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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
MATH2010D Advanced Calculus 2019-2020

Solution to Problem Set 1

1. Suppose that  $\mathbf{u} = 5\mathbf{i} + 12\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = -6\mathbf{i} - 8\mathbf{j}$ . Find

- (a)  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ ,
- (b)  $|\mathbf{u}|$  and  $|\mathbf{v}|$ ,
- (c) the angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ .

**Ans:**

- (a)  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = (5)(-6) + (12)(-8) = -126$
- (b)  $|\mathbf{u}| = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} = 13$  and  $|\mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{(-6)^2 + (-8)^2} = 10$ .
- (c) The angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}|} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( -\frac{63}{65} \right) \approx 166^\circ$ .

2. Let  $\mathbf{a} = 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ .

- (a) Express  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  such that  $\mathbf{u}$  is parallel to  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{b}$ .
- (b) Find the area of parallelogram spanned by  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .

**Ans:**

- (a) We have

$$\mathbf{u} = \text{proj}_{\mathbf{b}}(\mathbf{a}) = \left( \frac{\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}}{|\mathbf{b}|^2} \right) \mathbf{b} = \frac{8}{9}(\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k})$$

and

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{9}(28\mathbf{i} - 43\mathbf{j} + 29\mathbf{j}).$$

- (b) The area of parallelogram spanned by  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  is

$$|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}| = \left| \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 4 & -3 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \right| = | -16\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 11\mathbf{k} | = \sqrt{386}.$$

3. Let  $A = (3, 3, 0)$ ,  $B = (-2, -3, 2)$  and  $C = (1, 0, 3)$  be three points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Find the volume of the tetrahedron  $OABC$ .

**Ans:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{volume of the tetrahedron } OABC &= \frac{1}{6} \times \text{volume of the parallelepiped spanned by } \vec{OA}, \vec{OB} \text{ and } \vec{OC} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \times \left| \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 \\ -2 & -3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \times |-3| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

4. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $\overrightarrow{OA} = \mathbf{a}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OB} = \mathbf{b}$ .

Suppose that  $C$  is a point on  $AB$  such that  $AC : CB = r : s$ , where  $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that

$$\overrightarrow{OC} = \frac{1}{r+s}(r\mathbf{b} + s\mathbf{a}).$$

**Ans:**

Note that  $\overrightarrow{AC} = \frac{r}{r+s}\overrightarrow{AB} = \frac{r}{r+s}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a})$ . Then,

$$\overrightarrow{OC} = \overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{AC} = \mathbf{a} + \frac{r}{r+s}(\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) = \frac{1}{r+s}(r\mathbf{b} + s\mathbf{a}).$$

Remark: In particular, if  $A = (x_1, y_1)$  and  $B = (x_2, y_2)$  are two points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (i.e.  $\overrightarrow{OA} = x_1\mathbf{i} + y_1\mathbf{j}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OB} = x_2\mathbf{i} + y_2\mathbf{j}$ ), then we have  $\overrightarrow{OC} = (\frac{rx_2 + sx_1}{r+s})\mathbf{i} + (\frac{ry_2 + sy_1}{r+s})\mathbf{j}$ , that means  $C = (\frac{rx_2 + sx_1}{r+s}, \frac{ry_2 + sy_1}{r+s})$ , which is the section formula we learned in secondary school.

5. Let  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  be nonzero vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that they are not parallel and let  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Prove that if  $a_1\mathbf{p} + a_2\mathbf{q} = b_1\mathbf{p} + b_2\mathbf{q}$ , then  $a_1 = b_1$  and  $a_2 = b_2$ .

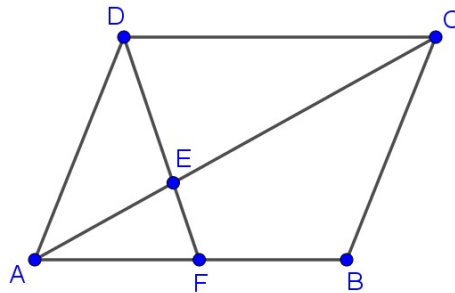
**Ans:**

If  $a_1\mathbf{p} + a_2\mathbf{q} = b_1\mathbf{p} + b_2\mathbf{q}$ , then we have  $(a_1 - b_1)\mathbf{p} = (b_2 - a_2)\mathbf{q}$ .

