

# Problems on Dot Product and Cross Product

**SUBJECT : MATHEMATICS**  
**CHAPTER NUMBER:10**  
**CHAPTER NAME :VECTOR ALGEBRA**

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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## Lagrange's Identity

Prove that for any two vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ ,  $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b})^2 = |\vec{a}|^2|\vec{b}|^2 - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2$

## EXAMPLE

If  $|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{26}$ ,  $|\vec{b}| = 7$  and  $|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = 35$ , then find the value of  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ .

## EXAMPLE

If  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are two unit vectors and  $\theta$  is the angle between them then prove that

$$(i) \sin \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} - \vec{b}|$$

$$(ii) \cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} + \vec{b}|.$$

## EXAMPLE

Given that  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$  and  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{0}$ . What can you conclude about vectors  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

## EXAMPLE

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  $\vec{p}$  which is perpendicular to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  and  $\vec{p} \cdot \vec{c} = 18$ .

## EXAMPLE

If  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{c} \times \vec{d}$  and  $\vec{a} \times \vec{c} = \vec{b} \times \vec{d}$

Prove that  $\vec{a} - \vec{d}$  is parallel to  $\vec{b} - \vec{c}$ , where  $\vec{a} \neq \vec{d}$  and  $\vec{b} \neq \vec{c}$ .

## EXAMPLE

If  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$  are three mutually perpendicular vectors of equal magnitude, show that  $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$  is equally inclined to  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$  and  $\vec{c}$ . Also find the angle.



## EXAMPLE

If the sum of two unit vector is a unit vector prove that magnitude of their difference is  $\sqrt{3}$ .

# Assignments

1. Miscellaneous exercise chapter 10

**THANKING YOU**  
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