

St John Baptist De La Salle Catholic School, Addis Ababa  
Homework 2 Solution  
3rd Quarter

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Notes, and use of other aids is allowed. Read all directions carefully and write your answers in the space provided. To receive full credit, you must show all of your work. **Cheating or indications of cheating and similar answers will be punished accordingly.**

**Information**

- The homework is due on **Friday, March 3**.
- You should Work on it **in groups** and consult me if you have any questions. Cheating within groups is unacceptable.
- For purposes of neatness and simplicity of grading, you should do the homework on an **A-4 paper**.

**Questions**

1. When is the cross product used? How is it different from the dot product? What are the applications of the cross product?

**Answer:**

Cross product is used in situation in which the product of the vectors results in a vector. It is mainly different from the dot product in that the result in a dot product is always a scalar, whereas a vector product results in a vector. We use the cross product in many situations involving product of vectors giving vectors; it is applicable while finding the directions of many essential vectors such as the force & torque.

2. Let  $\vec{A} = -\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{D} = 9\hat{i} - H\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}$ . For what value(s) of H are the vectors A and D perpendicular?

**Answer:**

We know that the dot product of two vectors is 0 when they are perpendicular. If the vectors  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{D}$  are perpendicular,  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{D} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} \cdot \vec{D} &= 0 \\ (-\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}) \cdot (9\hat{i} - H\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}) &= 0 \\ -9 - 2H + 25 &= 0 \implies -2H = -16 \\ H &= 8\end{aligned}$$

3. After you find the value of H, find  $\vec{A} \times \vec{D}$ ,  $|\vec{A} \times \vec{D}|$ , and a unit vector perpendicular to both  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{D}$ .

**Answer:**

$$\vec{A} = (-\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 5\hat{k}) \times (9\hat{i} - 8\hat{j} + 5\hat{k})$$

To calculate the cross product, we simply can use the matrix method

$$\begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 9 & -8 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} \times \vec{D} &= \hat{i}(10 + 40) - \hat{j}(-5 - 45) + \hat{k}(8 - 18) \\ \vec{A} \times \vec{D} &= 50\hat{i} + 50\hat{j} - 10\hat{k} \\ |\vec{A} \times \vec{D}| &= \sqrt{50^2 + 50^2 + (-10)^2} = \sqrt{5100} = 10\sqrt{51}\end{aligned}$$

To find a unit vector perpendicular to both  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{D}$ , we can just find the unit vector in the direction of  $\vec{A} \times \vec{D}$ . Let us, for example, name that vector  $\hat{n}$ ;

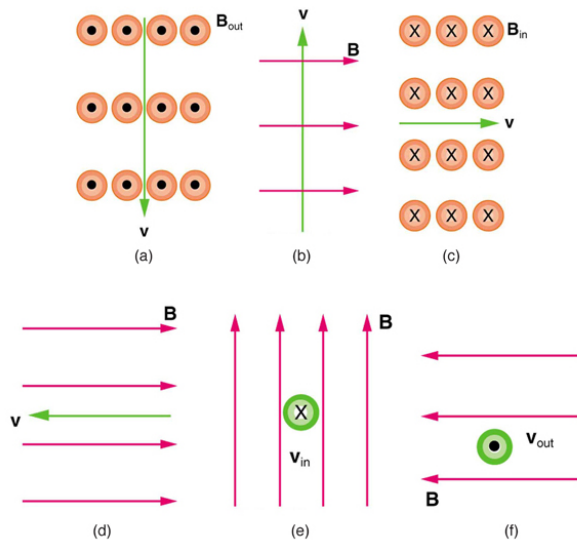
$$\hat{n} = \frac{\vec{A} \times \vec{D}}{|\vec{A} \times \vec{D}|} = \frac{50\hat{i} + 50\hat{j} - 10\hat{k}}{10\sqrt{51}} = \frac{5\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} - \hat{k}}{\sqrt{51}}$$

4. For two vectors  $\vec{A} = A_x\hat{i} + A_y\hat{j} + A_z\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{B} = B_x\hat{i} + B_y\hat{j} + B_z\hat{k}$ , show that  $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{B} = 0$

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} \times \vec{B} &= (A_yB_z - A_zB_y)\hat{i} + (A_zB_x - A_xB_z)\hat{j} + (A_xB_y - A_yB_x)\hat{k} \\ &(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{B} \\ &((A_yB_z - A_zB_y)\hat{i} + (A_zB_x - A_xB_z)\hat{j} + (A_xB_y - A_yB_x)\hat{k}) \cdot (B_x\hat{i} + B_y\hat{j} + B_z\hat{k}) \\ &(A_yB_z - A_zB_y)B_x + (A_zB_x - A_xB_z)B_y + (A_xB_y - A_yB_x)B_z \\ &(A_yB_zB_x - A_zB_yB_x) + (A_zB_xB_y - A_xB_zB_y) + (A_xB_yB_z - A_yB_xB_z)\end{aligned}$$

We can see that the above terms cancel out to give 0.



