

## CHAPTER – 10

### VECTOR ALGEBRA

#### Miscellaneous Exercise

**Question 1:** Write down a unit vector in XY-plane, making an angle of  $30^\circ$  with the positive direction of x-axis.

Answer:

Given: A unit vector in XY- plane.

Let  $\vec{r}$  is a unit vector in the given XY- plane then the value of  $\vec{r}$

Will be:  $\vec{r} = \cos \theta \hat{i} + \sin \theta \hat{j}$

$\theta$  is the angle given, which is made by unit vector with positive direction of x-axis.

$\therefore$  for  $\theta = 30^\circ$

$$\vec{r} = \cos 30^\circ \hat{i} + \sin 30^\circ \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{r} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \hat{i} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{j}$$

Hence, the required unit vector is  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \hat{i} + \frac{1}{2} \hat{j}$ .

**Question 2:** Find the scalar components and magnitude of the vector joining the points P  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and Q  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ .

Answer:

Given: points P  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and Q  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  are given.

The vector obtained by joining the given points P and Q:

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \text{position vector of Q} - \text{position vector of P}$$

$$= (x_2 - x_1)\hat{i} + (y_2 - y_1)\hat{j} + (z_2 - z_1)\hat{k}$$

$$|\overrightarrow{PQ}| = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

Hence the scalar component of the vector obtained by joining the points are

$$[(x_2 - x_1), (y_2 - y_1), (z_2 - z_1)]$$

And the magnitude of the vector obtained by joining the points is

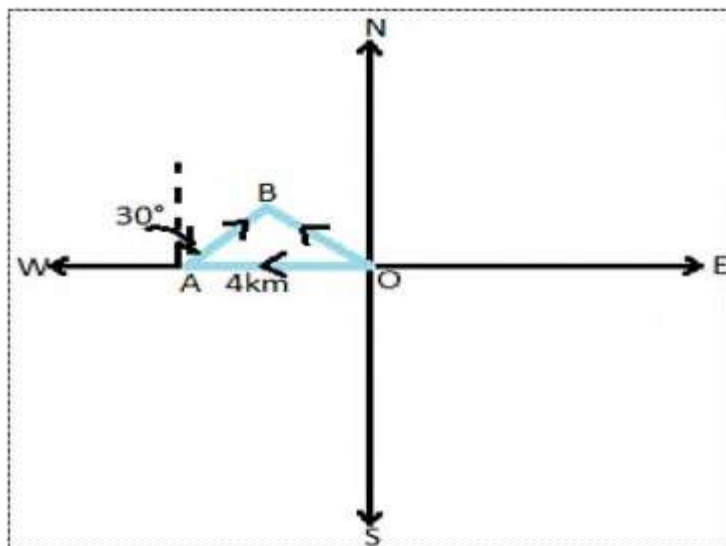
$$\sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

**Question 3:** A girl walks 4 km towards west, then she walks 3 km in a direction  $30^\circ$  east of north and stops. Determine the girl's displacement from her initial point of departure.

Answer:

let O be the initial position and B be the final position of the girl.

Position of girl will be as shown in figure:



Hence,  $\overrightarrow{OA} = -4\hat{i}$  and  $\angle BAO = 60^\circ$

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{AB} &= |\overrightarrow{AB}| \cos 60^\circ \hat{i} + |\overrightarrow{AB}| \sin 60^\circ \hat{j} \\ &= 3 \times \frac{1}{2} \hat{i} + 3 \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \hat{j}\end{aligned}$$

Now, by using triangle law of vector addition,

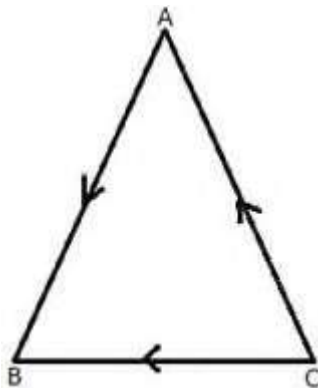
$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OB} &= \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{AB} \\ &= -4\hat{i} + \frac{3}{2}\hat{i} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j} \\ &= \left(-4 + \frac{3}{2}\right)\hat{i} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j} \\ &= \left(\frac{-8+3}{2}\right)\hat{i} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j} \\ \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OB} &= \left(\frac{-5}{2}\right)\hat{i} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j}\end{aligned}$$

Hence girls displacement from initial to final position is:  $\left(\frac{-5}{2}\right)\hat{i} + \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j}$

**Question 4:** If  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| + |\vec{c}|$ , then is it true that  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| + |\vec{c}|$ ? Justify your answer.