We claim that  $a_1 = b_1$ . Otherwise,  $a_1 - b_1 \neq 0$  and we have  $\mathbf{p} = \frac{b_2 - a_2}{a_1 - b_1}\mathbf{q}$  which implies  $\mathbf{p}$  is parallel to  $\mathbf{q}$  that contradicts to the assumption. Therefore, we have  $a_1 = b_1$ .

As a result  $a_1 - b_1 = 0$ . Therefore,  $(b_2 - a_2)\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{0}$ , but  $\mathbf{q}$  is nonzero, so  $b_2 - a_2 = 0$ , i.e.  $a_2 = b_2$ .

- 6.



In the above diagram,  $ABCD$  is a parallelogram and  $F$  is a point on  $AB$ .

Suppose that  $DF$  and  $AC$  intersect at the point  $E$  such that  $DE : EF = \lambda : 1$ , where  $\lambda > 0$ .

Let  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{p}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AD} = \mathbf{q}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AE} = h\overrightarrow{AC}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AF} = k\overrightarrow{AB}$ , where  $h, k > 0$ .

(a) i. Express  $\overrightarrow{AE}$  in terms of  $h$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ .

ii. Express  $\overrightarrow{AE}$  in terms of  $\lambda$ ,  $k$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ .

Hence, show that  $\lambda = \frac{1}{k}$ .

(b) Given that  $|\mathbf{p}| = 3$ ,  $|\mathbf{q}| = 2$  and  $\angle DAB = \frac{\pi}{3}$ .

i. Find  $\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}$ .

ii. Suppose that  $DF$  is perpendicular to  $AC$ .

(1) Express  $\overrightarrow{DF}$  in terms of  $k$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ , and so find the value of  $k$ .

(2) Using (a), find the length of  $AE$ .

**Ans:**

(a) i.  $\overrightarrow{AE} = h\overrightarrow{AC} = h(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})$

$$\text{ii. } \overrightarrow{AE} = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}(\lambda\overrightarrow{AF} + 1\overrightarrow{AD}) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}(k\lambda\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}).$$

Therefore,  $h(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}(k\lambda\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})$ . Then, we have  $h = \frac{k\lambda}{1+\lambda}$  and  $h = \frac{1}{1+\lambda}$ .  
Hence,  $k\lambda = 1$  and the result follows.

$$\text{(b) i. } \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} = |\mathbf{p}||\mathbf{q}| \cos \angle DAB = 3$$

$$\text{ii. (1) } \overrightarrow{DF} = \overrightarrow{AF} - \overrightarrow{AD} = k\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}.$$

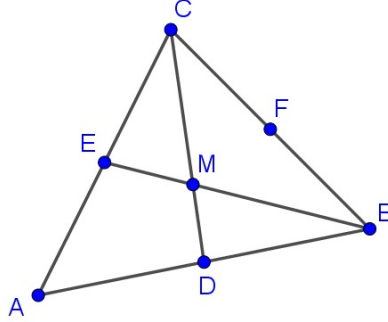
Since  $\overrightarrow{DF} \perp \overrightarrow{AC}$ , we have  $\overrightarrow{DF} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = 0$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (k\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}) \cdot (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) &= 0 \\ k|\mathbf{p}|^2 + (k-1)\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} - |\mathbf{q}|^2 &= 0 \\ 9k + 3(k-1) - 4 &= 0 \\ k &= \frac{7}{12} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(2) For } k = \frac{7}{12}, \lambda = \frac{12}{7}, h = \frac{7}{19}. \text{ Then, } |\overrightarrow{AE}|^2 = \left|\frac{7}{19}(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})\right|^2 = \left(\frac{7}{19}\right)^2(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) \cdot (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) = \frac{49}{19}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } |\overrightarrow{AE}| = \frac{7\sqrt{19}}{19}.$$

7.



