

Basic Mathematics used in Physics

Quadratic Equation

Roots of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Sum of roots $x_1 + x_2 = -\frac{b}{a}$;

Product of roots $x_1 x_2 = \frac{c}{a}$

For real roots, $b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$

For imaginary roots, $b^2 - 4ac < 0$

Binomial Theorem

$$(1+x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$(1-x)^n = 1 - nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}x^2 - \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

If $x \ll 1$ then $(1+x)^n \approx 1 + nx$ & $(1-x)^n \approx 1 - nx$

Logarithm

$$\log_{10} N = x \Rightarrow 10^x = N$$

$$\log_b N = \log_a N \cdot \log_a b$$

$$\log_b 1 = 0, \log_a a = 1$$

$$\log mn = \log m + \log n \quad \log \frac{m}{n} = \log m - \log n$$

$$\log m^n = n \log m \quad \log_e m = 2.303 \log_{10} m$$

$$\log 2 = 0.3010 \quad \log 3 = 0.4771$$

Componendo and dividendo theorem

$$\text{If } \frac{p}{q} = \frac{a}{b} \text{ then } \frac{p+q}{p-q} = \frac{a+b}{a-b}$$

Geometrical progression-GP

a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots here, r = common ratio

n^{th} term, $a_n = a \cdot r^{n-1}$

$$\text{Sum of } n \text{ terms } S_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$$

$$\text{Sum of } \infty \text{ terms } S_\infty = \frac{a}{1-r} \quad [\text{where } |r| < 1]$$

Arithmetic progression-AP

$a, a+d, a+2d, a+3d, \dots, a+(n-1)d$
here d = common difference

$$\text{Sum of } n \text{ terms } S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n-1)d]$$

$$n^{\text{th}} \text{ term, } a_n = a + (n-1)d$$

Note: (i) $1+2+3+4+5+\dots+n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

(ii) $1^2+2^2+3^2+\dots+n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

(iii) $1^3+2^3+3^3+\dots+n^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$

TRIGONOMETRY

$$2\pi \text{ radian} = 360^\circ \Rightarrow 1 \text{ rad} = 57.3^\circ$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\text{perpendicular}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\text{base}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{perpendicular}}{\text{base}}$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{\text{base}}{\text{perpendicular}}$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{base}}$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} \theta = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{perpendicular}}$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$$

$$\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$$

$$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$$

$$1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$$

$$1 + \cot^2 \theta = \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta$$

$$\sin(A \pm B) = \sin A \cos B \pm \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A \pm B) = \cos A \cos B \mp \sin A \sin B$$

$$\tan(A \pm B) = \frac{\tan A \pm \tan B}{1 \mp \tan A \tan B}$$

$$\sin 2A = 2 \sin A \cos A$$

$$\cos 2A = \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A = 1 - 2 \sin^2 A = 2 \cos^2 A - 1$$

$$\tan 2A = \frac{2 \tan A}{1 - \tan^2 A}$$

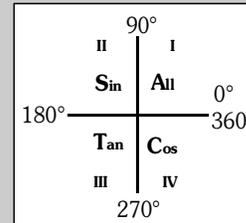
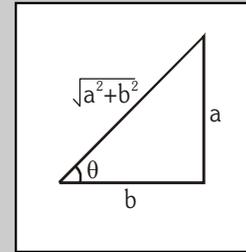
$$\sin 3\alpha = 3 \sin \alpha - 4 \sin^3 \alpha$$

$$\cos 3\alpha = 4 \cos^3 \alpha - 3 \cos \alpha$$

$$2 \sin A \sin B = \cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)$$

$$2 \cos A \cos B = \cos(A - B) + \cos(A + B)$$

$$2 \sin A \cos B = \sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B)$$



θ	0° (0)	30° ($\pi/6$)	45° ($\pi/4$)	60° ($\pi/3$)	90° ($\pi/2$)	120° ($2\pi/3$)	135° ($3\pi/4$)	150° ($5\pi/6$)	180° (π)	270° ($3\pi/2$)	360° (2π)
sin θ	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	-1	0
cos θ	1	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	-1	0	1
tan θ	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	∞	$-\sqrt{3}$	-1	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$	0	∞	0

$$\sin(90^\circ + \theta) = \cos \theta$$

$$\cos(90^\circ + \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$\tan(90^\circ + \theta) = -\cot \theta$$