Answer:

Let in given triangle  $\overrightarrow{CB} = \vec{a}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{CA} = \vec{b}$ , and  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \vec{c}$ ,



Now, by using triangle law of vector addition,

$$\overrightarrow{CB} = \overrightarrow{CA} + \overrightarrow{AB},$$

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

As we can see that  $|\vec{a}|$ ,  $|\vec{b}|$  and  $|\vec{c}|$  represent the sides of triangle.

Also we know that sum of two sides of a triangle must be greater than its third side.

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{b}| + |\vec{c}| > |\vec{a}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a}| \neq |\vec{b}| + |\vec{c}|$$

$\therefore |\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| + |\vec{c}|$  is not true.

**Question 5:** Find the value of  $x$  for which  $x(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$  is a unit vector.

Answer:

Given:  $x(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$  as a unit vector.

Now, if  $x(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$  is a unit vector then

$$|x(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{(x-0)^2 + (x-0)^2 + (x-0)^2} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{(x)^2 + (x)^2 + (x)^2} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{3(x)^2} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x\sqrt{3} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

**Question 6:** Find a vector of magnitude 5 units, and parallel to the resultant of the vectors  $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ , and  $\vec{b} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$

Answer:

Given:  $\vec{a} = (2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k})$ , and  $\vec{b} = (\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$

Let the resultant of  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is  $\vec{c}$

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

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (2 + 1)\hat{i} + (3 - 2)\hat{j} + (-1 + 1)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (3)\hat{i} + (1)\hat{j} + (0)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = 3\hat{i} + \hat{j}$$

Then

$$|\vec{c}| = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{9 + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{10}$$

$$\therefore \hat{c} = \frac{\vec{c}}{|\vec{c}|} = \frac{3\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{10}}$$

Now the vector of magnitude 5 units and parallel to  $\hat{c}$  is:

$$\pm 5\hat{c} = \pm 5 \cdot \frac{3\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{10}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{5}\sqrt{5} \cdot \frac{3\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{5}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{5} \cdot \frac{3\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \pm \sqrt{10} \cdot \frac{3\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{2}$$

$$= \pm \cdot \frac{3\sqrt{10}\hat{i}}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{10}\hat{j}}{2}$$

**Question 7:** If  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$ , and  $\vec{c} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ , find a unit vector parallel to the vector  $2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}$ .

Answer:

Given:  $\vec{a} = (\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$ ,  $\vec{b} = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$ , and  $\vec{c} = (\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$

Let the resultant of  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is  $\vec{c}$

Then  $2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c} = 2(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}) - (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}) + 3(\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$

$$= (2 - 2 + 3)\hat{i} + (2 + 1 - 6)\hat{j} + (2 - 3 + 3)\hat{k}$$

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

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

Then

$$|2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}| = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (-3)^2 + (2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}| = \sqrt{9 + 9 + 4}$$

$$\Rightarrow |2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}| = \sqrt{22}$$

$$\therefore \text{unit vector along } 2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c} = \frac{2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}}{|2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}|} = \frac{3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}}{\sqrt{22}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{i} - \frac{3}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{j} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{k}$$

**Question 8:** Show that the points A (1, -2, -8), B (5, 0, -2) and C (11, 3, 7) are collinear, and find the ratio in which B divides AC.

Answer:

Given: A (1, -2, -8), B (5, 0, -2) and C (11, 3, 7)

Then

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = (5 - 1)\hat{i} - (0 - (-2))\hat{j} + (-2 - (-8))\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AB} = (4)\hat{i} - (2)\hat{j} + (6)\hat{k}$$

$$\overrightarrow{BC} = (11 - 5)\hat{i} - (3 - 0)\hat{j} + (7 - (-2))\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{BC} = (6)\hat{i} - (3)\hat{j} + (9)\hat{k}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AC} = (11 - 1)\hat{i} - (3 - (-2))\hat{j} + (7 - (-8))\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AC} = 10\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 15\hat{k}$$

Then

$$|\overrightarrow{AB}| = \sqrt{(4)^2 + (2)^2 + (6)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{16 + 4 + 36}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{AB}| = \sqrt{56} = 2\sqrt{14}$$

$$|\overrightarrow{BC}| = \sqrt{(6)^2 + (3)^2 + (9)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{36 + 9 + 81}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{BC}| = \sqrt{126} = 3\sqrt{14}$$

$$|\overrightarrow{AC}| = \sqrt{(10)^2 + (5)^2 + (15)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{100 + 25 + 225}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{AC}| = \sqrt{350} = 5\sqrt{14}$$

$$\therefore |\overrightarrow{AC}| = |\overrightarrow{BC}| + |\overrightarrow{AB}|$$

Thus the given points are collinear.