In the above diagram,  $A, B, C$  are three distinct points in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and let  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{p}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AC} = \mathbf{q}$ .

Suppose that  $D, E$  and  $F$  are mid-points of  $AB, AC$  and  $BC$  respectively,  $M$  is the intersection of  $CD$  and  $BE$ .

(a) Suppose that  $CM : MD = r : 1$  and  $BM : ME = s : 1$ , where  $r, s > 0$ .

i. Express  $\overrightarrow{AM}$  in terms of  $r, \mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ .

ii. Express  $\overrightarrow{AM}$  in terms of  $s, \mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ .

iii. Hence, show that  $r = s = 2$  and  $\overrightarrow{AM} = \frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})$ .

(b) Prove that three medians  $AF, BE$  and  $CD$  of  $\triangle ABC$  intersect at the point  $M$ .

Also, prove that  $CM : MD = BM : ME = AM : MF = 2 : 1$ .

**Ans:**

$$\text{(a) i. } \overrightarrow{AM} = \frac{1}{1+r}(1\overrightarrow{AC} + r\overrightarrow{AD}) = \frac{1}{1+r}(\mathbf{q} + \frac{r}{2}\mathbf{p}) = \frac{r}{2(1+r)}\mathbf{p} + \frac{1}{1+r}\mathbf{q}$$

$$\text{ii. } \overrightarrow{AM} = \frac{1}{1+s}(1\overrightarrow{AB} + s\overrightarrow{AE}) = \frac{1}{1+s}(\mathbf{p} + \frac{s}{2}\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{1+s}\mathbf{p} + \frac{s}{2(1+s)}\mathbf{q}$$

iii. Hence, we have  $\frac{r}{2(1+r)} = \frac{1}{1+s}$  and  $\frac{1}{1+r} = \frac{s}{2(1+s)}$ .

By solving the above, we have  $r = s = 2$ . By putting  $r = 2$  into the result in (a)(i), we have

$$\overrightarrow{AM} = \frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}).$$

(b) Note that  $\overrightarrow{AF} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})$ , so  $\overrightarrow{AM} = \frac{2}{3}\overrightarrow{AF}$  which means  $\overrightarrow{AM}$  is parallel to  $\overrightarrow{AF}$ . Therefore,  $A, M$  and  $F$  are collinear.

Furthermore,  $\overrightarrow{MF} = \frac{1}{3}\overrightarrow{AF}$ , so  $AM : MF = 2 : 1$ . Therefore, we have  $CM : MD = BM : ME = AM : MF = 2 : 1$ .

8. Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \in \mathbb{R}$  and let

$$p(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - b_i t)^2$$

be a polynomial.

By using the fact that  $p(t) \geq 0$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , prove that the Cauchy Schwarz inequality holds, i.e.

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right)$$

and the equality holds if and only if  $a_1 = tb_1, a_2 = tb_2, \dots, a_n = tb_n$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Ans:**

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} p(t) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - b_i t)^2 \\ &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) t^2 - 2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right) t + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) t^2 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $\left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) \geq 0$ . However, if  $\left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) = 0$ , then  $b_1 = b_2 = \dots = b_n = 0$  and so the required inequality is trivially true.

Now, we assume that  $\left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) > 0$ . Note that  $p(t) \geq 0$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , the quadratic equation  $p(t) = 0$  has either no solution or only one solution. Therefore, the discriminant of  $p(t)$  is less than or equals to 0.

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ 2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right) \right]^2 - 4 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) &\leq 0 \\ 4 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 &\leq 4 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) \\ \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right)^2 &\leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, the equality holds if and only if the discriminant of  $p(t)$  equals to 0, which means  $p(t) = 0$  has exactly one solution. Therefore, each square in the summation of  $p(t)$  must be zero, i.e.  $a_i - b_i t = 0$ , i.e.  $a_i = b_i t$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .