# A Level Pure Mathematics Practice Test 2: Vectors

#### **Instructions:**

Answer all questions. Show your working clearly. Calculators may be used unless stated otherwise.

Time allowed: 2 hours

#### Section A: Vector Basics and Notation

1. Given vectors 
$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , calculate:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$$

(b) 
$$\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$$

(c) 
$$3u + 2v$$

(d) 
$$4u - 3v$$

(e) 
$$|\mathbf{u}|$$
 and  $|\mathbf{v}|$ 

(f) A unit vector in the direction of 
$$\mathbf{v}$$

2. Express these vectors in component form:

(a) 
$$\overrightarrow{CD}$$
 where  $C(3,1,-2)$  and  $D(1,4,3)$ 

(b) 
$$\overrightarrow{RS}$$
 where  $R(-2,3,1)$  and  $S(3,-1,4)$ 

(c) The position vector of point 
$$E$$
 if  $\overrightarrow{OE} = 2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}$ 

(d) 
$$\overrightarrow{DC}$$
 where  $C(2, -3, 1)$  and  $D(5, 2, -4)$ 

3. Given 
$$\mathbf{m} = 2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$$
 and  $\mathbf{n} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ :

(a) Find 
$$|\mathbf{m}|$$
 and  $|\mathbf{n}|$ 

(b) Calculate 
$$\mathbf{m}+\mathbf{n}$$
 and  $\mathbf{m}-\mathbf{n}$ 

(c) Find scalars 
$$p$$
 and  $q$  such that  $p\mathbf{m} + q\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(d) Determine if 
$$\mathbf{m}$$
 and  $\mathbf{n}$  are parallel

4. Points 
$$P$$
,  $Q$ , and  $R$  have position vectors  $\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

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(a) Find vectors 
$$\overrightarrow{PQ}$$
 and  $\overrightarrow{PR}$ 

(b) Calculate the lengths 
$$|PQ|$$
 and  $|PR|$ 

- (c) Find the position vector of the midpoint of QR
- (d) Determine if triangle PQR is isosceles
- 5. Find the values of k for which these vectors are perpendicular:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ k \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} k \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) 
$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\\3k\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\-2\\k \end{pmatrix}$ 

(c) 
$$\mathbf{r} = k\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$$
 and  $\mathbf{s} = 2\mathbf{i} + k\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$ 

# Section B: Dot Product (Scalar Product)

6. Calculate the dot product of these vectors:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) 
$$\mathbf{p} = 2\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}$$
 and  $\mathbf{q} = 3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ 

(c) 
$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(d) 
$$\mathbf{r} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$$
 and  $\mathbf{s} = 2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$ 

7. Find the angle between these pairs of vectors:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) 
$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(c) 
$$\mathbf{u} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ 

(d) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{s} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

8. Use the dot product to verify these properties:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a}$$
 (commutative)

(b) 
$$\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}$$
 (distributive)

(c) 
$$(k\mathbf{a}) \cdot \mathbf{b} = k(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$$
 for scalar  $k$ 

(d) 
$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = |\mathbf{a}|^2$$

9. Given vectors 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
,  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ :

- (a) Show that **a** and **b** are perpendicular
- (b) Find the component of **c** in the direction of **a**
- (c) Calculate  $|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}|$

- (d) Find the angle between  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$
- 10. A triangle has vertices at P(2,1,3), Q(1,4,2), and R(3,2,1).
  - (a) Find the vectors  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$  and  $\overrightarrow{PR}$
  - (b) Calculate the angle  $\angle QPR$
  - (c) Find the area of triangle PQR
  - (d) Determine if the triangle is right-angled

# Section C: Cross Product (Vector Product)

11. Calculate the cross product of these vectors:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) 
$$\mathbf{p} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$$
 and  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ 

(c) 
$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

- (d)  $\mathbf{r} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} \text{ and } \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{k}$
- 12. Verify these properties of the cross product:
  - (a)  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{a})$  (anti-commutative)
  - (b)  $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{c}$  (distributive)
  - (c)  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$
  - (d)  $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2 |\mathbf{b}|^2 (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})^2$
- 13. Find the area of the parallelogram spanned by:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ 

- (b)  $\mathbf{p} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} 2\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{i} 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$
- (c) Vectors from origin to points (3, 1, 2) and (2, 3, 1)
- (d)  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$  and  $\overrightarrow{PR}$  where P(2,1,0), Q(1,3,2), R(3,0,1)