Now to find the ratio in which B divides AC. Let it be  $\lambda : 1$

$$\overrightarrow{OB} = \frac{\lambda \overrightarrow{OC} + 1 \cdot \overrightarrow{OA}}{\lambda + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OB} = \frac{\lambda \overrightarrow{OC} + 1 \cdot \overrightarrow{OA}}{\lambda + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 5\hat{i} + 2\hat{k} = \frac{\lambda(11\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}) + 1(\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} - 8\hat{k})}{\lambda + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 5\hat{i} + 2\hat{k}(\lambda + 1) = \lambda(11\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}) + 1(\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} - 8\hat{k})$$

$$\Rightarrow (5(\lambda + 1)\hat{i} - 2(\lambda + 1)\hat{k}) = (11\lambda + 1)\hat{i} + (3\lambda - 2)\hat{j} + (7\lambda - 8)\hat{k}$$

On equating the terms, we get:

$$5(\lambda + 1) = 11\lambda + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 5\lambda + 5 = 11\lambda + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 = 6\lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 4/6 = 2/3$$

Hence, B divides AC in the ratio 2:3.

**Question 9:** Find the position vector of a point R which divides the line joining two points P and Q whose position vectors are  $(2\vec{a} + \vec{b})$  and  $(\vec{a} - 3\vec{b})$  externally in the ratio 1 : 2. Also, show that P is the midpoint of the line segment RQ.

Answer:

Given: points P  $(2\vec{a} + \vec{b})$  and Q  $(\vec{a} - 3\vec{b})$  are given.

Point R is given which divides P and Q in the ratio 1:2.

Then

$$\overrightarrow{OR} = \frac{2 \cdot (2\vec{a} + \vec{b}) - 1 \cdot (\vec{a} - 3\vec{b})}{2 - 1}$$



$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OR} = \frac{(4\vec{a}+2\vec{b})-(\vec{a}-3\vec{b})}{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OR} = (3\vec{a} + 5\vec{b})$$

$\therefore$  position vector of R is  $(3\vec{a} + 5\vec{b})$

And position vector of mid-point of RQ =  $\frac{(\overrightarrow{OQ}+\overrightarrow{OR})}{2}$

$$\frac{((\vec{a}-3\vec{b})+(3\vec{a}+5\vec{b}))}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(4\vec{a} + 2\vec{b}) = (2\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = \overrightarrow{OP}$$

Hence, P is mid-point of the line segment RQ.

**Question 10:** The two adjacent sides of a parallelogram are  $2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$  and  $\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$ . Find the unit vector parallel to its diagonal. Also, find its area.

Given: Two adjacent sides of a parallelogram are

$$\vec{a} = (2\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}) \text{ and } \vec{b} = (\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} - 3\hat{k})$$

Then the diagonal of parallelogram is given by the resultant of  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

Let the diagonal is  $\vec{c}$

$$\text{Then } \vec{c} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (2 + 1)\hat{i} + (-4 - 2)\hat{j} + (5 - 3)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (3)\hat{i} + (-6)\hat{j} + (2)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = 3\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$$

Then

$$|\vec{c}| = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (-6)^2 + (2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{9 + 36 + 4}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

$$\therefore \hat{c} = \frac{\vec{c}}{|\vec{c}|} = \frac{3\hat{i}-6\hat{j}+2\hat{k}}{7}$$

$$\therefore \text{unit vector parallel to its diagonal is } \hat{c} = \frac{3}{7}\hat{i} - \frac{6}{7}\hat{j} + \frac{2}{7}\hat{k}$$

And area of parallelogram ABCD is  $|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$ .

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -4 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \hat{i}(12 + 10) - \hat{j}(-6 - 5) + \hat{k}(-4 + 4)$$

$$= 22\hat{i} + 11\hat{j}$$

$$= 11(2\hat{i} + \hat{j})$$

$$\therefore |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = 11\sqrt{(2)^2 + (1)^2} = 11\sqrt{5}$$

Hence, area of parallelogram ABCD is  $11\sqrt{5}$

**Question 11:** Show that the direction cosines of a vector equally inclined to the axes OX, OY and OZ are  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ .

Answer:

let the vector equally inclined to OX, OY and OZ at angle  $\alpha$ .

Then the direction cosine of the vectors is  $\cos \alpha, \cos \alpha$  and  $\cos \alpha$ .

