

**EXAM
DRILL**

Vector Algebra

SOLUTIONS

1. (b) : Required sum = $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$

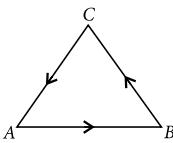
$$= (\hat{i} - 3\hat{k}) + (2\hat{j} - \hat{k}) + (2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) = 3\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}.$$

2. (d) : Let ABC be the given triangle.

$$\text{Now, } \overrightarrow{AB} + \overrightarrow{BC} = \overrightarrow{AC}$$

(By Triangle law of vector addition)

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AB} + \overrightarrow{BC} + \overrightarrow{CA} = \overrightarrow{AC} + \overrightarrow{CA} = \vec{0}.$$



3. (c) : Since, \hat{i} , \hat{j} and \hat{k} are mutually perpendicular vectors.

$$\therefore \hat{k} \cdot \hat{i} = 0.$$

4. (c) : Required vector

$$= (-3 - 2)\hat{i} + (7 - 5)\hat{j} + (4 - 0)\hat{k} = -5\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}.$$

5. (a) : Given, $\vec{a} = 3\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = 6\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$

$$\text{Now, } \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 3 & 1 & -4 \\ 6 & 5 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-2 + 20)\hat{i} - (-6 + 24)\hat{j} + (15 - 6)\hat{k} = 18\hat{i} - 18\hat{j} + 9\hat{k}.$$

6. Given, two diagonals \vec{d}_1 and \vec{d}_2 are $2\hat{i}$ and $-3\hat{k}$ respectively.

$$\therefore \vec{d}_1 \times \vec{d}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i}(0) - \hat{j}(-6 - 0) + \hat{k}(0) = 6\hat{j}$$

∴ Area of the parallelogram = $\frac{1}{2} |\vec{d}_1 \times \vec{d}_2|$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 6 = 3 \text{ sq. units.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7. \quad & \text{We have, } |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|^2 + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 = |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 \sin^2 \theta + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 \\ & = |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 (1 - \cos^2 \theta) + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 \quad [\because \sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1] \\ & = |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 - |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 \cos^2 \theta + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 \\ & = |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2 - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 \quad [\because \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta] \\ & \therefore |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|^2 + (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})^2 = |\vec{a}|^2 |\vec{b}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 8. \quad & 2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c} = 2(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}) - (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}) + 3(\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}) \\ & = 3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}. \end{aligned}$$

∴ A unit vector parallel to the vector $2\vec{a} - \vec{b} + 3\vec{c}$

$$\begin{aligned} & = \frac{3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}}{|3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}|} = \frac{3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}}{\sqrt{3^2 + (-3)^2 + 2^2}} \\ & = \left(\frac{3}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{i} - \frac{3}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{j} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{22}}\hat{k} \right). \end{aligned}$$

9. Required sum = $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c}$

$$= (\hat{i} - 2\hat{j}) + (2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j}) + (2\hat{i} + 3\hat{k}) = 5\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}.$$

10. Required position vector

$$= \frac{2(2\vec{a} + 3\vec{b}) + 1(3\vec{a} - 2\vec{b})}{2+1} = \frac{7\vec{a} + 4\vec{b}}{3} = \frac{7}{3}\vec{a} + \frac{4}{3}\vec{b}.$$

11. (i) (a) : $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$, $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$
and $\vec{c} = -2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$

$$\therefore \vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$$

(ii) (c) : Using triangle law of addition in ΔABC , we get $\overrightarrow{AB} + \overrightarrow{BC} + \overrightarrow{CA} = \vec{0}$, which can be rewritten as

$$\overrightarrow{AB} + \overrightarrow{BC} - \overrightarrow{AC} = \vec{0} \text{ or } \overrightarrow{AB} - \overrightarrow{CB} + \overrightarrow{CA} = \vec{0}$$

