

TRIPLE PRODUCT AND PRODUCT OF FOUR VECTORS

PREVIOUS EAMCET BITS

1. The volume of the tetrahedron having the edges $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}$, $\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \lambda\vec{k}$ as conterminous, is $\frac{2}{3}$ cubic units. Then λ [EAMCET 2009]
- 1) 1 2) 2 3) 3 4) 4

Ans: 1

Sol. $V = \frac{1}{6} [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = \frac{2}{3}$ cubic units

$\Rightarrow \lambda = 1$

2. If $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = \vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{c} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{d} = \vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k}$, then observe the following lists [EAMCET 2008]

List - I

- i) $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$
 ii) $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}$
 iii) $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$
 iv) $\vec{b} \times \vec{c}$

List - II

- A) $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}$
 B) 3
 C) $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}$
 D) $2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$
 E) $2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$
 F) 4

The correct match of List-I to List - II

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----|-----|----|
| | i | ii | iii | iv |
| 1) | C | A | B | F |
| 3) | A | C | B | F |

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----|-----|----|
| | i | ii | iii | iv |
| 2) | C | A | F | E |
| 4) | A | C | F | D |

Ans: 2

Sol. $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = (\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}) = 1 - 1 + 1 = 1$
 $\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} = (\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}) = 1 - 1 + 1 = 1$

$$[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 1(1-1) - 1(-1-1) + 1(1+1) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$$

$$\vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(1-1) - \vec{j}(-1-1) + \vec{k}(1+1) = 2\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$$

$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d} = (\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k}) = 1 - 1 - 1 = -1$

$\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d} = (\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}) \cdot (\vec{i} - \vec{j} - \vec{k}) = 1 + 1 - 1 = 1$

3. Let \vec{a} be a unit vector, $\vec{b} = 2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$ and $\vec{c} = \vec{i} + 3\vec{k}$, the maximum value of $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$ is [EAMCET 2008]

- 1) -1 2) $\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{6}$ 3) $\sqrt{10} - \sqrt{6}$ 4) $\sqrt{59}$

Ans: 4

Sol. $b \times c = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{i}(3-0) - \mathbf{j}(6+1) + \mathbf{k}(0-1) = 3\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$

$[abc] = a \cdot (b \times c) = a \cdot (3\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$
 $= |a| |3\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}| \cos \theta$ where $\theta = (a, 3\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$
 $= \sqrt{9+49+1} \cos \theta$
 $= \sqrt{59} \cos \theta$
 \therefore Maximum value of $[\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}]$ is $\sqrt{59}$

4. The volume (in cubic units) of the tetrahedron with edges $\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $\vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ and $\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ is [EAMCET 2007]
- 1) 4 2) 2/3 3) 1/6 4) 1/3

Ans: 2

Sol. $V = \frac{1}{6} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{2}{3}$

5. $\vec{i} - 2\vec{j}$, $3\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ and $\lambda\vec{i} - 3\vec{j}$ are coplanar then = [EAMCET 2006]
- 1) -1 2) 1/2 3) -3/2 4) 2

Ans: 3

Sol. $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are coplanar $\Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ \lambda & 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$

$1(0-3) + 2(0-\lambda) + 0(0-3\lambda) = 0$

$\lambda = \frac{-3}{2}$

6. If the volume of the parallelepiped with coterminal edges $4\vec{i} + 5\vec{j} + \vec{k}$, $-\vec{j} + \vec{k}$ and $3\vec{i} + 9\vec{j} + p\vec{k}$ is 34 cubic units, then $p = \dots\dots$ [EAMCET 2006]
- 1) 4 2) -13 3) 13 4) 6

Ans: 1 or 3

Sol. Volume = $|[a \ b \ c]| = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 9 & p \end{vmatrix} = 34$

$\Rightarrow |4p+18| = 34 \Rightarrow p = -13$ or 4

7. Observe the following lists [EAMCET 2005]
- | | |
|--|---|
| List - I | List - II |
| A) $[\bar{a} \ \bar{b} \ \bar{c}]$ | 1) $ \bar{a} \bar{b} \cos(\bar{a}\bar{b})$ |
| B) $(\bar{c} \times \bar{a}) \times \bar{b}$ | 2) $(\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b})\bar{b} - (\bar{a}\bar{b})\bar{c}$ |
| C) $\bar{a} \times (\bar{b} \times \bar{b})$ | 3) $\bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} \times \bar{c}$ |