Because,

$$\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 \cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos^2 \alpha = 1/3$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

Hence, the direction cosines of the vector which are equally inclined to the axis are

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

**Question 3:** Let  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$ , and  $\vec{c} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ . Find a vector  $\vec{d}$  which is perpendicular to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c} \cdot \vec{d} = 15$

Answer:

Given:  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$ , and  $\vec{c} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ .

Let  $\vec{d} = (d_1\hat{i} + d_2\hat{j} + d_3\hat{k})$

Because  $\vec{d}$  is perpendicular to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \vec{d} \cdot \vec{a} = 0 \text{ and } \vec{d} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

$$\text{Then } \vec{d} \cdot \vec{a} = (d_1\hat{i} + d_2\hat{j} + d_3\hat{k}) \cdot (\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) = 0$$

$$d_1 + 4d_2 + 2d_3 = 0 \quad \dots\dots(1)$$

$$\text{And } \vec{d} \cdot \vec{b} = (d_1\hat{i} + d_2\hat{j} + d_3\hat{k}) \cdot (3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}) = 0$$

$$3d_1 - 2d_2 + 7d_3 = 0 \quad \dots\dots(2)$$

$$\text{And } \vec{c} \cdot \vec{d} = 15(\text{given})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} \cdot \vec{d} = (d_1\hat{i} + d_2\hat{j} + d_3\hat{k}) \cdot (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}) = 15$$

$$2d_1 - d_2 + 4d_3 = 15 \quad \dots\dots(3)$$

So we have the equations to solve as,  $d_1 + 4d_2 + 2d_3 = 0$

$$3d_1 - 2d_2 + 7d_3 = 0$$

$$2d_1 - d_2 + 4d_3 = 15$$

$$\text{From equation (1), } d_1 = -4d_2 - 2d_3 \quad \dots\dots(4)$$

Putting this value in equation 2 we get,  $-12d_2 - 6d_3 - 2d_2 + 7d_3 = 0$

Therefore,  $14d_2 = d_3$  .....(5)

Now putting the value of  $d_3$  in equation 4 we get,

$$d_1 = -4d_2 - 28d_2$$

$$d_1 = -32d_2 \text{.....(6)}$$

Putting (5) and (6) in equation (3) we get,  $-64d_2 - d_2 + 56d_2 = 15$

$$-9d_2 = 15$$

$$d_2 = -5/3$$

Now we can find other values as well,

$$d_1 = \frac{160}{3}, d_2 = -\frac{5}{3} \text{ and } d_3 = -\frac{70}{3}$$

$$\text{Hence } \vec{d} = \left( \frac{160}{3}\hat{i} - \frac{5}{3}\hat{j} - \frac{70}{3}\hat{k} \right)$$

$$\vec{d} = \frac{1}{3}(160\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 70\hat{k})$$

Hence, the required vector is  $\frac{1}{3}(160\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 70\hat{k})$

**Question 13:** The scalar product of the vector  $\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$  a unit vector along the sum of vectors  $2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - 5\hat{k}$  and  $\lambda\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$  is equal to one. Find the value of  $\lambda$ .

Given: given vectors are  $\vec{a} = (2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - 5\hat{k})$  and  $\vec{b} = (\lambda\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$ ,

Then sum of vector is given by the resultant of  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

Let the sum is  $\vec{c}$ .

$$\text{Then } \vec{c} = \vec{a} + \vec{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (2 + \lambda)\hat{i} + (4 + 2)\hat{j} + (-5 + 3)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (2 + \lambda)\hat{i} + (6)\hat{j} + (-2)\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = (2 + \lambda)\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$$

Then

$$|\vec{c}| = \sqrt{(2 + \lambda)^2 + (6)^2 + (-2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{4 + (\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 36 + 4}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{c}| = \sqrt{(\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 44}$$

$$\therefore \hat{c} = \frac{\vec{c}}{|\vec{c}|} = \frac{(2+\lambda)\hat{i}+6\hat{j}-2\hat{k}}{\sqrt{(\lambda)^2+4\lambda+44}}$$

Scalar product of  $\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$  and  $\hat{c}$  is 1.

$$\Rightarrow (\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \cdot \frac{(2+\lambda)\hat{i}+6\hat{j}-2\hat{k}}{\sqrt{(\lambda)^2+4\lambda+44}} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(2+\lambda)+6-2}{\sqrt{(\lambda)^2+4\lambda+44}} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (2 + \lambda) + 4 = \sqrt{(\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 44}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda + 6) = \sqrt{(\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 44}$$

Square on both sides:

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda + 6)^2 = (\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 44$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda)^2 + 12\lambda + 36 = (\lambda)^2 + 4\lambda + 44$$

$$\Rightarrow 8\lambda = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 1$$

**Question 14:** If  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are mutually perpendicular vectors of equal magnitudes, show that the vector  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$  is equally inclined to  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$

Answer:

Given: vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$  are mutually perpendicular to each other and are of equal magnitude.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} = \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a} = 0$$

Let the vector  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$  be inclined to  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$  at angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  respectively.

