



## MATHS

### BOOKS - BHARATI BHAWAN MATHS (HINGLISH)

#### Product of three or more Vectors

##### Example

1. The position vectors of three A,B, and C in space are respectively  $2\vec{i} + 3\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$  and  $4\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ . Find the volume of the parallelepiped whose three concurrent edges are OA, OB and OC where O is the origin.

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2. If  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  are three non-zero vectors, prove that

$$\left[ \vec{a} + \vec{b}, \vec{b} + \vec{c}, \vec{c} + \vec{a} \right] = 2 \left[ \vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c} \right]$$

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3. If the four points  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$ ,  $\vec{d}$  are coplanar, then show that

$$\left[ \vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c} \right] = \left[ \vec{b} \vec{c} \vec{d} \right] + \left[ \vec{c} \vec{a} \vec{d} \right] + \left[ \vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{d} \right]$$

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4. If  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  be any two non-collinear vectors, and  $\vec{a}$  be any vector

then  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{b} + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{c} + \frac{\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})}{|\vec{b} \times \vec{c}|^2} (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  is equal

to

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5. Let  $\hat{x}$ ,  $\hat{y}$  and  $\hat{z}$  be unit vectors such that  $\hat{x} + \hat{y} + \hat{z} = a$ ,  $\hat{x} \times (\hat{y} \times \hat{z}) = b$ ,  $(\hat{x} \times \hat{y}) \times \hat{z} = c$ ,  $a \cdot \hat{x} = \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $a \cdot \hat{y} = \frac{7}{4}$ .
- . Find  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  in terms of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .



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6.  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  are coplanar vectors, prove that
- $$\begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} & \vec{b} & \vec{c} \\ \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix} = 0$$



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7. If  $\vec{e}_1, \vec{e}_2, \vec{e}_3$  and  $\vec{E}_1, \vec{E}_2, \vec{E}_3$  are two sets of vectors such that  $\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{E}_j = 1$ , if  $i = j$  and  $\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{E}_j = 0$  and if  $i \neq j$ , then prove that
- $$\begin{bmatrix} \vec{e}_1 & \vec{e}_2 & \vec{e}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vec{E}_1 & \vec{E}_2 & \vec{E}_3 \end{bmatrix} = 1.$$



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## Exercise

1. If three concurrent edges of a parallelepiped of volume  $V$  represent vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  then the volume of the parallelepiped whose three concurrent edges are the three concurrent diagonals of the three faces of the given parallelepiped is

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2. The position vectors of the points A,B,C , D are respectively  $2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{i} - 2\vec{j} + 3\vec{k}$  and  $3\vec{i} - \vec{j} + 2\vec{k}$ . Evaluate  $[\vec{AB}, \vec{AC}, \vec{AD}]$ .

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3. If the three vectors  $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{b} + \vec{c}$  and  $\vec{c} + \vec{a}$  are also coplanar.

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4. Prove that  $(\vec{a} - \vec{b})(\vec{b} - \vec{c}) \times (\vec{c} - \vec{a}) = 0$

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5.

Let

$$\vec{a} = a_1\hat{i} + a_2\hat{j} + a_3\hat{k}; \vec{b} = b_1\hat{i} + b_2\hat{j} + b_3\hat{k}; \vec{c} = c_1\hat{i} + c_2\hat{j} + c_3\hat{k}$$

be three non-zero vectors such that  $\vec{c}$  is a unit vector perpendicular to both

$\vec{a}$  &  $\vec{b}$ . If the angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ , then  $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}^2 =$

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6. If  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}, \vec{a}', \vec{b}', \vec{c}'$ , are two sets of non-coplanar vectors such that  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a}' = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}' = \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c}' = 1$ , then the two systems are called

Reciprocal System of vectors and

$$\vec{a}' = \frac{\vec{b} \times \vec{c}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]}, \vec{b}' = \frac{\vec{c} \times \vec{a}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} \text{ and } \vec{c}' = \frac{\vec{a} \times \vec{b}}{[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]} \quad \text{Find the}$$

value of  $\vec{a} \times \vec{a}' + \vec{b} \times \vec{b}' + \vec{c} \times \vec{c}'$ .

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7. Let  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  be three non-coplanar vectors and let  $\vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{q}$ ,  $\vec{r}$  be the vectors defined by the relations

$$\vec{p} = \frac{\vec{b} \times \vec{c}}{[\vec{a} \ \vec{b} \ \vec{c}]}, \quad \vec{q} = \frac{\vec{c} \times \vec{a}}{[\vec{a} \ \vec{b} \ \vec{c}]}, \quad \vec{r} = \frac{\vec{a} \times \vec{b}}{[\vec{a} \ \vec{b} \ \vec{c}]} \quad \text{Then the value of } \left( \vec{p} \cdot \vec{q} + \vec{q} \cdot \vec{r} + \vec{r} \cdot \vec{p} \right)$$

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8. If  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  are three vectors such that  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$  and  $|\vec{a}| = 3$ ,  $|\vec{b}| = 4$ ,  $|\vec{c}| = 5$  Find the value of  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}$

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9. Prove that  $\hat{i} \times (\vec{a} \times \hat{i}) \hat{j} \times (\vec{a} \times \hat{j}) + \hat{k} \times (\vec{a} \times \hat{k}) = 2\vec{a}$ .

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10.

If

$$\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{b} = (4 - 2\beta - \sin \alpha)\vec{b} + (\beta^2 - 1)\vec{c} \text{ and}$$

being non-collinear then



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11. Let  $\vec{a}$  be a unit vector and  $\vec{b}$  a non-zero vector not parallel to  $\vec{a}$ . The angles of the triangle, two of whose sides are represented by  $\sqrt{3}(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$  and  $(\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{a})$  are



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12. For any vector  $\vec{a}$ , prove that

$$|\vec{a} \times \hat{i}|^2 + |\vec{a} \times \hat{j}|^2 + |\vec{a} \times \hat{k}|^2 = 2|\vec{a}|^2$$



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13. If vectors  $b, c$  and  $d$  are not coplanar, then prove that vector  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) + (\vec{a} \times \vec{c}) \times (\vec{d} \times \vec{b}) + (\vec{a} \times \vec{d}) \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  is parallel to  $\vec{a}$ .

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14. If  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  are three consecutive edges of a parallelepiped of the volume 6 then find the value of  $[\vec{a} \times \vec{b} \quad \vec{a} \times \vec{c} \quad \vec{b} \times \vec{c}]$ .

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15. Let  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$  be non-coplanar unit vectors, equally inclined to one another at an angle  $\theta$ . If  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times \vec{c} = p\vec{a} + q\vec{b} + r\vec{c}$ , find scalars  $p, q$  and  $r$  in terms of  $\theta$ .

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16. If  $\vec{a} = \vec{i} + \vec{j} + \vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = \vec{i} - \vec{j} + \vec{k}$  and  $\vec{c} = \vec{i} + 2\vec{j} - \vec{k}$ ,

then the value of  $\begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} & \vec{c} \cdot \vec{b} & \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c} \end{vmatrix}$  is equal to: (1) 2 (2) 4 (3) 16 (4)

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17. If the volume of a parallelepiped, whose three coterminous edges are

$$-12\vec{i} + \lambda\vec{k};$$

$$3\vec{j} - \vec{k} \text{ and } 2\vec{i} + \vec{j} - 15\vec{k}, \text{ is } 546 \text{ then } \lambda = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$$



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18. Find the volume of the parallelepiped whose coterminous edges are

represented by the vectors:

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

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

$$\vec{a} = 11\hat{i}, \vec{b} = 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}, \vec{c} = 13\hat{k}$$

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

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19. The points  $(3, 6, 9)$ ,  $(1, 2, 3)$ ,  $(2, 3, 4)$  and  $(4, 6, \lambda)$  are coplanar if  $\lambda =$  \_\_\_\_\_.

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20. If  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{a} = 0$ ,  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$  and  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{c} = 0$  for some non-zero vector  $\vec{x}$ , then prove that  $\left[ \vec{a} \ \vec{b} \ \vec{c} \right] = 0$ .

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21. Let  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$  be three vectors having magnitudes 1, 1 and 2 respectively. If  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{c}) + \vec{b} = \vec{0}$ , the acute angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{c}$  is



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22. The scalar  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} + \vec{C} \times (\vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C})$  equals 0 b.

$[\vec{A} \vec{B} \vec{C}] + [\vec{B} \vec{C} \vec{A}]$  c.  $[\vec{A} \vec{B} \vec{C}]$  d. none of these

A. 0

B.  $[\vec{A} \vec{B} \vec{C}] + [[\text{vec B}, \text{vec C}, \text{vec A}]]$

C.  $[\vec{A} \vec{B} \vec{C}]$

D. none of these

Answer:



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23. Let a,b,c be distinct non zero numbers. If the vectors  $a\vec{i} + a\vec{j} + c\vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{i} + \vec{k}$  and  $c\vec{i} + c\vec{j} + b\vec{k}$  lie in a plane then 'c' is

A. the AM of a and b

B. the GM of a and b

C. the HM of a and b

D. equal to zero

**Answer: B**



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24. 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

A. unit vector

B. null vector

C. vector of magnitude  $3|\vec{a}||\vec{b}||\vec{c}|$

D. none of these

**Answer:**



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25.  $\vec{p}$ ,  $\vec{q}$ , and  $\vec{r}$  are three mutually perpendicular vectors of the same magnitude. If vector  $\vec{x}$  satisfies the equation  $\vec{p} \times ((\vec{x} - \vec{q}) \times \vec{p}) + \vec{q} \times ((\vec{x} - \vec{r}) \times \vec{q}) + \vec{r} \times ((\vec{x} - \vec{p}) \times \vec{r})$  is given by

a.  $\frac{1}{2}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} - 2\vec{r})$     b.  $\frac{1}{2}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} + \vec{r})$     c.  $\frac{1}{3}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} + \vec{r})$     d.  $\frac{1}{3}(2\vec{p} + \vec{q} - \vec{r})$

A.  $\frac{1}{2}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} - 2\vec{r})$

B.  $\frac{1}{2}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} + \vec{r})$

C.  $\frac{1}{3}(\vec{p} + \vec{q} + \vec{r})$

D.  $\frac{1}{3}(2\vec{p} + \vec{q} - \vec{r})$

Answer:



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26. In each of the following, one or more options are correct. Choose the correct option(s). If  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  represent three concurrent edges of a

rectangular parallelepiped whose lengths are 4,3,2 respectively then the

value of  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times \vec{c} + \vec{c} \times \vec{a})$  is

- A. 0
- B. 48
- C. 72
- D. none of these

**Answer: C**



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27. If  $\vec{a} = \vec{p} + \vec{q}$ ,  $\vec{p} \times \vec{b} = 0$  and  $\vec{q} \times \vec{b} = 0$ , then prove that

$$\frac{\vec{b} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})}{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}} = \vec{q}.$$

A.  $\vec{q}$

B.  $\vec{q}$

C.  $\vec{p} \times \vec{q}$

D. none of these

**Answer:**



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28. Given  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| = 1$  and  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = 3$ . If  $\vec{c}$  is a vector such that  $\vec{c} - \vec{a} - 2\vec{b} = 3(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$ , then find the value of  $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}$ .



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