$$\sin(180^\circ - \theta) = \sin \theta$$

$$\cos(180^\circ - \theta) = -\cos \theta$$

$$\tan(180^\circ - \theta) = -\tan \theta$$

$$\sin(-\theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$\cos(-\theta) = \cos \theta$$

$$\tan(-\theta) = -\tan \theta$$

$$\sin(90^\circ - \theta) = \cos \theta$$

$$\cos(90^\circ - \theta) = \sin \theta$$

$$\tan(90^\circ - \theta) = \cot \theta$$

$$\sin(180^\circ + \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$\cos(180^\circ + \theta) = -\cos \theta$$

$$\tan(180^\circ + \theta) = \tan \theta$$

$$\sin(270^\circ - \theta) = -\cos \theta$$

$$\cos(270^\circ - \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$\tan(270^\circ - \theta) = \cot \theta$$

$$\sin(270^\circ + \theta) = -\cos \theta$$

$$\cos(270^\circ + \theta) = \sin \theta$$

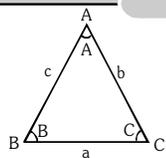
$$\tan(270^\circ + \theta) = -\cot \theta$$

$$\sin(360^\circ - \theta) = -\sin \theta$$

$$\cos(360^\circ - \theta) = \cos \theta$$

$$\tan(360^\circ - \theta) = -\tan \theta$$

sine law



$$\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c}$$

For small θ

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta \quad \cos \theta \approx 1 \quad \tan \theta \approx \theta \quad \sin \theta \approx \tan \theta$$

cosine law

$$\cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}, \cos B = \frac{c^2 + a^2 - b^2}{2ca}, \cos C = \frac{a^2 + b^2 - c^2}{2ab}$$

Differentiation

- $y = x^n \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = nx^{n-1}$ • $y = \ln x \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}$
- $y = \sin x \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \cos x$ • $y = \cos x \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin x$
- $y = e^{\alpha x + \beta} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \alpha e^{\alpha x + \beta}$ • $y = uv \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx}$
- $y = f(g(x)) \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{df(g(x))}{dg(x)} \times \frac{d(g(x))}{dx}$
- $y = k(\text{constant}) \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$
- $y = \frac{u}{v} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v \frac{du}{dx} - u \frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2}$

Integration

C = Arbitrary constant, k = constant

- $\int f(x)dx = g(x) + C$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(g(x)) = f(x)$
- $\int kf(x)dx = k \int f(x)dx$
- $\int (u + v + w)dx = \int udx + \int vdx + \int wdx$
- $\int e^x dx = e^x + C$
- $\int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C, n \neq -1$
- $\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln x + C$
- $\int \sin x dx = -\cos x + C$
- $\int \cos x dx = \sin x + C$
- $\int e^{\alpha x + \beta} dx = \frac{1}{\alpha} e^{\alpha x + \beta} + C$
- $\int (\alpha x + \beta)^n dx = \frac{(\alpha x + \beta)^{n+1}}{\alpha(n+1)} + C$

Definite integration

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = [g(x)]_a^b = g(b) - g(a)$$

Area under the curve $y = f(x)$ from $x = a$ to $x = b$ is

$$A = \int_a^b f(x)dx$$

Maxima & Minima of a function $y=f(x)$

- For maximum value $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ & $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -ve$
- For minimum value $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ & $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = +ve$

Average of a varying quantity

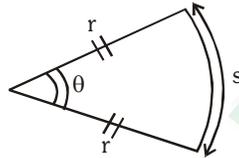
$$\text{If } y = f(x) \text{ then } \langle y \rangle = \bar{y} = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y dx}{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx} = \frac{\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y dx}{x_2 - x_1}$$

FORMULAE FOR DETERMINATION OF AREA

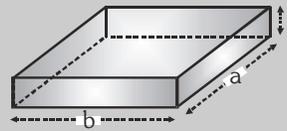
- Area of a square = (side)²
- Area of rectangle = length × breadth
- Area of a triangle = $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- Area of a trapezoid
= $\frac{1}{2} \times (\text{distance between parallel sides}) \times (\text{sum of parallel sides})$
- Area enclosed by a circle = πr^2 (r = radius)
- Surface area of a sphere = $4\pi r^2$ (r = radius)
- Area of a parallelogram = base × height
- Area of curved surface of cylinder = $2\pi r\ell$
where r = radius and ℓ = length
- Area of whole surface of cylinder = $2\pi r(r + \ell)$ where ℓ = length
- Area of ellipse = πab
(a & b are semi major and semi minor axis respectively)
- Surface area of a cube = $6(\text{side})^2$
- Total surface area of a cone = $\pi r^2 + \pi r\ell$

where $\pi r\ell = \pi r \sqrt{r^2 + h^2}$ = lateral area

- Arc length $s = r\theta$
- Area of sector = $\frac{r^2\theta}{2}$
- Plane angle, $\theta = \frac{s}{r}$ radian
- Solid angle, $\Omega = \frac{A}{r^2}$ steradian