5. For the figure above, find the direction towards which a positive charge would be moving in the various magnetic fields.

**Answer:**

- (a)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies -\hat{j} \times \hat{k} = -\hat{i}$ : the charge will move to the left.  
 (b)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies \hat{j} \times \hat{i} = -\hat{k}$ : the charge will move out of the page.  
 (c)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies \hat{i} \times -\hat{k} = \hat{j}$ : the charge will move upwards.  
 (d)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies -\hat{i} \times \hat{i} = 0$ : the charge **will keep moving** to the left.  
 (e)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies -\hat{k} \times \hat{j} = \hat{i}$ : the charge will move to the right.  
 (f)  $q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \implies \hat{k} \times -\hat{i} = -\hat{j}$ : the charge will move downwards.
6. A charged particle of mass twice that of an electron and a charge of  $-3.2 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$  is moving about a circular trajectory of radius 20cm in a uniform  $3.5 \times 10^3 \text{G}$  magnetic field that is perpendicular to the velocity of the charge. What is the velocity of the charge?

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned}qvB \sin \theta &= \frac{mv^2}{r} \\ v &= \frac{qBr \sin \theta}{m} \\ v &= \frac{3.2 \times 10^{-19} \text{C} \times 3.5 \times 10^{-1} \text{T} \times 0.2 \text{m}}{2 \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{kg}}\end{aligned}$$

7. An electron moving at a speed of  $0.7c$  through a magnetic field of 2.0T experiences a magnetic force of  $2.2 \times 10^{-14} \text{N}$ . What is the angle between the electron's velocity and the magnetic field?

**Answer:**

$$\begin{aligned}F &= qvB \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{F}{qvB} \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{2.2 \times 10^{-14} \text{N}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C} \times 0.7 \times 3 \times 10^8 \text{m/s} \times 2.0 \text{T}} = \frac{2.2 \times 10^{-14} \text{N}}{3.2 \times 2.1 \times 10^{-11} \text{N}} = \frac{2.2}{3.2 \times 2.1} \times 10^{-3} \\ \theta &= \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{2.2}{3.2 \times 2.1} \times 10^{-3} \right)\end{aligned}$$

## Advanced Problems

8. A uniform magnetic field of magnitude 1.2 T is directed along the negative y - axis. An electron moving at a speed of  $0.2c$  makes an angle of  $60^\circ$  with the y - axis. Answer the following questions.

- (I) What is the expected trajectory of the electron?

**Answer:**

The expected trajectory is a helix. That is because the perpendicular component of the velocity will make the electron travel about a circle while the parallel component keeps the electron in its original path. The superposition of the two motions results in a helical trajectory.

- (II) Calculate the radius & pitch of the trajectory.

**Answer:**

$$r = \frac{mv}{qB \sin \theta}$$
$$r = \frac{9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \times 0.2 \times 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} \times 1.2 \text{ T} \times \sin 60^\circ}$$

To calculate the pitch, first let's look at what it is. The pitch is the distance traveled parallel to the magnetic field B in one revolution. Thus,

$$p = v_{\parallel} T \text{ where } T \text{ is the time needed to complete a revolution}$$

To calculate the pitch, we first need to calculate the time it takes to complete a revolution.

$$v_{\perp} = \frac{2\pi R}{T}$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi R}{v_{\perp}}$$

Then, we can calculate the pitch as follows:

$$p = v_{\parallel} \left( \frac{2\pi R}{v_{\perp}} \right)$$

$$p = v \cos \theta \left( \frac{2\pi R}{v \sin \theta} \right) = \cos \theta \left( \frac{2\pi R}{\sin \theta} \right)$$

$$p = \left( \frac{2\pi R}{\tan \theta} \right)$$

$$p = \frac{2\pi \times \frac{9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \times 0.2 \times 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} \times 1.2 \text{ T} \times \sin 60^\circ}}{\tan 60^\circ}$$