(iii) (c) : We have, $A(1, 4, 2)$, $B(3, -3, -2)$ and $C(-2, 2, 6)$

$$\text{Now, } \overrightarrow{AB} = \vec{b} - \vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - 7\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$$

$$\text{and } \overrightarrow{AC} = \vec{c} - \vec{a} = -3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -7 & -4 \\ -3 & -2 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \hat{i}(-28 - 8) - \hat{j}(8 - 12) + \hat{k}(-4 - 21) = -36\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - 25\hat{k}$$

$$\text{Now, } |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}| = \sqrt{(-36)^2 + 4^2 + (-25)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{1296 + 16 + 625} = \sqrt{1937}$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \Delta ABC = \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}| = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{1937} \text{ sq. units}$$

(iv) (d) : If the given points lie on the straight line, then the points will be collinear and so area of $\Delta ABC = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times \vec{c} + \vec{c} \times \vec{a}| = 0$$

[∴ If $\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c}$ are the position vectors of the three vertices A, B and C of ΔABC , then area of triangle $= \frac{1}{2} |\vec{a} \times \vec{b} + \vec{b} \times \vec{c} + \vec{c} \times \vec{a}|$]

$$(v) (b) : \text{Here, } |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 3^2 + 6^2} = \sqrt{4 + 9 + 36} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

∴ Unit vector in the direction of vector \vec{a} is

$$\hat{a} = \frac{2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}}{7} = \frac{2}{7}\hat{i} + \frac{3}{7}\hat{j} + \frac{6}{7}\hat{k}$$

12. (i) Position vector of \overline{AB}

$$= (2-1)\hat{i} + (1-1)\hat{j} + (3-1)\hat{k} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{k}$$

Position vector of \overline{AC}

$$= (3-1)\hat{i} + (2-1)\hat{j} + (2-1)\hat{k} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

(ii) : Area of $\Delta ABC = \frac{1}{2} |\overline{AB} \times \overline{AC}|$

$$\text{Now, } \overline{AB} \times \overline{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i}(0-2) - \hat{j}(1-4) + \hat{k}(1-0)$$

$$= -2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overline{AB} \times \overline{AC}| = \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 3^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{4 + 9 + 1} = \sqrt{14}$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \Delta ABC = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{14} \text{ sq. units.}$$

13. Let $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$.

The vector in the direction of \vec{a} with magnitude of 21 units $= 21 \times \hat{a}$

$$\therefore \text{Required vector} = 21 \left(\frac{2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}}{\sqrt{2^2 + (-3)^2 + 6^2}} \right)$$

$$= 21 \left(\frac{2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}}{7} \right) = 6\hat{i} - 9\hat{j} + 18\hat{k}.$$

14. Let $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = \hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 5\hat{k}$

$$\text{Now } |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-1)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{6} \neq 0$$

$$\text{and } |\vec{b}| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-3)^2 + (-5)^2} = \sqrt{35} \neq 0$$

$$\text{and } \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 2 \times 1 + (-1)(-3) + 1(-5) = 0$$

Hence given vectors are at right angles.

15. Given, $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$

$$\text{Now, } \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (9+2)\hat{i} - (6+1)\hat{j} + (4-3)\hat{k} = 11\hat{i} - 7\hat{j} + \hat{k}.$$

16. Let $A(2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k})$, $B(3\hat{i} + 7\hat{j} + \hat{k})$ and $C(5\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$

$$\text{Then, } \overline{AB} = (3-2)\hat{i} + (7+1)\hat{j} + (1-1)\hat{k} = \hat{i} + 8\hat{j}$$

$$\overline{AC} = (5-2)\hat{i} + (6+1)\hat{j} + (2-1)\hat{k} = 3\hat{i} + 7\hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

$$\overline{BC} = (5-3)\hat{i} + (6-7)\hat{j} + (2-1)\hat{k} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$$

Now, angle between \overline{AC} and \overline{BC} is given by

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\overline{AC} \cdot \overline{BC}}{|\overline{AC}| |\overline{BC}|} = \frac{6-7+1}{\sqrt{9+49+1} \sqrt{4+1+1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = 0 \Rightarrow AC \perp BC$$

So, A, B, C are the vertices of right angled triangle.