14. Given 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ :

- (a) Calculate  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$
- (b) Verify that  $\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}$  is perpendicular to both  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$
- (c) Find a unit vector perpendicular to both **a** and **b**
- (d) Calculate the area of triangle with sides **a** and **b**
- 15. Use the scalar triple product  $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c})$  to find:

(a) The volume of parallelepiped with edges 
$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
,  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

- (b) Whether points P(2,1,3), Q(1,3,2), R(3,2,1), S(2,2,2) are coplanar
- (c) The volume of tetrahedron with vertices at (0,0,0), (2,1,3), (1,2,1), (3,1,2)

# Section D: Equations of Lines

- 16. Find the vector equation of the line:
  - (a) Passing through P(1,3,2) in direction  $\begin{pmatrix} 2\\-1\\3 \end{pmatrix}$
  - (b) Passing through points A(2,1,4) and B(1,3,2)
  - (c) Through origin parallel to vector  $3\mathbf{i} 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$
  - (d) Through (3,2,1) parallel to the line  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$
- 17. Convert these to parametric form:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (c) Line through (2,3,1) and (1,0,4)
- (d)  $\mathbf{r} = (2+3t)\mathbf{i} + (1-2t)\mathbf{j} + (4+t)\mathbf{k}$
- 18. Find where these lines intersect the coordinate planes:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and the *xy*-plane

(b) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and the  $xz$ -plane

- (c) Line through (3,2,1) and (1,4,0) with the yz-plane
- 19. Determine if these pairs of lines intersect, are parallel, or are skew:

(a) 
$$L_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\\1\\3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1\\2\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $L_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\3\\2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2\\1\\3 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) 
$$L_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $L_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ 

- (c) Lines through (2,1,3) to (4,2,1) and (1,3,2) to (3,1,4)
- 20. Find the shortest distance between:

(a) Point 
$$(1,3,2)$$
 and line  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(b) Parallel lines 
$$L_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $L_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(c) Skew lines 
$$L_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $L_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

# Section E: Equations of Planes

- 21. Find the equation of the plane:
  - (a) With normal vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1\\3\\-2 \end{pmatrix}$  passing through (2,1,4)
  - (b) Passing through points (2,0,0), (0,3,0), and (0,0,1)
  - (c) Containing the lines  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$
  - (d) Parallel to vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 2\\1\\3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 1\\2\\1 \end{pmatrix}$  through (2,2,2)
- 22. Convert between vector and Cartesian forms:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 to Cartesian form

- (b) 3x 2y + z = 8 to vector form
- (c) 2x + y 3z = 6 to parametric form
- (d)  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = 7$  to Cartesian form
- 23. Find where these planes intersect coordinate axes:
  - (a) 2x + 3y z = 12
  - (b) x 3y + 2z = 6
  - (c) 3x + y + 2z = 18
  - (d) 2x + 2y + z = 6
- 24. Determine the relationship between these planes:
  - (a)  $\Pi_1: 2x + y z = 4$  and  $\Pi_2: 4x + 2y 2z = 8$
  - (b)  $\Pi_1: x-2y+3z=5 \text{ and } \Pi_2: 2x+y-z=3$
  - (c)  $\Pi_1: 3x + y + z = 6$  and  $\Pi_2: 6x + 2y + 2z = 15$
  - (d)  $\Pi_1: 2x y + 3z = 7$  and  $\Pi_2: x + 2y z = 4$
- 25. Find the line of intersection of these planes:
  - (a) 2x + y + z = 5 and x y + 2z = 3
  - (b) 3x + y 2z = 6 and x 3y + z = 2
  - (c) 2x 3y + z = 4 and x + 2y 3z = 1
  - (d) x + 3y + 2z = 9 and 3x y + z = 7

# Section F: Angles and Distances

- 26. Find the angle between these planes:
  - (a) 2x + y 3z = 4 and x 2y + z = 6
  - (b) 3x + 2y z = 8 and 2x 3y + 2z = 5

(c) 
$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \text{ and } \mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 4$$

(d) 
$$3x + y + 2z = 9$$
 and  $x - 2y + 3z = 6$ 

- 27. Calculate the distance from point to plane:
  - (a) Point (1,3,2) to plane 2x + y 3z = 4
  - (b) Point (3, -1, 4) to plane x 2y + 2z = 8
  - (c) Point (0,0,0) to plane 3x + 2y z = 15
  - (d) Point (2, 4, -1) to plane 2x 3y + z = 7
- 28. Find the angle between line and plane:

(a) Line 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and plane  $2x + y + z = 8$ 

(b) Line through (2,1,3) and (1,4,2) with plane 3x - y + 2z = 6

(c) Line 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and plane  $x + 2y - z = 4$ 

29. Determine where these lines intersect planes:

(a) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $x + 2y + z = 12$ 

(b) Line through (2,3,1) and (1,1,4) with plane 3x - y + 2z = 8

(c) 
$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $2x - y + 3z = 15$ 

- 30. Find the reflection of point in plane:
  - (a) Point (3, 1, 2) in plane x + 2y z = 4
  - (b) Point (2, -1, 3) in plane 3x y + 2z = 8
  - (c) Point (1, 4, 0) in plane 2x + y + 3z = 6

# Section G: Advanced Vector Geometry

- 31. A tetrahedron has vertices at P(2,0,0), Q(0,3,0), R(0,0,4), and S(2,2,2).
  - (a) Find the volume of the tetrahedron
  - (b) Calculate the area of face PQR
  - (c) Find the equation of the plane containing face PQR
  - (d) Determine the perpendicular distance from S to plane PQR
  - (e) Verify the volume using the distance formula
- 32. Three forces  $\mathbf{F_1} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} 4\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{F_2} = \mathbf{i} 2\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$ , and  $\mathbf{F_3} = -3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$  act on a particle.
  - (a) Find the resultant force
  - (b) Calculate the magnitude of the resultant
  - (c) Find a fourth force needed for equilibrium

- (d) If the forces act at point (2, 1, 3), find the moment about the origin
- 33. A regular tetrahedron has vertices at (2,2,2), (2,-2,-2), (-2,2,-2), and (-2,-2,2).
  - (a) Verify that all edges have equal length
  - (b) Find the center of the tetrahedron
  - (c) Calculate the angle between any two faces
  - (d) Find the equation of the sphere circumscribing the tetrahedron
- 34. The position vectors of points A, B, and C are a, b, and c respectively.
  - (a) Express the centroid G in terms of  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ , and  $\mathbf{c}$
  - (b) Show that  $\overrightarrow{AG} + \overrightarrow{BG} + \overrightarrow{CG} = \mathbf{0}$
  - (c) If M is the midpoint of BC, express  $\overrightarrow{AM}$  in terms of position vectors
  - (d) Prove that the medians of triangle ABC meet at the centroid
- 35. A line passes through point P(1,3,2) and is perpendicular to the plane 3x y + 2z = 8.
  - (a) Find the vector equation of the line
  - (b) Calculate where the line intersects the plane
  - (c) Find the foot of perpendicular from P to the plane
  - (d) Calculate the distance from P to the plane

#### Section H: Applications and Problem Solving

- 36. A parallelogram PQRS has vertices P(2,1,3), Q(1,4,2), and R(3,2,5).
  - (a) Find the coordinates of vertex S
  - (b) Calculate the area of the parallelogram
  - (c) Find the lengths of the diagonals
  - (d) Determine if the parallelogram is a rhombus
  - (e) Calculate the angle between the diagonals
- 37. A spacecraft travels from station P(200, 150, 10) to station Q(500, 300, 15) (coordinates in km).
  - (a) Find the displacement vector  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$
  - (b) Calculate the distance traveled
  - (c) If the journey takes 3 hours, find the average velocity vector
  - (d) Find the bearing of Q from P (projected onto horizontal plane)
  - (e) Calculate the angle of ascent
- 38. A pyramid has square base with vertices at (3,3,0), (-3,3,0), (-3,-3,0), (3,-3,0) and apex at (0,0,6).
  - (a) Find the volume of the pyramid
  - (b) Calculate the area of each triangular face
  - (c) Find the total surface area
  - (d) Determine the angle between a triangular face and the base
  - (e) Find the equation of the plane containing one triangular face

39. Two particles move along lines 
$$L_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and  $L_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Show that the lines are skew
- (b) Find the shortest distance between the lines
- (c) If the particles start at t = s = 0 and move with constant speeds, when are they closest?
- (d) Calculate their closest approach distance
- (e) Find the common perpendicular to both lines
- 40. A sphere has center O(1, 2, -1) and radius 4.
  - (a) Write the equation of the sphere
  - (b) Find where the sphere intersects the plane x + 2y + z = 6
  - (c) Determine if the line  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  intersects the sphere
  - (d) Find the equation of the tangent plane at point (5, 2, -1)
  - (e) Calculate the volume and surface area of the sphere

