

Problems on VECTORS

Qus.(1) Given vectors $\mathbf{A} = a_x + 3a_z$. and $\mathbf{B} = 5a_x + 2a_y - 6a_z$ determine

(a) $|\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}|$ (b) $5\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}$ (c) The component of \mathbf{A} along a_y (d) A unit vector parallel to $3\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$

Qus.(2) An airplane has a ground speed of 350 km/hr in the direction due west. If there is a wind blowing north west at 40 km/hr, calculate the true airplane speed and heading of the airplane.

Qus.(3) If $\mathbf{A} = 5a_x + 3a_y + 2a_z$, $\mathbf{B} = -a_x + 4a_y + 6a_z$, $\mathbf{C} = 8a_x + 2a_y$

determine α and β such that the $\alpha\mathbf{A} + \beta\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}$ is parallel to the y-axis.

Qus.(4) Given vectors $\mathbf{A} = \alpha a_x + a_y + 4a_z$, $\mathbf{B} = 3a_x + \beta a_y + 6a_z$, $\mathbf{C} = 5a_x - 2a_y + \gamma a_z$

determine α , β and γ such that the vectors are mutually orthogonal.

Qus.(5) Given vectors $\mathbf{T} = 2a_x - 6a_y + 3a_z$, $\mathbf{S} = a_x + 2a_y + a_z$, find: (a) the scalar projection of \mathbf{T} on \mathbf{S} ,

(b) the vector projection of \mathbf{S} on \mathbf{T} , (c) the smaller angle between \mathbf{T} and \mathbf{S} .

Qus.(6) Given vectors $\mathbf{A} = -a_x + 6a_y + 5a_z$, $\mathbf{B} = a_x + 2a_y + 3a_z$, find: (a) the scalar projection of \mathbf{A} on \mathbf{B} ,

(b) the vector projection of \mathbf{B} on \mathbf{A} , (c) the unit vector perpendicular to the plane containing \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} .

Qus.(7) Show that the dot and cross in the triple scalar product may be interchanged, i.e. ,

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{C}$$

Qus.(8) If \mathbf{r} is the position vector of the point (x, y, z) and \mathbf{A} is a constant vector, show that:

(a) $(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{A}) \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$ is the equation of a constant plane.

(b) $(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{A}) \cdot \mathbf{r} = 0$ is the equation of a sphere.

Qus.(9) (a) Prove that $\mathbf{P} = \cos\theta_1 a_x + \sin\theta_1 a_y$ and $\mathbf{Q} = \cos\theta_2 a_x + \sin\theta_2 a_y$ are unit vectors in the x y-plane respectively making angles θ_1 & θ_2 with the x-axis.

(b) By means of dot product, obtain the formula for $\cos(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$ By similarly formulating \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{Q} , obtain the formula for $\cos(\theta_2 + \theta_1)$

(c) If θ is the angle between \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{Q} , find $1/2(|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}|)$ in terms of θ .

Qus.(10) If $\mathbf{E} = 2x a_x + a_y + yz a_z$, $\mathbf{F} = xya_x - y^2 a_y + xyz a_z$, find:

(a) $|\mathbf{E}|$ at (1,2,3) (b) The component of \mathbf{E} along \mathbf{F} at (1,2,3)

(c) A vector perpendicular to both \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{F} at (0,1,-3) whose magnitude is unity.

Problems on Co-ordinate Systems

Qus.(1) (a) Convert points P(1,3,5), T(0, -4, 3), and S (-3, -4, -10) from Cartesian to cylindrical and spherical coordinates.

$$\mathbf{Q} = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \mathbf{a}_x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} - \frac{yz \mathbf{a}_z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

(b) Transform vector \mathbf{Q} to cylindrical and spherical coordinates.

(c) Evaluate \mathbf{Q} at T in the three coordinate systems.

Qus.(2) Given point P (-2,6,3) and vector $\mathbf{A} = y \mathbf{a}_x + (x+z) \mathbf{a}_y$ express P and \mathbf{A} in cylindrical and spherical coordinates. Evaluate \mathbf{A} at P in the Cartesian, cylindrical, and spherical systems.

Qus.(3) Express vector $\mathbf{B} = \frac{10}{r} \mathbf{a}_r + r \cos \theta \mathbf{a}_\theta + \mathbf{a}_\phi$ in Cartesian and cylindrical coordinates. Find \mathbf{B} (-3,4,0) and \mathbf{B} (5, $\pi/2$, -2).

Qus.(4) Two uniform vector fields are given by $\mathbf{E} = -5\mathbf{a}_\rho + 10\mathbf{a}_\phi + 3\mathbf{a}_z$ and $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{a}_\rho + 2\mathbf{a}_\phi - 6\mathbf{a}_z$

(a) $|\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{F}|$ (b) The vector component of \mathbf{E} at P (5, $\pi/2$, 3) parallel to the line $x=2, z=3$

(c) The angle \mathbf{E} makes with the surface $z=3$ at P

Qus.(5) Match the items in the left list with those in the right list. Each answer can be used once, more than once, or not at all.

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| (a) $\theta = \pi/4$ | (i) infinite plane |
| (b) $\phi = 2\pi/3$ | (ii) semiinfinite plane |
| (c) $x = -10$ | (iii) circle |
| (d) $r = 1, \theta = \pi/3, \phi = \pi/2$ | (iv) semicircle |
| (e) $\rho = 5$ | (v) straight line |
| (f) $\rho = 3, \phi = 5\pi/3$ | (vi) cone |
| (g) $\rho = 10, z = 1$ | (vii) cylinder |
| (h) $r = 4, \phi = \pi/6$ | (viii) sphere |
| (i) $r = 5, \theta = \pi/3$ | (ix) cube |
| | (x) point |

Qus.(6) (a) If $V = xz - xy + yz$, express V in cylindrical coordinates,

(b) If $U = x^2 + 2y^2 + 3z^2$, express U in spherical coordinates.

Qus.(7) Let $\mathbf{H} = 5\rho \sin \phi \mathbf{a}_\rho - \rho z \cos \phi \mathbf{a}_\phi + 2\rho \mathbf{a}_z$. At point P(2, 30° , -1), find:

- (a) a unit vector along \mathbf{H} (b) the component of \mathbf{H} parallel to \mathbf{a}_x
 (c) the component of \mathbf{H} normal to $\rho = 2$
 (d) the component of \mathbf{H} tangential to $\phi = 30^\circ$