

Now that we know how the displacement vector  $\vec{x}$  transforms under rotations, we know how any vector transforms

$$\vec{x}' = \lambda \vec{x}$$

$$x'_i = \sum_{j=1}^3 \lambda_{ij} x_j$$

$$\vec{p}' = \lambda \vec{p}$$

$$p'_i = \sum_{k=1}^3 \lambda_{ik} p_k$$

Remember that scalars do not transform at all

$$s' = s$$

and rank- $n$  tensors transform like the exterior product of  $n$  displacement vectors. So how does the exterior product  $v_i v_j$  transform?

$$v'_i v'_j = \left( \sum_{k=1}^3 \lambda_{ik} v_k \right) \left( \sum_{l=1}^3 \lambda_{jl} v_l \right)$$

$$= \sum_k \sum_l \lambda_{ik} \lambda_{jl} (v_k v_l)$$

one factor of  $\lambda$  for each index

$$T'_{ij} = \sum_{k,l} \lambda_{ik} \lambda_{jl} T_{kl}$$

↑  
2 sums!

The generalization is straight forward

$$T'_{ijk} = \sum_a \sum_b \sum_c \lambda_{ia} \lambda_{jb} \lambda_{kc} T_{abc} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} 3 \text{ indices} \\ \Rightarrow 3 \lambda\text{'s} \end{array} \right)$$

the Dot Product (or Scalar Product)  
between two vectors

def  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = \sum_i A_i B_i = A_1 B_1 + A_2 B_2 + A_3 B_3$

The scalar product of two vectors is a scalar. Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A}' \cdot \vec{B}' &= \sum_i A'_i B'_i = \sum_i \left( \sum_j \lambda_{ij} A_j \right) \left( \sum_k \lambda_{ik} B_k \right) \\ &= \sum_j \sum_k \left( \sum_i \lambda_{ij} \lambda_{ik} \right) A_j B_k = \sum_j \sum_k \delta_{jk} A_j B_k \\ &= \sum_j A_j B_j = \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \end{aligned}$$

So the scalar product in the primed system is the same as the scalar product in the unprimed system; there is no  $\lambda$  transformation required.

In case you are wondering about the Kronecker delta:

$$\sum_{n=1}^3 \delta_{kn} X_n = X_k \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Special case - } k=2 \\ \delta_{21} X_1 + \delta_{22} X_2 + \delta_{23} X_3 = X_2 \\ \quad \quad \quad \searrow \quad \quad \quad \searrow \\ \quad \quad \quad 0 \quad \quad \quad 0 \end{array} \right.$$

## The Cross Product (or Vector Product)

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

$$D_i = \sum_{j=1}^3 \sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k$$

where  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  is the Levi-Civita symbol (permutation symbol)

$$\epsilon_{ijk} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if any indices are the same} & \epsilon_{112} = 0 \\ & & \epsilon_{333} = 0 \\ +1, & \text{if } ijk \text{ forms an even permutation of } 123 \\ & & 123, 231, 312 \\ -1, & \text{if } ijk \text{ forms an odd permutation of } 123 \\ & & 321, 213, 132 \end{cases}$$

For example:

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 &= \epsilon_{123} A_2 B_3 + \epsilon_{132} A_3 B_2 \text{ and the other seven terms} = 0 \\ &= A_2 B_3 - A_3 B_2 \end{aligned}$$

## Triple Product

$$(\vec{A} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{C} = \vec{D} \cdot \vec{C} = \sum_i D_i C_i = \sum_i \left( \sum_j \sum_k \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k \right) C_i$$

All the indices are dummies - all are summed over  
so they can be renamed  $i \rightarrow K$

$$\begin{aligned} j &\rightarrow I \\ k &\rightarrow J \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_K \sum_I \sum_J \epsilon_{KIJ} A_I B_J C_K$$

$$= \sum_K \sum_I \sum_J \epsilon_{IJK} B_J C_K A_I$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{RIJ} &= -\epsilon_{IRJ} \\ &= +\epsilon_{IJK} \end{aligned}$$

every time you swap  
two adjacent indices  
you incur a minus  
sign.

This is not obvious!  $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B})$  and  $(\vec{B} \times \vec{C})$  point in completely different directions and have completely different lengths.

The triple product is often written  $(\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C})$  because

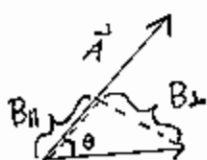
$$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} \cdot \vec{C} = \vec{B} \times \vec{C} \cdot \vec{A} = \vec{C} \times \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}$$
$$= \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C} = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{C} \times \vec{A} = \vec{C} \cdot \vec{A} \times \vec{B}$$

As long as  $\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}$  are in cyclic order, the dot and cross can be anywhere.

