

Wed 8/27

§12.4 Cross Product

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) \hat{i} + (a_3 b_1 - a_1 b_3) \hat{j} + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \hat{k}$$

$$\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle \times \langle 3, 2, -4 \rangle = \langle 2, 11, 7 \rangle$$

Determinants

The determinant of a 2×2 (two rows and 2 columns) matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = (-1)^{1+1} a_{11} a_{22} + (-1)^{1+2} a_{12} a_{21} \\ = a_{11} a_{22} - a_{12} a_{21}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc$$

Similarly, the determinant of a 3×3 matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} - a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \\ = a_{11} (a_{22} a_{33} - a_{32} a_{23}) - a_{12} (a_{21} a_{33} - a_{31} a_{23}) \\ + a_{13} (a_{21} a_{32} - a_{31} a_{22})$$

To find the cross product with determinants, we write

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i} \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} - \hat{j} \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} + \hat{k} \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \\ = (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) \hat{i} - (a_1 b_3 - a_3 b_1) \hat{j} + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \hat{k}$$

$$\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle \times \langle 3, 2, -4 \rangle = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & -4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \hat{i} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 \end{vmatrix} - \hat{j} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{vmatrix} + \hat{k} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \hat{i}(4 - 2) - \hat{j}(-8 - 3) + \hat{k}(4 + 3)$$

$$= 2\hat{i} + 11\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$$

$$\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle \times \langle 3, 2, -4 \rangle = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & -4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\hat{j} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{vmatrix} + (-1) \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{k} \\ 3 & -4 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\hat{j}(-8 - 3) - 1(-4\hat{i} - 3\hat{k}) - 2(\hat{i} - 2\hat{k})$$

$$= 11\hat{j} + 4\hat{i} + 3\hat{k} - 2\hat{i} + 4\hat{k} = 2\hat{i} + 11\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$$

$$(2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \times (3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 4\hat{k})$$

$$= 6\hat{i} \times \hat{i} + 4\hat{i} \times \hat{j} - 8\hat{i} \times \hat{k} \\ - 3\hat{j} \times \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} \times \hat{j} + 4\hat{j} \times \hat{k} \\ + 3\hat{k} \times \hat{i} + 2\hat{k} \times \hat{j} - 4\hat{k} \times \hat{k}$$

$$= 4\hat{k} + 8\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} + 4\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{i}$$

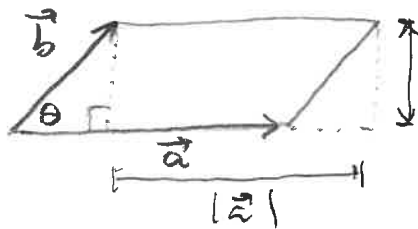
$$= 2\hat{i} + 11\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$$

$$\begin{matrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} \\ \hat{k} & + \\ & \hat{j} \end{matrix}$$

$$|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta$$

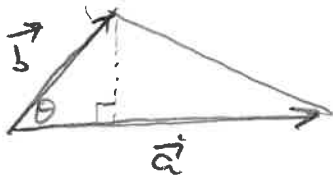
$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta$$

Consider a parallelogram



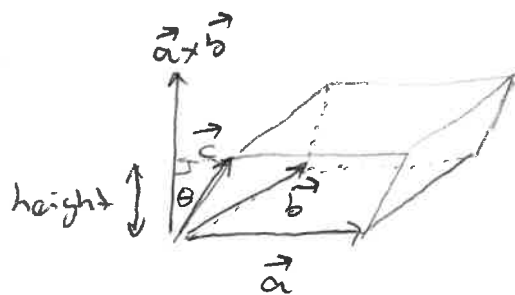
$$\text{Area} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta = |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$$

Consider a triangle



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \frac{1}{2} (\text{base})(\text{height}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| \end{aligned}$$

Consider a parallelepiped.



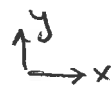
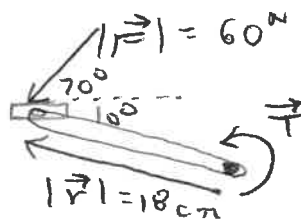
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Volume} &= \text{area} \times \text{height} \\ &= |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \cos \theta \\ &= (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c} \end{aligned}$$

This is the scalar triple product.

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

Torque: $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$

Example:



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r} &= -18 \cos 10^\circ \hat{i} + 18 \sin 10^\circ \hat{j} \\ \vec{F} &= -60 \cos 70^\circ \hat{i} - 60 \sin 70^\circ \hat{j} \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$$

$$= 1080 \cos 10^\circ \sin 70^\circ + 1080 \sin 10^\circ \cos 70^\circ$$

$$= 1080 \sin 80^\circ \text{ N} \cdot \text{cm} \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}}{100 \text{ cm}} \right) \approx 10.64 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$