$$

7. Find the equation of the plane passing through the point $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ and \perp^r and between the distance of this plane from the origin

Sol: Equation of the plane is $(\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{m} = 0$

$$\text{Here } \vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k} \quad \vec{m} = 3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$$

$$\{\vec{r} - (2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k})\} \cdot (3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}) = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot (3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}) - (6 - 6 + 2) = 0$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot (3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}) = 2$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot \frac{(3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k})}{|3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}|} = \frac{2}{|3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}|}$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot \frac{(3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k})}{|3\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}|} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$$

This is of the form $\vec{r} \cdot \hat{n} = p$

Where $p = \perp^r$ distance from the origin to the plane

$$= \frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$$

8. Find the vector equation and its cartesian form of sphere with $\vec{a} = 3\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$ and $\vec{b} = -2\vec{i} - \vec{j}$ as the ends points of a diameter

Sol: Vector equation of sphere $(\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{b}) = 0$

$$\therefore \text{Equation is } \{\vec{r} - (3\vec{i} + 4\vec{j} - 2\vec{k})\} \cdot \{\vec{r} - (-2\vec{i} - \vec{j})\} = 0$$

$$\vec{r}^2 - \vec{r} \cdot (\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}) - 10 = 0$$

Cartesian form of sphere equation is

$$(x - a_1)(x - b_1) + (y - a_2)(y - b_2) + (z - a_3)(z - b_3) = 0$$

Here (a_1, a_2, a_3) , (b_1, b_2, b_3) are the component of given vector \vec{a}, \vec{b}

$$\therefore (x - 3)(x + 2) + (y - 4)(y + 1) + (z - 2)(z - 0) = 0$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - x - 3y + 2z - 10 = 0$$

9. If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ and \vec{d} are the position vectors of four coplanar points such that $(\vec{a}-\vec{d}) \cdot (\vec{b}-\vec{c}) = (\vec{b}-\vec{d}) \cdot (\vec{c}-\vec{a}) = 0$ show that the point \vec{d} represents the orthocenter of triangle with $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ as its vertices

Sol: Let $\vec{OA} = \vec{a}$, $\vec{OB} = \vec{b}$, $\vec{OC} = \vec{c}$, $\vec{OD} = \vec{d}$ be the given position vectors

$$\text{Given that } (\vec{a}-\vec{d}) \cdot (\vec{b}-\vec{c}) = 0$$

$$(\vec{OA}-\vec{OD}) \cdot (\vec{OB}-\vec{OC}) = 0$$

$$\vec{DA} \cdot \vec{CB} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{DA} \perp \vec{CB}$$

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

$$(\vec{OB}-\vec{OD}) \cdot (\vec{OC}-\vec{OA}) = 0$$

$$\vec{DB} \cdot \vec{AC} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{DB} \perp \vec{AC}$$

\therefore AD, BD are altitude from A and B to the sides BC, AC of triangle ABC they are meeting in D hence \vec{d} is the orthocenter of triangle.

III. Long Answer Questions:

1. Show that the points (5, -1, 1) (7, -4, 7), (1,-6,10) and (-1, -3, 4) are the vertices of a rhombus

Sol: Let A = (5, -1, 1), B = (7, -4, 7), C = (1, -6, 10), D (-1, -3, 4) be the given vertices

$$|\vec{AB}| = |2\vec{i} - 3\vec{j} + 6\vec{k}| = \sqrt{4+9+36} = 7$$

$$|\vec{BC}| = |-6\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}| = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

$$|\vec{CD}| = |-2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 6\vec{k}| = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

$$|\vec{AD}| = |-6\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}| = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

$$\vec{BA} \cdot \vec{BC} = (-2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 6\vec{k}) \cdot (-6\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k})$$

$$= 12 - 6 - 18 \neq 0$$

$$\therefore \angle B \neq 90^\circ$$

$$\vec{AC} \cdot \vec{BD} = (-4\vec{i} - 5\vec{j} + 9\vec{k}) \cdot (-8\vec{i} + \vec{j} - 3\vec{k})$$

$$= 32 - 5 - 27 = 0$$

$$\therefore \overline{AC} \perp \overline{BD}$$

Hence ABCD is a rhombus

2. Let $\vec{a} = 4\vec{i} + 5\vec{j} - \vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = \vec{i} - \vec{j} + 5\vec{k}$ and $\vec{c} = 3\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$ find the vector which is \perp to both \vec{a} and \vec{b} whose magnitude is 21 times the magnitude of \vec{c} .