# Section I: Advanced Topics and Modeling

- 41. Prove these vector identities:
  - (a)  $\mathbf{a} \times (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c}) \mathbf{c}(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$  (vector triple product)
  - (b)  $(\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{d}) = (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{d}) (\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{d})(\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c})$
  - (c)  $|\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b}|^2 + |\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b}|^2 = |\mathbf{a}|^2 |\mathbf{b}|^2$  (Lagrange identity)
  - (d)  $\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}) = \mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \times \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{c} \cdot (\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b})$
- 42. Three planes  $\Pi_1 : 2x + y z = 4$ ,  $\Pi_2 : x 2y + 3z = 6$ , and  $\Pi_3 : 3x + y + 2z = 9$  intersect.
  - (a) Find their common point of intersection
  - (b) Calculate the angles between each pair of planes
  - (c) Find the line of intersection of  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$
  - (d) Determine the volume of the tetrahedron formed by the three planes and the origin
  - (e) Verify the intersection point lies on all three planes
- 43. A coordinate system undergoes rotation. The new basis vectors are:  $\mathbf{e_1'} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{e_2'} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{e_3'} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Verify these form an orthonormal basis
- (b) Express vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{pmatrix}$  in the new coordinate system
- (c) Find the rotation matrix for this transformation
- (d) Calculate the axis and angle of rotation

# 44. A crystal has lattice vectors $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.5\sqrt{3} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , $\mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Calculate the volume of the unit cell
- (b) Find the angles between the lattice vectors
- (c) Determine the reciprocal lattice vectors
- (d) Calculate the density if each unit cell contains 6 atoms of mass  $1.5 \times 10^{-23}$  g
- (e) Find the distance between parallel planes with Miller indices (2, 1, 0)
- 45. Design a vector-based model for a real-world application:
  - (a) Choose a scenario involving 3D geometry (navigation, animation, structural analysis)
  - (b) Define your coordinate system and relevant vectors clearly
  - (c) Set up vector equations describing the system
  - (d) Solve a specific problem using vector methods
  - (e) Discuss advantages of vector methods for your application
  - (f) Consider limitations and potential extensions of your model
- 46. A satellite orbits Earth in an elliptical path. At time t, its position vector is:  $\mathbf{r}(t) = 6\cos(\omega t)\mathbf{i} + 4\sin(\omega t)\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ 
  - (a) Find the velocity vector  $\mathbf{v}(t) = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt}$
  - (b) Calculate the acceleration vector  $\mathbf{a}(t) = \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt}$
  - (c) Show that acceleration is always directed toward a point in the xy-plane
  - (d) Find the speed as a function of time
  - (e) Determine when the satellite is closest to the xy-plane
  - (f) Calculate the angular momentum  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{r} \times m\mathbf{v}$
- 47. Vector calculus in 3D space involves del operator  $\nabla = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\mathbf{k}$ .
  - (a) For scalar field  $\phi(x, y, z) = x^2y + z^3$ , find  $\nabla \phi$
  - (b) For vector field  $\mathbf{F} = xy\mathbf{i} + yz\mathbf{j} + xz\mathbf{k}$ , calculate  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$  (divergence)
  - (c) Find  $\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$  (curl) for the same vector field
  - (d) Verify that  $\nabla \times (\nabla \phi) = \mathbf{0}$  for any scalar field  $\phi$
  - (e) Show that  $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{F}) = 0$  for any vector field  $\mathbf{F}$
- 48. Integration and applications:
  - (a) Evaluate  $\int_C \mathbf{F} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$  where  $\mathbf{F} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$  and C is the curve from (0,0) to (2,1) along  $y = \frac{x^2}{4}$
  - (b) Calculate the work done by force  $\mathbf{F} = (y+z)\mathbf{i} + (x-z)\mathbf{j} + (x+y)\mathbf{k}$  moving a particle from (0,0,0) to (2,1,3)
  - (c) Find the flux of  $\mathbf{F} = x^2 \mathbf{i} + y^2 \mathbf{j} + z^2 \mathbf{k}$  through the surface of unit sphere
  - (d) Apply Green's theorem to evaluate  $\oint_C (x^2 y^2) dx + 2xy dy$  around a circle of radius 2

### **Answer Space**

Use this space for your working and answers.

#### END OF TEST

Total marks: 150

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