FORMULAE FOR DETERMINATION OF VOLUME



- Volume of a rectangular slab
= length × breadth × height
= abt
- Volume of a cube = (side)³
- Volume of a sphere = $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$
(r = radius)
- Volume of a cylinder = $\pi r^2\ell$
(r = radius and ℓ = length)
- Volume of a cone = $\frac{1}{3}\pi r^2h$
(r = radius and h = height)

KEY POINTS

- To convert an angle from degree to radian, we have to multiply it by $\frac{\pi}{180^\circ}$ and to convert an angle from radian to degree, we have to multiply it by $\frac{180^\circ}{\pi}$.

- By help of differentiation, if y is given, we can find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and by help of integration, if $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is given, we can find y.

- The maximum and minimum values of function

$A \cos\theta + B \sin\theta$ are $\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ and $-\sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ respectively.

- $(a+b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 2ab$ $(a-b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab$
 $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - b^2$ $(a+b)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a+b)$
 $(a-b)^3 = a^3 - b^3 - 3ab(a-b)$

VECTORS

Vector Quantities

A physical quantity which requires magnitude and a particular direction, when it is expressed.
Parallel vectors – two vectors having same direction.

antiparallel vectors – vectors in opposite direction.

Equal vectors – Vectors which have equal magnitude and same direction

Negative or opposite vectors – Vectors having equal magnitude but opposite direction.

Null vector or Zero vector

A vector having zero magnitude. The direction of a zero vector is indeterminate.

$$\vec{A} + (-\vec{A}) = \vec{0}$$

Unit vector

A vector having unit magnitude. It is used to specify direction.

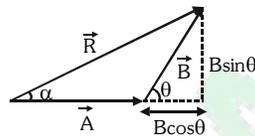
Unit vector in direction of \vec{A} , $\hat{A} = \frac{\vec{A}}{|\vec{A}|}$

Triangle law of Vector addition

$$\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B}$$

$$R = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + 2AB \cos \theta}$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{B \sin \theta}{A + B \cos \theta}$$

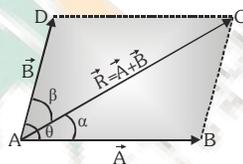


If $A = B$ then $R = 2A \cos \frac{\theta}{2}$ & $\alpha = \frac{\theta}{2}$

$R_{\max} = A+B$ for $\theta=0^\circ$; $R_{\min} = A - B$ for $\theta=180^\circ$

Parallelogram Law of Addition of Two Vectors

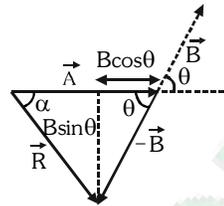
If two vectors are represented by two adjacent sides of a parallelogram which are directed away from their common point then their sum (i.e. resultant vector) is given by the diagonal of the parallelogram passing away through that common point.



$$\vec{AB} + \vec{AD} = \vec{AC} = \vec{R} \text{ or } \vec{A} + \vec{B} = \vec{R} \Rightarrow R = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + 2AB \cos \theta}$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{B \sin \theta}{A + B \cos \theta} \text{ and } \tan \beta = \frac{A \sin \theta}{B + A \cos \theta}$$

Vector subtraction



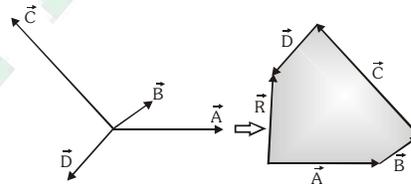
$$\vec{R} = \vec{A} - \vec{B} \Rightarrow \vec{R} = \vec{A} + (-\vec{B})$$

$$R = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2 - 2AB \cos \theta}, \quad \tan \alpha = \frac{B \sin \theta}{A - B \cos \theta}$$

If $A = B$ then $R = 2A \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$

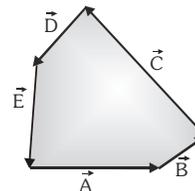
Addition of More than Two Vectors (Law of Polygon)