Sol: Let $\vec{p} = p_1\vec{i} + p_2\vec{j} + p_3\vec{k}$ be the required

$$\vec{p} \cdot \vec{a} = 0 \quad 4p_1 + 5p_2 - p_3 = 0 \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\vec{p} \cdot \vec{b} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow p_1 + 4p_2 + 5p_3 = 0 \rightarrow (2) \quad \because \vec{p} \perp \text{ both } \vec{a} \text{ \& } \vec{b}$$

$$|\vec{p}| = 21|\vec{c}|$$

$$\sqrt{p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2} = 21\sqrt{9+1+1} \Rightarrow p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2 = 41 \times 11 \rightarrow (3)$$

By solving (1) & (2)

p_1	p_2	p_3	
5	-1	4	5
-4	5	1	-4
$\frac{p_1}{25-4} = \frac{p_2}{-1-20} = \frac{p_3}{-16-5}$			

$$p_1 = 21k, \quad p_2 = -21k, \quad p_3 = -21k$$

Sub p_1, p_2, p_3 we have

$$41 \times 3k^2 = 441 \times 11 \Rightarrow k = \frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore p_1 = 21 \times \frac{\sqrt{11}}{\sqrt{3}} = 7\sqrt{33}, \quad p_2 = -7\sqrt{33}, \quad p_3 = -7\sqrt{33}$$

$$\therefore \text{Vector} = \pm 7\sqrt{33}(\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k})$$

3. If A (-6, 1, 6), B(6, -2, 3), C(-2, -3, -1) and D(-5, -9, -7) are four points. Show that the points A, B and D lie on a sphere with centre C. What is the radius of the sphere

Sol: $|\overline{CA}| = |4\vec{i} - 4\vec{j} - 7\vec{k}| = \sqrt{16+16+49} = 9$

$$|\overline{CB}| = |8\vec{i} + \vec{j} + 4\vec{k}| = \sqrt{64+1+16} = 9$$

$$|\overline{CD}| = |-3\vec{i} - 6\vec{j} - 6\vec{k}| = \sqrt{9 + 36 + 36} = 9$$

The point C is equi distant from A, B, D hence A, B, D lie on a sphere with centre 'C'.

Radius of sphere = 9

4. **G is the centroid of triangle ABC and a, b, are the lengths of the sides BC, CA and AB respectively prove that $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 3(OA^2 + OB^2 + OC^2) - 9(OG)^2$**

Sol: Let $|\overline{BC}| = a$, $|\overline{CA}| = b$, $|\overline{AB}| = c$

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + b^2 + c^2 &= |\overline{BC}|^2 + |\overline{CA}|^2 + |\overline{AB}|^2 \\ &= |\overline{OC} - \overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OA} - \overline{OC}|^2 + |\overline{OB} - \overline{OA}|^2 \\ &= |\overline{OC}|^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 - 2(\overline{OC}) \cdot (\overline{OB}) + |\overline{OA}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2 - 2(\overline{OA}) \cdot (\overline{OC}) + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2 - 2(\overline{OB}) \cdot (\overline{OA}) \\ a^2 + b^2 + c^2 &= 2\{(\overline{OA})^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2\} - 2\{\overline{OA} \cdot \overline{OB} + \overline{OB} \cdot \overline{OC} + \overline{OC} \cdot \overline{OA}\} \rightarrow (1) \end{aligned}$$

We know that

$$\overline{OG} = \frac{\overline{OA} + \overline{OB} + \overline{OC}}{3}$$

$$9(\overline{OG})^2 = |\overline{AB}|^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2 + 2(\overline{OA} \cdot \overline{OB} + \overline{OB} \cdot \overline{OC} + \overline{OC} \cdot \overline{OA})$$

$$\therefore 2\{\overline{OA} \cdot \overline{OB} + \overline{OB} \cdot \overline{OC} + \overline{OC} \cdot \overline{OA}\} = 9(OG)^2 - \{|\overline{OA}|^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2\}$$

