

12.4 Exercises

1–7 Find the cross product $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ and verify that it is orthogonal to both \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

1. $\mathbf{a} = \langle 6, 0, -2 \rangle$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle 0, 8, 0 \rangle$

2. $\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 1, -1 \rangle$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle 2, 4, 6 \rangle$

3. $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = -\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{k}$

4. $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{j} + 7\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$

5. $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{k}$

6. $\mathbf{a} = t\mathbf{i} + \cos t\mathbf{j} + \sin t\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} - \sin t\mathbf{j} + \cos t\mathbf{k}$

7. $\mathbf{a} = \langle t, 1, 1/t \rangle$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle t^2, t^2, 1 \rangle$

8. If $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$, find $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$. Sketch \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , and $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ as vectors starting at the origin.

9–12 Find the vector, not with determinants, but by using properties of cross products.

9. $(\mathbf{i} \times \mathbf{j}) \times \mathbf{k}$

10. $\mathbf{k} \times (\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})$

11. $(\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) \times (\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{i})$

12. $(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}) \times (\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})$

13. State whether each expression is meaningful. If not, explain why. If so, state whether it is a vector or a scalar.

(a) $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$

(b) $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$

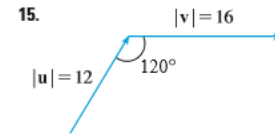
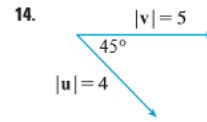
(c) $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$

(d) $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$

(e) $(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{d})$

(f) $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d})$

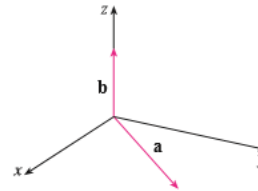
14–15 Find $|\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}|$ and determine whether $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}$ is directed into the page or out of the page.



16. The figure shows a vector \mathbf{a} in the xy -plane and a vector \mathbf{b} in the direction of \mathbf{k} . Their lengths are $|\mathbf{a}| = 3$ and $|\mathbf{b}| = 2$.

(a) Find $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|$.

(b) Use the right-hand rule to decide whether the components of $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ are positive, negative, or 0.



17. If $\mathbf{a} = \langle 2, -1, 3 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{b} = \langle 4, 2, 1 \rangle$, find $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a}$.

18. If $\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle 2, 1, -1 \rangle$, and $\mathbf{c} = \langle 0, 1, 3 \rangle$, show that $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) \neq (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{c}$.

19. Find two unit vectors orthogonal to both $\langle 3, 2, 1 \rangle$ and $\langle -1, 1, 0 \rangle$.

20. Find two unit vectors orthogonal to both $\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$.
21. Show that $\mathbf{0} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{0}$ for any vector \mathbf{a} in V_3 .
22. Show that $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$ for all vectors \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} in V_3 .
23. Prove Property 1 of Theorem 11.
24. Prove Property 2 of Theorem 11.
25. Prove Property 3 of Theorem 11.
26. Prove Property 4 of Theorem 11.
27. Find the area of the parallelogram with vertices $A(-2, 1)$, $B(0, 4)$, $C(4, 2)$, and $D(2, -1)$.
28. Find the area of the parallelogram with vertices $K(1, 2, 3)$, $L(1, 3, 6)$, $M(3, 8, 6)$, and $N(3, 7, 3)$.

29–32 (a) Find a nonzero vector orthogonal to the plane through the points P , Q , and R , and (b) find the area of triangle PQR .

29. $P(1, 0, 1)$, $Q(-2, 1, 3)$, $R(4, 2, 5)$
30. $P(0, 0, -3)$, $Q(4, 2, 0)$, $R(3, 3, 1)$
31. $P(0, -2, 0)$, $Q(4, 1, -2)$, $R(5, 3, 1)$
32. $P(-1, 3, 1)$, $Q(0, 5, 2)$, $R(4, 3, -1)$

33–34 Find the volume of the parallelepiped determined by the vectors \mathbf{a} , \mathbf{b} , and \mathbf{c} .

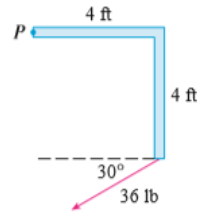
33. $\mathbf{a} = \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle$, $\mathbf{b} = \langle -1, 1, 2 \rangle$, $\mathbf{c} = \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle$
34. $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$, $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$

35–36 Find the volume of the parallelepiped with adjacent edges PQ , PR , and PS .