## Physical Interpretations:

### Dot Product:

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = (\text{Length of } \vec{A}) (\text{the part of } \vec{B} \text{ that lies along } \vec{A}) = |\vec{A}| B_{\parallel}$$
$$= (\text{Length of } \vec{B}) (\text{the part of } \vec{A} \text{ that lies along } \vec{B}) = |\vec{B}| A_{\parallel}$$



The dot product picks out parallel components of vectors.

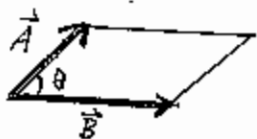
$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = |\vec{A}| |\vec{B}| \cos \theta$$

### Cross Product:

$$|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}| = (\text{Length of } \vec{A}) (\text{the part of } \vec{B} \text{ that lies perpendicular to } \vec{A})$$
$$= |\vec{A}| B_{\perp}$$
$$= (\text{Length of } \vec{B}) (\text{the part of } \vec{A} \text{ that lies perpendicular to } \vec{B})$$
$$= |\vec{B}| A_{\perp}$$

The cross product picks out perpendicular components of vectors.

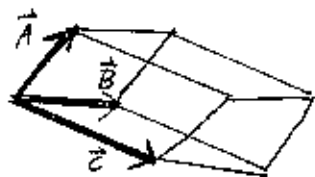
$|\vec{A} \times \vec{B}|$  is the area of the parallelogram with sides along  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{B}$



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

## Triple Product

$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}$  is  $\pm$  Volume of the parallelepiped with edges along  $\vec{A}$ ,  $\vec{B}$ , and  $\vec{C}$ . If  $\{\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}\}$  form a right-handed system, then  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}$  is positive.



## A useful vector identity

$$\vec{A} \times (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = \vec{B} (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{C}) - \vec{C} (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}) \quad [\text{BAC-CAB rule}]$$

for the proof (not given here), you need the Levi-Civita identity:

$$\sum_{k=1}^3 \epsilon_{ijk} \epsilon_{emk} = \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}$$

Suppose that  $\hat{e}$  is a unit vector (length 1 unit) in some direction

$$\hat{e} = \frac{\vec{A}}{|\vec{A}|} \quad \hat{e} \cdot \hat{e} = 1$$

then any vector  $\vec{v}$  can be decomposed as

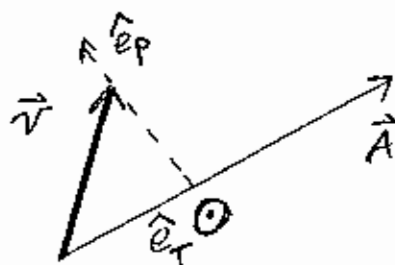
$$\vec{v} = \underbrace{\hat{e} (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{e})}_{\text{component of } \vec{v} \text{ along } \hat{e}} + \underbrace{\hat{e} \times (\vec{v} \times \hat{e})}_{\text{component of } \vec{v} \text{ perpendicular to } \hat{e}}$$

Proof:

$$\hat{e} \times (\vec{v} \times \hat{e}) = \vec{v} \underbrace{(\hat{e} \cdot \hat{e})}_1 - \hat{e} (\hat{e} \cdot \vec{v}) \quad [\text{BAC-CAB rule}]$$

$$\vec{v} = \hat{e} (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{e}) + \hat{e} \times (\vec{v} \times \hat{e}) \quad \blacksquare$$

## 3-dimensional coordinate-free rotation



rotate  $\vec{v}$  by angle  $\varphi$  around axis along  $\hat{A}$  (unit vector)

Choose one axis along  $\hat{A} = \hat{e}_A$

Choose the second axis (P) through the tip of  $\vec{v}$ ,  $\hat{e}_P$

The third axis is  $\hat{e}_T = \hat{e}_A \times \hat{e}_P$

The component of  $\vec{v}$  along  $\hat{A}$  is  $v_A = \vec{v} \cdot \hat{A}$

The component of  $\vec{v}$  in the P direction is

$$v_P = |\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})| = |\hat{A} \times (\vec{v} \times \hat{A})|$$

The component of  $\vec{v}$  in the T direction is  $v_T = 0$ .