Sub this in (1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} a^2 + b^2 + c^2 &= 2\{|\overline{OA}|^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2\} - \{9(OG)^2 - |\overline{OA}|^2 + |\overline{OB}|^2 + |\overline{OC}|^2\} \\ &= 3\{(OA)^2 + OB^2 + OC^2\} - 9(OG)^2 \text{ Hence prove} \end{aligned}$$

5. **A line makes angles $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3$ and θ_4 with the diagonals of a cube show that $\cos^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_3 + \cos^2 \theta_4 = \frac{4}{3}$.**

Sol: Let $\overline{OA}, \overline{OB}, \overline{OC}$ be the edges of cube along x-axis y-axis z-axis let OADB GCEF be the unit cube

O = (0, 0, 0), A = (1, 0, 0) (lies on x-axis)

$D = (1, 1, 0)$ (lies on x y plane)

$B = (0, 1, 0)$ (lies on G = (0, 1, 1)) (lies on z-plane)

$C = (0, 0, 1)$ (lies on (z-axis))

$E = (1, 0, 1)$ (lies on zx plane)

$F = (1, 1, 1)$ (lies on space)

The diagonals of cube

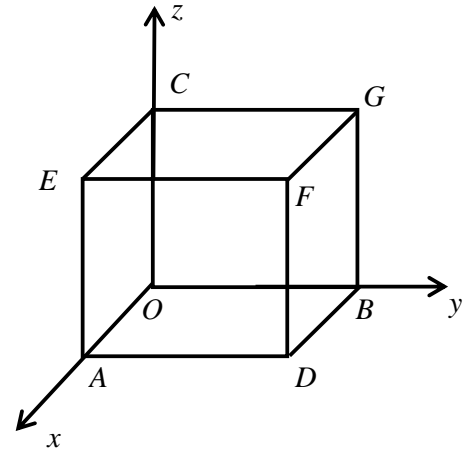
$$\overline{OF}, \overline{AG}, \overline{DC}, \overline{BE}$$

$$\overline{OF} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$$

$$\overline{AG} = \overline{OG} - \overline{OA} = (-\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k})$$

$$\overline{DC} = \overline{OC} - \overline{OD} = -\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k} \Rightarrow \overline{CD} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$$

$$\overline{BE} = \overline{OE} - \overline{OB} = \vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$$



Let $a_1\vec{i} + a_2\vec{j} + a_3\vec{k}$ be the vector along the given line

$$\cos \theta_1 = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{3}} \quad \cos \theta_2 = \frac{-a_1 + a_2 + a_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{3}}$$

$$\cos \theta_3 = \frac{a_1 + a_2 - a_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{3}} \quad \cos \theta_4 = \frac{a_1 - a_2 + a_3}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2} \sqrt{3}}$$

Here $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4$ are the angle before the line, diagonals $\overline{OF}, \overline{AG}, \overline{CD}$ and \overline{BE} respectively

$$\therefore \cos^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_3 + \cos^2 \theta_4$$

$$= \frac{(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)^2 + (-a_1 + a_2 + a_3)^2 + (a_1 + a_2 - a_3)^2 + (a_1 - a_2 + a_3)^2}{3(a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)}$$

$$= a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 + 2\cancel{a_1 a_2} + 2\cancel{a_2 a_3} + 2\cancel{a_3 a_1} + a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 - 2\cancel{a_1 a_2} + 2\cancel{a_2 a_3}$$

$$- 2\cancel{a_1 a_3} + a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 + 2\cancel{a_1 a_2} - 2\cancel{a_1 a_3} + a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2$$

$$- 2\cancel{a_1 a_3} - 2\cancel{a_2 a_3} + 2\cancel{a_1 a_3}$$

$$3(a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)$$

$$= \frac{4(a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)}{3(a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2)} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\therefore \cos^2 \theta_1 + \cos^2 \theta_2 + \cos^2 \theta_3 + \cos^2 \theta_4 = \frac{4}{3}$$

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