

Home Work 3

Let $v_1 = (1 \ 3 \ -1)$

$v_2 = (2 \ 5 \ -9)$

be two vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 .

① calculate $v_1 \times v_2$

② calculate θ the angle between v_1 and v_2

by using the formula

$$\cos \theta = \frac{v_1 \cdot v_2}{\|v_1\| \|v_2\|}$$

Hence calculate $\sin \theta$.

③ calculate $|v_1 \times v_2|$ and compare your results with 2.

Let $v_3 = (-3 \ 2 \ 7)$

④ calculate

$$v_1 \times (v_2 \times v_3) \text{ and } (v_1 \times v_2) \times v_3$$

Are they equal??

⑤ calculate

$$|(v_1 \times v_2) \cdot v_3|$$

the magnitude of the scalar triple product of v_1, v_2, v_3 .

This number is the volume of a parallelepiped.

⑥ Show that

$$v_1 \times (v_2 \times v_3) = (v_1 \cdot v_3)v_2 - (v_1 \cdot v_2)v_3.$$

and

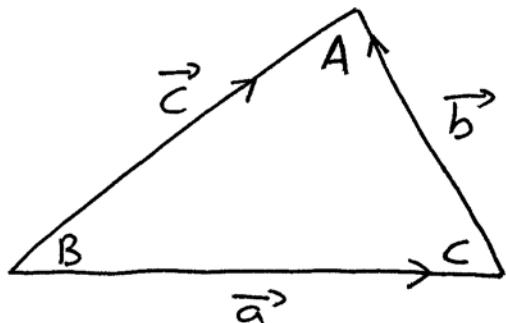
$$(v_1 \times v_2) \times v_3 = (v_1 \cdot v_3)v_2 - (v_2 \cdot v_3)v_1.$$

This is the vector triple product.

⑦ Show that

$$v_1 \times (v_2 \times v_3) + v_2 \times (v_3 \times v_1) + v_3 \times (v_1 \times v_2) = 0$$

⑧



Show that

$$\frac{\|a\|}{\sin A} = \frac{\|b\|}{\sin B} = \frac{\|c\|}{\sin C}$$

Hint: calculate $c \times a$ and $c \times b$ and $a \times b$
and use your judgement.

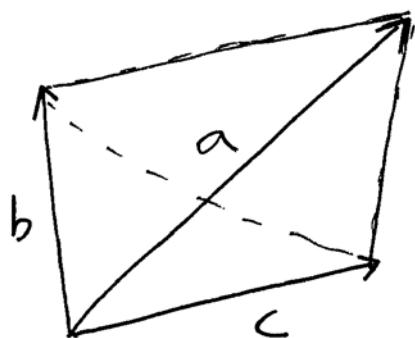
⑨ Challenge problem (I have never done this
before)

Let v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 be four vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Prove the Lagrange Identity

$$(v_1 \times v_2) \cdot (v_3 \times v_4) = (v_1 \cdot v_3)(v_2 \cdot v_4) - (v_1 \cdot v_4)(v_2 \cdot v_3)$$

⑩ Less challenging problem



Show that volume of this
tetrahedron is

$$V = \frac{1}{6} [a \cdot (b \times c)]$$

Hint: V is one third of the product of
the area of its base and its vertical
height.