

Chapter 1

Basic Concepts

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 Vector

1. A vector is a quantity which has both direction and magnitude.

$$\mathbf{A}. \tag{1.1}$$

1.1.2 Magnitude of a vector

1. The magnitude of a vector is defined by

$$|\mathbf{A}| = A. \tag{1.2}$$

1.1.3 The unit vector

1. The unit vector is defined by

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\mathbf{A}}{A}. \tag{1.3}$$

1.1.4 Vector addition

1. Vector addition satisfies commutative law and associative law.

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}. \tag{1.4a}$$

$$\mathbf{A} + (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) + (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}. \tag{1.4b}$$

1.1.5 Additive identity

1. There is the additive identity, $\mathbf{0}$, which call a null vector.

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{A} \tag{1.5}$$

, for any \mathbf{A} .

1.1.6 Additive inverse

1. There is the additive inverser $-\mathbf{A}$.

$$\mathbf{A} + (-\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0} \tag{1.6}$$

, for each \mathbf{A} .

1.1.7 Scalar multiplication

1. If a scalar a is multiplied to a vector \mathbf{A} , the product also a vector.

$$a \times \mathbf{A} = a\mathbf{A}. \quad (1.7)$$

2. The scalar multiplication satisfies distributive law and associative law.

$$(a + b)\mathbf{A} = a\mathbf{A} + b\mathbf{A}, \quad (1.8a)$$

$$a(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = a\mathbf{A} + a\mathbf{B}, \quad (1.8b)$$

$$a(b\mathbf{A}) = (ab)\mathbf{A} = ab\mathbf{A}. \quad (1.8c)$$

1.1.8 Vector subtraction

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} + (-\mathbf{B}). \quad (1.9)$$

1.1.9 Representation of vector

1. A vector can be expressed as a linear combination of basis vectors. For example, we can express \mathbf{A} of the form

$$\mathbf{A} = \sum_{n=1}^3 A_n \hat{\mathbf{e}}_n \quad (1.10)$$

, where $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i$ are unit vectors of the three-dimensional orthogonal coordinate.

1.2 Scalar Product

1.2.1 Scalar Product

1. The scalar product of two vectors is defined by

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = AB \cos \theta \quad (1.11)$$

, where θ is the angle between two vectors. Scalar product is commutative.

2. In the three-dimensional orthogonal coordinate system, the scalar product of two basis vectors is

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j = \delta_{ij} \quad (1.12)$$

, where the Kronecker delta δ_{ij} is defined by

$$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1.13)$$

Therefore, in the above coordinate system, the scalar product of two vectors is

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 (A_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i) \cdot (B_j \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j) = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 A_i B_j \delta_{ij} = \sum_{i,j=1}^3 A_i B_i = B_i A_i \quad (1.14)$$

3. We have learned about the law of cosines.

$$C^2 = A^2 + B^2 - 2AB \cos \theta. \quad (1.15)$$

1.2.2 directional cosines

1. The vector \mathbf{A} makes angle α with axes.

$$A_x = A \cos \alpha \quad (1.16a)$$

$$A_y = A \cos \beta \quad (1.16b)$$

$$A_z = A \cos \gamma \quad (1.16c)$$

, where $\cos \alpha$, $\cos \beta$, $\cos \gamma$ is called the directional cosines of \mathbf{A} .

1.3 Vector Product - Cross Product

1.3.1 Vector product

1. The vector product of two vectors is defined by

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = \hat{\mathbf{n}} AB \sin \theta \quad (1.17)$$

2. In the three-dimensional orthogonal coordinates, the vector product of two basis vector is

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_i \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j = \epsilon_{ijk} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_k. \quad (1.18)$$

, where ϵ_{ijk} is called the Levi-Civita symbol.

$$\epsilon_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (i, j, k) = (1, 2, 3), (2, 3, 1), (3, 1, 2), \\ -1, & \text{if } (i, j, k) = (3, 2, 1), (2, 1, 3), (1, 3, 2), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1.19)$$

3. In the three-dimensional orthogonal coordinates, the vector product of two vector is

$$(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B})_i = \sum_{j,k=1}^3 (A_j \hat{\mathbf{e}}_j) \times (B_k \hat{\mathbf{e}}_k) = \sum_{j,k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i A_j B_k \quad (1.20)$$

1.3.2 The law of sines

1. If $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{0}$, \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{B} , \mathbf{C} satisfy following relations.

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{A}, \quad (1.21a)$$

$$\frac{\sin \alpha}{A} = \frac{\sin \beta}{B} = \frac{\sin \gamma}{C}. \quad (1.21b)$$

1.4 Triple Products

1.4.1 Triple scalar product

1. The triple scalar product of three vectors is defined by

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}. \quad (1.22)$$

2. In three-dimensional orthogonal coordinates system, the triple scalar product of three vectors becomes

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C} = \sum_{i,j,k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j C_k. \quad (1.23)$$

1.4.2 Triple vector product

1. The triple vector product of three vectors is defined by

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) \quad (1.24)$$

The triple vector product is same as

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C}) - \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}). \quad (1.25)$$

We call this rule BAC-CAB rule.

1.5 Rotational Properties of a Vector

1.5.1 Position Vector

1. The position vector is defined by

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^3 x_i \hat{\mathbf{e}}_i. \quad (1.26)$$

2. Let \mathbf{x}' is a vector which has been transformed form \mathbf{x} by rotation. Under the rotation, the magnitude of \mathbf{x} is cannot changed.

$$x_i'^2 = x_i^2. \quad (1.27)$$

1.5.2 Rotation Transformation Coefficient

1. The rotation transformation coefficient R_{ij} satisfy

$$x_i' = R_{ij} x_j. \quad (1.28)$$

2. Then, we can verify eq. (1.28).

$$x_i^2 = x_i'^2 \quad (1.29)$$

$$= (R_{ij} x_j)(R_{ik} x_k) \quad (1.30)$$

$$= (R_{ij} R_{ik})(x_j x_k) \quad (1.31)$$

$$= (R_{ij} R_{ik}) x_j x_k. \quad (1.32)$$

Therefore,

$$R_{ij} R_{ik} = \delta_{jk}. \quad (1.33)$$

1.5.3 Definition of vector

1. If a quantity A transforms like as

$$A_i' = \sum_j R_{ij} A_j, \quad (1.34)$$

we call \mathbf{A} a vector.