

## *Homogeneous Equations, Triple Products, Linear Independence*

1. Determine which of following pairs of homogeneous equations have a non-trivial solution and, in those cases that do, find the equation of the line that represents the solution
  - (a)  $3x + 5y = 0, \quad 2x + 4y = 0.$
  - (b)  $3x - 5y = 0, \quad 7x + 2y = 0.$
  - (c)  $6x + 3y = 0, \quad 4x + 2y = 0.$
  - (d)  $1.4x - 1.2y = 0, \quad -2.1x + 1.8y = 0.$
  
2. Determine which of following sets of homogeneous equations have a non-trivial solution,
  - (a)  $8x + y + 8z = 0, \quad 6x + 4y + 4z = 0, \quad 5x - y + 6z = 0.$
  - (b)  $5p + 2q + 2r = 0, \quad p - q + 4r = 0, \quad 7p + r = 0.$
  - (c)  $12x_1 - 16x_2 + 2x_3 + 8x_4 = 0, \quad -6x_1 + 6x_2 + 14x_3 - 3x_4 = 0,$   
 $10x_1 + 10x_2 - 7x_3 - 5x_4 = 0, \quad 11x_1 - 18x_2 + 2x_3 + 9x_4 = 0.$
  
3. If  $\mathbf{A} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = 7\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$ , and  $\mathbf{C} = 4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{k}$ , find the following triple vector products:
  - (a)  $(\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{C}$ ,      (b)  $\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C})$ .
  
4. Three vectors  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$ , and  $\mathbf{C}$  are “linearly dependent” if it is possible to write one as a linear combination of the other two, i.e.  $\mathbf{A} = p\mathbf{B} + q\mathbf{C}$ . Three vectors are “linearly independent” if it is not possible to do this.
  - (a) Show that the vectors defined in question 3 are linearly independent.
  - (b) What does linear dependence or independence imply about the determinant formed from the components of the three vectors?
  - (c) The vector  $\alpha\mathbf{i}$  is now added to  $\mathbf{A}$ . What value of  $\alpha$  makes the three vectors linearly dependent?
  
5. Show that for any three vectors  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$ , and  $\mathbf{C}$ 

$$\mathbf{A} \times (\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}) + \mathbf{B} \times (\mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{A}) + \mathbf{C} \times (\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{0}$$