35. $P(-2, 1, 0)$, $Q(2, 3, 2)$, $R(1, 4, -1)$, $S(3, 6, 1)$
36. $P(3, 0, 1)$, $Q(-1, 2, 5)$, $R(5, 1, -1)$, $S(0, 4, 2)$

37. Use the scalar triple product to verify that the vectors $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{v} = 3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}$, and $\mathbf{w} = 5\mathbf{i} + 9\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k}$ are coplanar.
38. Use the scalar triple product to determine whether the points $A(1, 3, 2)$, $B(3, -1, 6)$, $C(5, 2, 0)$, and $D(3, 6, -4)$ lie in the same plane.
39. A bicycle pedal is pushed by a foot with a 60-N force as

40. Find the magnitude of the torque about P if a 36-lb force is applied as shown.



41. A wrench 30 cm long lies along the positive y -axis and grips a bolt at the origin. A force is applied in the direction $\langle 0, 3, -4 \rangle$ at the end of the wrench. Find the magnitude of the force needed to supply $100 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$ of torque to the bolt.
42. Let $\mathbf{v} = 5\mathbf{j}$ and let \mathbf{u} be a vector with length 3 that starts at the origin and rotates in the xy -plane. Find the maximum and minimum values of the length of the vector $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}$. In what direction does $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}$ point?
43. If $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \sqrt{3}$ and $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \langle 1, 2, 2 \rangle$, find the angle between \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} .

44. (a) Find all vectors \mathbf{v} such that

$$\langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle \times \mathbf{v} = \langle 3, 1, -5 \rangle$$

- (b) Explain why there is no vector \mathbf{v} such that

$$\langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle \times \mathbf{v} = \langle 3, 1, 5 \rangle$$

45. (a) Let P be a point not on the line L that passes through the points Q and R . Show that the distance d from the point P to the line L is

$$d = \frac{|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a}|}$$

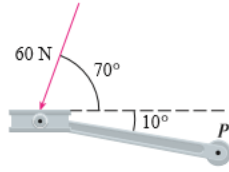
where $\mathbf{a} = \vec{QR}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \vec{QP}$.

- (b) Use the formula in part (a) to find the distance from the point $P(1, 1, 1)$ to the line through $Q(0, 6, 8)$ and $R(-1, 4, 7)$.

46. (a) Let P be a point not on the plane that passes through the points Q , R , and S . Show that the distance d from P to the plane is

$$d = \frac{|\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})|}{|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|}$$

39. A bicycle pedal is pushed by a foot with a 60-N force as shown. The shaft of the pedal is 18 cm long. Find the magnitude of the torque about P .



$$d = \frac{|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|}{|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|}$$

where $\mathbf{a} = \vec{QR}$, $\mathbf{b} = \vec{QS}$, and $\mathbf{c} = \vec{QP}$.

- (b) Use the formula in part (a) to find the distance from the point $P(2, 1, 4)$ to the plane through the points $Q(1, 0, 0)$, $R(0, 2, 0)$, and $S(0, 0, 3)$.

47. Show that $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2|\mathbf{b}|^2 - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})^2$.

48. If $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{0}$, show that

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}$$

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840 CHAPTER 12 VECTORS AND THE GEOMETRY OF SPACE

49. Prove that $(\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \times (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) = 2(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})$.

50. Prove Property 6 of Theorem 11, that is,

$$\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})\mathbf{c}$$

51. Use Exercise 50 to prove that

$$\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{b} \times (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{c} \times (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{0}$$

52. Prove that

$$(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \\ \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d} \end{vmatrix}$$

53. Suppose that $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

- (a) If $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}$, does it follow that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$?
 (b) If $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}$, does it follow that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$?
 (c) If $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}$ and $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}$, does it follow that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{c}$?

54. If $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$, and \mathbf{v}_3 are noncoplanar vectors, let

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3)} \quad \mathbf{k}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{v}_3 \times \mathbf{v}_1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3)}$$

$$\mathbf{k}_3 = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3)}$$

(These vectors occur in the study of crystallography. Vectors of the form $n_1\mathbf{v}_1 + n_2\mathbf{v}_2 + n_3\mathbf{v}_3$, where each n_i is an integer, form a *lattice* for a crystal. Vectors written similarly in terms of $\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2$, and \mathbf{k}_3 form the *reciprocal lattice*.)

- (a) Show that \mathbf{k}_i is perpendicular to \mathbf{v}_j if $i \neq j$.
 (b) Show that $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{v}_i = 1$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$.

(c) Show that $\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{k}_2 \times \mathbf{k}_3) = \frac{1}{\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3)}$.