If some vectors are represented by sides of a polygon in same order, then their resultant vector is represented by the closing side of polygon in the opposite order.



$$\vec{R} = \vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C} + \vec{D}$$

In a polygon if head of the last vector coincide with the tail of the first vectors, in other words vectors are forming closed polygon, then their resultant is null vector.



$$\vec{A} + \vec{B} + \vec{C} + \vec{D} + \vec{E} = \vec{0}$$

Rectangular component of a 3-D vector

$$\vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k}$$

Angle made with x-axis

$$\cos \alpha = \frac{A_x}{A} = \frac{A_x}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}} = \ell$$

Angle made with y-axis

$$\cos \beta = \frac{A_y}{A} = \frac{A_y}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}} = m$$

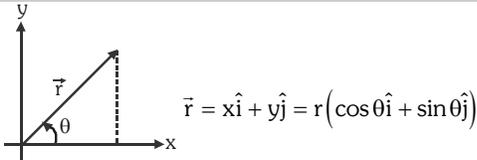
Angle made with z-axis

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{A_z}{A} = \frac{A_z}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}} = n$$

- l, m, n are called direction cosines
 $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = \cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma$

$$= \frac{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}{(\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2})^2} = 1 \text{ or } \sin^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \beta + \sin^2 \gamma = 2$$

General Vector in x-y plane



EXAMPLES :

1. Construct a vector of magnitude 6 units making an angle of 60° with x-axis.

Sol. $\vec{r} = r(\cos 60^\circ \hat{i} + \sin 60^\circ \hat{j}) = 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\hat{i} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\hat{j}\right) = 3\hat{i} + 3\sqrt{3}\hat{j}$

2. Construct an unit vector making an angle of 135° with x axis.

Sol. $\hat{r} = 1(\cos 135^\circ \hat{i} + \sin 135^\circ \hat{j}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(-\hat{i} + \hat{j})$

Multiplication of a vector by a number

If $\vec{b} = k_x \vec{a}$ then magnitude of \vec{b} is k times $|\vec{a}|$, and direction of \vec{b} is same as \vec{a}

Scalar product (Dot Product)

- $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = AB \cos \theta \Rightarrow \theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{AB} \right)$

- If $\vec{A} = A_x \hat{i} + A_y \hat{j} + A_z \hat{k}$ & $\vec{B} = B_x \hat{i} + B_y \hat{j} + B_z \hat{k}$ then

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z \text{ and angle between}$$

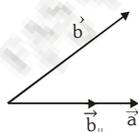
\vec{A} & \vec{B} is given by

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}}{AB} = \frac{A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z}{\sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2} \sqrt{B_x^2 + B_y^2 + B_z^2}}$$

- $\hat{i} \cdot \hat{i} = 1, \hat{j} \cdot \hat{j} = 1, \hat{k} \cdot \hat{k} = 1, \hat{i} \cdot \hat{j} = 0, \hat{i} \cdot \hat{k} = 0, \hat{j} \cdot \hat{k} = 0$

- Component of vector \vec{b} along vector \vec{a} ,

$$\vec{b}_{\parallel} = (\vec{b} \cdot \hat{a}) \hat{a}$$

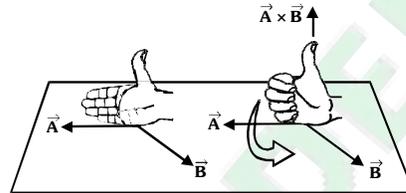


- Component of \vec{b} perpendicular to \vec{a} ,

$$\vec{b}_{\perp} = \vec{b} - \vec{b}_{\parallel} = \vec{b} - (\vec{b} \cdot \hat{a}) \hat{a}$$

Cross Product (Vector product)

- $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = AB \sin \theta \hat{n}$ where \hat{n} is a vector perpendicular to \vec{A} & \vec{B} or their plane and its direction given by right hand thumb rule.