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \alpha &= \frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{a}}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{a}|} \\ &= \frac{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{a})}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{a}|} \\ &= \frac{(|\vec{a}|^2 + 0 + 0)}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{a}|} = \frac{|\vec{a}|}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}|} \quad \dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \beta &= \frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{b})}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(0 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 0)}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{b}|} = \frac{|\vec{b}|}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}|} \quad \dots(2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \gamma &= \frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{c}}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{c}|} \\ &= \frac{(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} + \vec{c} \cdot \vec{c})}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{c}|} \\ &= \frac{(0 + 0 + |\vec{c}|^2)}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}| \cdot |\vec{c}|} = \frac{|\vec{c}|}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}|} \quad \dots(3) \end{aligned}$$

From (1), (2) and (3)

$$\text{As } |\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| = |\vec{c}|$$

$$\text{Hence, } \cos \alpha = \cos \beta = \cos \gamma$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = \gamma$$

Hence, the vector  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$  are equal inclined to  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ , and  $\vec{c}$ .

**Question 15:** Prove that  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = |\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2$ , if and only if are perpendicular, given  $\vec{a} \neq \vec{0}$ ,  $\vec{b} \neq \vec{0}$ .

Answer:

$$\text{given: } (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = |\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2$$

To prove: vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are mutually perpendicular to each other.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a}) \text{ scalar product is commutative.}$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$$

Hence,  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are mutually perpendicular to each other. as  $\vec{a} \neq \vec{0}$ ,  $\vec{b} \neq \vec{0}$  is given.

**Question 16:** If  $\theta$  is the angle between two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ , then  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} \geq 0$  only when

A.  $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$

B.  $0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$

C.  $0 < \theta < \pi$

D.  $0 \leq \theta < \pi$

Answer:

let  $\theta$  is the angle between two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

Then  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are non-zero vectors so that  $|\vec{a}|$  and  $|\vec{b}|$  are positive.

As we know  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta$

For  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} > 0$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta > 0$$

As  $|\vec{a}|$  and  $|\vec{b}|$  are positive.

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Hence,  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} > 0$  when  $0 \leq \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$

The correct answer is (B).

**Question 17:** Let  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  be two unit vectors and  $\theta$  is the angle between them. Then  $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$  is a unit vector if

A.  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$



$$\text{B. } \theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\text{C. } \theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\text{D. } \theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

Answer:

let the two unit vectors are  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  and  $\theta$  is the angle between.

$$\text{Then } |\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| = 1$$

Then this is  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b})$  is unit vector if  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = 1$

$$|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a} + \vec{b}|^2 = (1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{b} \cdot \vec{b}) = 1$$

$\Rightarrow (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{a})$  scalar product is commutative.

$$\Rightarrow (|\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (1 + 1 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + 2(|\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 \cos \theta) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

Hence,  $(\vec{a} + \vec{b})$  is unit vector if  $\theta = \frac{2\pi}{3}$

The correct answer is (D).

**Question 18:** The value of  $\hat{i}(\hat{j} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{j}(\hat{i} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{k}(\hat{i} \times \hat{j})$  is

A. 0

B. -1

C. 1

D. 3

Answer:

$$\text{given: } \hat{i}(\hat{j} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{j}(\hat{i} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{k}(\hat{i} \times \hat{j})$$

$$\hat{i}(\hat{j} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{j}(\hat{i} \times \hat{k}) + \hat{k}(\hat{i} \times \hat{j}) = \hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} + \hat{j} \cdot (-\hat{j}) + \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k}$$

$$= 1 - \hat{j} \cdot \hat{j} + 1$$

$$= 1 - 1 + 1$$

$$= 1$$

The correct answer is (C).

**Question 19:** If  $\theta$  is the angle between any two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ , then  $|\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}| = |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$  when  $\theta$  is equal to

A. 0

B.  $\pi/4$

C.  $\pi/2$

D.  $\pi$

Answer:

let  $\theta$  is the angle between two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

Then  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are non-zero vectors so that are positive.

$$|\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}| = |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan \theta = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\text{Thus } |\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}| = |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| \text{ when } \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

The correct answer is (B).