D) $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$

4) $|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|$

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

	A	B	C	D
1)	1	2	3	4
3)	3	2	5	1

	A	B	C	D
2)	3	5	2	1
4)	2	3	4	1

Ans: 2

Sol. $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$
 $(\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b} = (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{a} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$
 $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$
 $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})$

8. $\vec{c} \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) \times (\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) =$ **[EAMCET 2004]**

- 1) $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b} \times \vec{a}$ 2) $\vec{0}$ 3) $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ 4) $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \times \vec{b}$

Ans: 1

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

9. If $3\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} + \sqrt{3}\vec{k}, \vec{i} + \vec{k}, \sqrt{3}\vec{i} + \sqrt{3}\vec{j} + \lambda\vec{k}$ are coplanar, then $\lambda =$ **[EAMCET 2004]**

- 1) 1 2) 2 3) 3 4) 4

Ans: 1

Sol. $\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 & \sqrt{3} \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \sqrt{3} & \sqrt{3} & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 1$

10. If $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}, \vec{b} = \vec{i} + \vec{j}, \vec{c} = \vec{i}$ and $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = \lambda\vec{a} + \mu\vec{b}$, then $\lambda + \mu =$ **[EAMCET 2003]**

- 1) 0 2) 1 3) 2 4) 3

Ans: 1

Sol. $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{a} = \vec{b} - \vec{a}$
 $\lambda = -1; \mu = 1 \Rightarrow \lambda + \mu = 0$

11. If $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 3$, then the volume (in cubic units) of the parallelepiped with $2\vec{a} + \vec{b}, 2\vec{b} + \vec{c}$ and

$2\vec{c} + \vec{a}$ as coterminous edges is **[EAMCET 2002]**

- 1) 15 2) 22 3) 25 4) 27

Ans: 4

Sol. $[\vec{2\vec{a} + \vec{b} \ 2\vec{b} + \vec{c} \ 2\vec{c} + \vec{a}}] = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = 9 \cdot 3 = 27$

12. $(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) \times (\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) =$ **[EAMCET 2002]**

- 1) 0 2) $-\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c}$ 3) $2[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$ 4) $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$

Ans:

Sol. $(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{b} + \vec{c}) \times (\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$
 $= [0 - 1(-1) + 0] [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}] = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$

13. $[\vec{i} - \vec{j} \quad \vec{j} - \vec{k} \quad \vec{k} - \vec{i}] =$ **[EAMCET 2001]**

- 1) 0 2) 1 3) 3 4) 2

Ans: 1

Sol. $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$

14. If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}$ are coplanar vectors then $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) =$ **[EAMCET 2001]**

- 1) 1 2) \vec{a} 3) \vec{b} 4) \vec{O}

Ans: 4

Sol. $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{d}$ are coplanar
 $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ and $\vec{c} \times \vec{d}$ are parallel
 $\therefore (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = \vec{O}$

15. If $\vec{a} = 2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - 4\vec{k}$, $\vec{b} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ and $\vec{c} = 4\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$ and $|\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})| =$ **[EAMCET 2000]**

- 1) $\sqrt{10}$ 2) 1 3) 2 4) $\sqrt{5}$

Ans: 4

Sol. $|\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})| = |(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}|$
 $= |-2\vec{i} - \vec{k}| = \sqrt{4+1} = \sqrt{5}$

16. $(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) =$ **[EAMCET 2000]**

- 1) $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]\vec{c}$ 2) $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]\vec{b}$ 3) $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]\vec{a}$ 4) $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$

Ans: 1

Sol. $(\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) = ((\vec{b} \times \vec{c})\vec{a})\vec{c} - ((\vec{b} \times \vec{c})\vec{c})\vec{a}$
 $\Rightarrow [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]\vec{c} - 0 = [\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]\vec{c}$