- $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix}$

$$= \hat{i}(A_y B_z - A_z B_y) - \hat{j}(A_x B_z - B_x A_z) + \hat{k}(A_x B_y - B_x A_y)$$

- $\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = -\vec{B} \times \vec{A}$

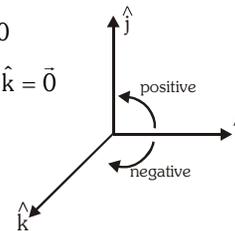
- $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{A} = (\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{B} = 0$

- $\hat{i} \times \hat{i} = \vec{0}, \hat{j} \times \hat{j} = \vec{0}, \hat{k} \times \hat{k} = \vec{0}$

- $\hat{i} \times \hat{j} = \hat{k}; \hat{j} \times \hat{k} = \hat{i},$

$$\hat{k} \times \hat{i} = \hat{j}; \hat{j} \times \hat{i} = -\hat{k}$$

$$\hat{k} \times \hat{j} = -\hat{i}, \hat{i} \times \hat{k} = -\hat{j}$$

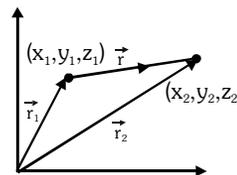


Differentiation

- $\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}) = \frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} \cdot \vec{B} + \vec{A} \cdot \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt}$

- $\frac{d}{dt}(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) = \frac{d\vec{A}}{dt} \times \vec{B} + \vec{A} \times \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt}$

When a particle moved from (x_1, y_1, z_1) to (x_2, y_2, z_2) then its displacement vector

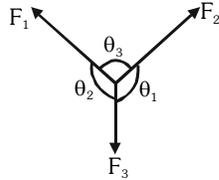
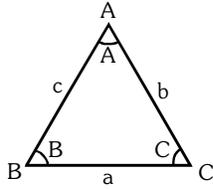


$$\vec{r} = \vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1 = (x_2 \hat{i} + y_2 \hat{j} + z_2 \hat{k}) - (x_1 \hat{i} + y_1 \hat{j} + z_1 \hat{k})$$

$$= (x_2 - x_1) \hat{i} + (y_2 - y_1) \hat{j} + (z_2 - z_1) \hat{k}$$

$$\text{Magnitude: } r = |\vec{r}| = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

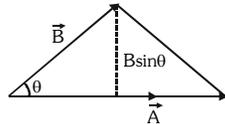
Lami's theorem



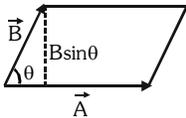
$$\frac{\sin A}{a} = \frac{\sin B}{b} = \frac{\sin C}{c} \quad \frac{F_1}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{F_2}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{F_3}{\sin \theta_3}$$

Area of triangle

$$\text{Area} = \frac{|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}|}{2} = \frac{1}{2} AB \sin \theta$$



Area of parallelogram



$$\text{Area} = |\vec{A} \times \vec{B}| = AB \sin \theta$$

For parallel vectors

$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \vec{0}$$

For perpendicular vectors

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

For coplanar vectors

$$\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = 0$$

If A,B,C points are collinear

$$\vec{AB} = \lambda \vec{BC}$$

**Examples
of
dot
products**

- ◆ Work, $W = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{d} = Fd \cos \theta$ where $F \rightarrow$ force, $d \rightarrow$ displacement
- ◆ Power, $P = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v} = Fv \cos \theta$ where $F \rightarrow$ force, $v \rightarrow$ velocity
- ◆ Electric flux, $\phi_E = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{A} = EA \cos \theta$ where $E \rightarrow$ electric field, $A \rightarrow$ Area
- ◆ Magnetic flux, $\phi_B = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{A} = BA \cos \theta$ where $B \rightarrow$ magnetic field, $A \rightarrow$ Area
- ◆ Potential energy of dipole in uniform field, $U = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{E}$ where $p \rightarrow$ dipole moment, where $E \rightarrow$ Electric field

- ◆ Torque $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$ where $r \rightarrow$ position vector, $F \rightarrow$ force
- ◆ Angular momentum $\vec{J} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p}$ where $r \rightarrow$ position vector, $p \rightarrow$ linear momentum
- ◆ Linear velocity $\vec{v} = \vec{\omega} \times \vec{r}$ where $r \rightarrow$ position vector, $\omega \rightarrow$ angular velocity
- ◆ Torque on dipole placed in electric field $\vec{\tau} = \vec{p} \times \vec{E}$
where $p \rightarrow$ dipole moment, $E \rightarrow$ electric field

**Examples
of
cross
products**

KEY POINTS

Tensor : A quantity that has different values in different directions is called tensor.

Example : Moment of Inertia

In fact tensors are merely a generalisation of scalars and vectors; a scalar is a zero rank tensor, and a vector is a first rank tensor.

- Electric current is not a vector as it does not obey the law of vector addition.
- A unit vector has no unit.
- To a vector only a vector of same type can be added and the resultant is a vector of the same type.
- A scalar or a vector can never be divided by a vector.