OR

Here, $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$, $\vec{b} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$ and $\vec{c} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{b} + \vec{c} = 3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$$

$$\therefore \text{Projection of } \vec{b} + \vec{c} \text{ on } \vec{a} = \frac{(\vec{b} + \vec{c}) \cdot \vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|}$$

$$= \frac{(3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \cdot (2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})}{|2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}|}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 2 + 1 \times (-2) + 2 \times 1}{\sqrt{2^2 + (-2)^2 + 1^2}} = \frac{6}{3} = 2$$

17. Given that, $|\vec{r}| = 2\sqrt{3}$

Since, \vec{r} is equally inclined to the three axes, so direction cosines of the unit vector \vec{r} will be same i.e., $l = m = n$.

$$\text{We know that, } l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow l^2 + l^2 + l^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow l^2 = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow l = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \hat{r} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{i} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{j} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{k}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \vec{r} = \hat{r} |\vec{r}|$$

$$= \left[\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{i} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{j} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\hat{k} \right] 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$= \pm 2\hat{i} \pm 2\hat{j} \pm 2\hat{k} = \pm 2(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}).$$

$$18. \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 5 & -7 \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 33\hat{i} + 19\hat{j} + 23\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{vmatrix} = -10\hat{i} - 8\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$$

$$\therefore (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (33)(-10) + (19)(-8) + (23)(2) = -330 - 152 + 46 = -436.$$

OR

$$\text{Given, } |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{26}, |\vec{b}| = 7 \text{ and } |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = 35$$

Let θ be the angle between \vec{a} and \vec{b} .

$$\text{Now, } |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = 35 \Rightarrow |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \sin \theta = 35$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{35}{|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|} = \frac{35}{(\sqrt{26}) \times 7} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{26}}$$

$$\therefore \cos \theta = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{25}{26}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{26}}$$

$$\therefore \vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}| |\vec{b}| \cos \theta = \left(\sqrt{26} \times 7 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{26}} \right) = 7.$$

19. Given vectors $\vec{\alpha}$ and $\vec{\beta}$ will be collinear, if

$$\vec{\alpha} = m\vec{\beta} \text{ for some scalar } m.$$

$$\Rightarrow (2x+1)\vec{a} - \vec{b} = m\{(x-2)\vec{a} + \vec{b}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{(2x+1) - m(x-2)\}\vec{a} - (m+1)\vec{b} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow (2x+1) - m(x-2) = 0 \text{ and } -(m+1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m = -1 \text{ and } x = \frac{1}{3}.$$

20. Let $\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = 4\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$

Let \vec{c} be a vector perpendicular to both the vectors \vec{a} and \vec{b} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{c} &= \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \hat{i}(-3+2) - \hat{j}(6-8) + \hat{k}(-2+4) \\ &= -\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, a vector of magnitude 6 in the direction of \vec{c}

$$\begin{aligned} &= 6 \cdot \frac{\vec{c}}{|\vec{c}|} = 6 \cdot \frac{-\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}}{\sqrt{(-1)^2 + 2^2 + 2^2}} \\ &= \frac{-6}{3}\hat{i} + \frac{12}{3}\hat{j} + \frac{12}{3}\hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$= -2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}.$$

21. Given $\vec{a} = 3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 9\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = \hat{i} + \lambda\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$

$$\therefore \vec{a} + \vec{b} = 4\hat{i} + (2+\lambda)\hat{j} + 12\hat{k}$$

$$\text{and } \vec{a} - \vec{b} = 2\hat{i} + (2-\lambda)\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}.$$

As the vector $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ is perpendicular to the vector $\vec{a} - \vec{b}$.

$$\text{We have } (\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 \times 2 + (2+\lambda)(2-\lambda) + 12 \times 6 = 0 \Rightarrow 8 + 4 - \lambda^2 + 72 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 = 84 \Rightarrow \lambda = \pm 2\sqrt{21}.$$