Under the rotation by  $\varphi$

$v'_A = v_A$  no change to component along axis

$$v'_P = v_P \cos \varphi$$

$$v'_T = v_P \sin \varphi$$

$$\vec{v}' = v'_A \hat{e}_A + v'_P \hat{e}_P + v'_T \hat{e}_T$$

$$= v_A \hat{e}_A + v_P \cos \varphi \hat{e}_P + v_P \sin \varphi \hat{e}_T$$

$$= (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A}) \hat{A} + |\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})| \cos \varphi \hat{e}_P + |\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})| \sin \varphi \hat{e}_T$$

We are trying to express  $\vec{v}$  in terms of the givens  $\hat{A}$ ,  $\vec{v}$ , and  $\varphi$  only.

$$\vec{v}' = (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A}) \hat{A} + \underbrace{[\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})]}_{\text{already in the } p \text{ direction}} \cos \varphi + |\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})| \hat{e}_T$$

The last change to make is to write  $\hat{e}_T$  as

$$\hat{e}_T = \hat{e}_A \times \hat{e}_p = \hat{A} \times \frac{[\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})]}{|\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})|}$$

and notice that  $\hat{A} \times \hat{A} = 0$  in the numerator

$$\hat{e}_T = \frac{\hat{A} \times \vec{v}}{|\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})|}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}' &= (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A}) \hat{A} + [\vec{v} - \hat{A}(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{A})] \cos \varphi + \hat{A} \times \vec{v} \sin \varphi \\ &= \vec{v} \cos \varphi + (\hat{A} \cdot \vec{v}) \hat{A} (1 - \cos \varphi) + \hat{A} \times \vec{v} \sin \varphi \end{aligned}$$

$$v_1' = v_1 \cos \varphi + (A_1 v_1 + A_2 v_2 + A_3 v_3) A_1 (1 - \cos \varphi) + (A_2 v_3 - A_3 v_2) \sin \varphi$$

$$v_2' = v_2 \cos \varphi + (A_1 v_1 + A_2 v_2 + A_3 v_3) A_2 (1 - \cos \varphi) + (A_3 v_1 - A_1 v_3) \sin \varphi$$

$$v_3' = v_3 \cos \varphi + (A_1 v_1 + A_2 v_2 + A_3 v_3) A_3 (1 - \cos \varphi) + (A_1 v_2 - A_2 v_1) \sin \varphi$$

$\vec{v}' = \underline{\underline{\lambda}} \vec{v}$  to find  $\lambda_{21}$  for example look in the 2' line and write all occurrences of  $v_1$

$$\lambda_{21} = A_1 A_2 (1 - \cos \varphi) + A_3 \sin \varphi$$

To find  $\lambda_{12}$  look in the 1' line and write all occurrences of  $v_2$

$$\lambda_{12} = A_2 A_1 (1 - \cos \varphi) - A_3 \sin \varphi$$

Here is a complete list of the  $\lambda_{ij}$  direction cosines:

$$\lambda_{11} = \cos \varphi + A_1^2 (1 - \cos \varphi)$$

$$\lambda_{22} = \cos \varphi + A_2^2 (1 - \cos \varphi)$$

$$\lambda_{33} = \cos \varphi + A_3^2 (1 - \cos \varphi)$$

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$$\lambda_{12} = A_2 A_1 (1 - \cos \varphi) - A_3 \sin \varphi$$

$$\lambda_{21} = A_1 A_2 (1 - \cos \varphi) + A_3 \sin \varphi$$

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$$\lambda_{23} = A_3 A_2 (1 - \cos \varphi) - A_1 \sin \varphi$$

$$\lambda_{32} = A_2 A_3 (1 - \cos \varphi) + A_1 \sin \varphi$$

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$$\lambda_{31} = A_1 A_3 (1 - \cos \varphi) - A_2 \sin \varphi$$

$$\lambda_{13} = A_3 A_1 (1 - \cos \varphi) + A_2 \sin \varphi$$

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How to use:

① Decompose the axis  $\hat{A}$  into  $x, y, z$  components and make sure  $\hat{A}$  is a unit vector ( $\hat{A} \cdot \hat{A} = 1$ )  
If not, divide  $\vec{A}$  by its length  $|\vec{A}|$ .

② Once you know  $A_1, A_2, A_3$ , and  $\varphi$  you can find the rotation matrix  $\underline{\lambda}$

③  $\underline{\lambda}$  transforms vectors

$$\vec{x}' = \underline{\lambda} \vec{x}$$

$$\vec{v}' = \underline{\lambda} \vec{v}$$