22. Let $\vec{a} = 3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = 2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$

A vector perpendicular to \vec{a} and \vec{b} is $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{a} \times \vec{b} &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (4+4)\hat{i} + (4-12)\hat{j} + (-6-2)\hat{k} = 8(\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| = \sqrt{64+64+64} = 8\sqrt{3}$$

\therefore A unit vector perpendicular to \vec{a} and \vec{b}

$$\hat{n} = \frac{\vec{a} \times \vec{b}}{|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|} = \frac{8(\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k})}{8\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

[Note : There will be two unit vectors perpendicular to both \vec{a} and \vec{b} i.e., $\pm \hat{n}$]

$$\text{Now, } |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{9+1+4} = \sqrt{14}$$

$$|\vec{b}| = \sqrt{4+4+16} = \sqrt{24}$$

Let θ be the angle between the two vectors, then

$$\sin \theta = \frac{|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|}{|\vec{a}| |\vec{b}|} = \frac{8\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{14} \sqrt{24}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{7}}.$$

23. We have, $\vec{a} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b} = -\hat{i} - 2\hat{k}$

$$\therefore \vec{a} + \vec{b} = 2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} \text{ and } \vec{a} - \vec{b} = 4\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$$

If θ is the acute angle between the diagonals $\vec{a} + \vec{b}$ and $\vec{a} - \vec{b}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \theta &= \frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{a} - \vec{b})}{|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| |\vec{a} - \vec{b}|} \\ &= \frac{(2\hat{i} - 2\hat{j}) \cdot (4\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k})}{\sqrt{8} \sqrt{16+4+16}} = \frac{8+4}{2\sqrt{2} \cdot 6} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \cos \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \therefore \theta &= \frac{\pi}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

24. \overrightarrow{PQ} = (Position vector of Q) - (Position vector of P)

$$= (2\hat{i} - \hat{k}) - (\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) = \hat{i} + \hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$$

Similarly, $\overrightarrow{PR} = (2\hat{j} + \hat{k}) - (\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) = -\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}$

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & 1 & -3 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 8\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$$

$$\therefore |\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}| = \sqrt{8^2 + 4^2 + 4^2} = 4\sqrt{6}$$

\therefore Required unit vectors

$$= \pm \frac{1}{4\sqrt{6}} (8\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}) = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} (2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k}).$$

25. Given, $\vec{F}_1 = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j}$, $\vec{F}_2 = 2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$

and $\vec{F}_3 = -\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$

Their resultant $= \vec{R} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_3 = 3\hat{i} + 5\hat{k}$

Also, $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \overrightarrow{OQ} - \overrightarrow{OP}$

$$= (6\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 3\hat{k}) - (4\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}) = 2\hat{i} + 4\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$$

\therefore Vector moment of \vec{R} about the point Q

$$= \vec{R} \times \overrightarrow{PQ}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (0 - 20)\hat{i} - (-6 - 10)\hat{j} + (12 - 0)\hat{k} = -20\hat{i} + 16\hat{j} + 12\hat{k}.$$

26. Given that, $\vec{a} + \vec{b} + \vec{c} = \vec{0}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{b} = -\vec{c} - \vec{a}$$

$$\text{Taking, } \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{a} \times (-\vec{c} - \vec{a})$$

$$= \vec{a} \times (-\vec{c}) + \vec{a} \times (-\vec{a}) = -\vec{a} \times \vec{c}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{c} \times \vec{a} \quad \dots(i)$$

$$\text{Also, } \vec{b} \times \vec{c} = (-\vec{c} - \vec{a}) \times \vec{c}$$

$$= (-\vec{c} \times \vec{c}) - (\vec{a} \times \vec{c}) = -\vec{a} \times \vec{c}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \vec{c} \times \vec{a} \quad \dots(ii)$$

From (i) and (ii), we get

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \vec{b} \times \vec{c} = \vec{c} \times \vec{a}$$

