

## § 1.13 Triple Scalar Product

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

Triple Cross Product

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

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

$|\vec{B} \times \vec{C}|$   
 = area of  $\square$

$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C} = |\vec{A}| \underbrace{|\vec{B} \times \vec{C}|}_{\text{area of } \square} \cos \theta$

$(|\vec{A}| \cos \theta = \text{height})$

= area of base  $\times$  height

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

Analytic form for  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ B_1 & B_2 & B_3 \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \end{vmatrix} = (A_1 \vec{i} + A_2 \vec{j} + A_3 \vec{k})$$

$$\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C} = \begin{vmatrix} A_1 & A_2 & A_3 \\ B_1 & B_2 & B_3 \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Consequences

1. A determinant is a volume.
2. Any "identity" becomes a triple scalar product identity.

$$\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = \begin{vmatrix} A_1 & A_2 & A_3 \\ B_1 & B_2 & B_3 \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \end{vmatrix} \quad \vec{A} \cdot (\vec{C} \times \vec{B}) = -\vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C})$$

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

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

Application.

Given 4 vectors:  $\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}, \vec{D}$

Task: write  $\vec{D} = x\vec{A} + y\vec{B} + z\vec{C}$   $x, y, z = ?$

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Case 1.  $\vec{A} = \vec{i}$   $\vec{B} = \vec{j}$   $\vec{C} = \vec{k}$

$$\vec{D} = D_1 \vec{i} + D_2 \vec{j} + D_3 \vec{k} \text{ trivial}$$

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Case 2.  $\vec{A} = 2\vec{i}$   $\vec{B} = 3\vec{j}$   $\vec{C} = 4\vec{k}$

$$\vec{D} = \frac{D_1}{2} \vec{A} + \frac{D_2}{3} \vec{B} + \frac{D_3}{4} \vec{C}$$

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General Case  $\vec{D} = x\vec{A} + y\vec{B} + z\vec{C}$   $\vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}$

not  $\perp$ ,  
not unit.

Suppose you know a vector that  
was  $\perp \vec{B}$  and  $\perp \vec{C}$ : call it  $\vec{P}$

$$\vec{D} \cdot \vec{P} = x \vec{A} \cdot \vec{P} \Rightarrow x = \frac{\vec{D} \cdot \vec{P}}{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{P}}$$

Find Answer: choose  $\vec{P} = \vec{B} \times \vec{C}$

$$\vec{D} = x \vec{A} + y \vec{B} + z \vec{C}$$

$$\vec{D} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) = x \vec{A} \cdot (\vec{B} \times \vec{C}) + y \cdot 0 + z \cdot 0$$

$$x = \frac{\cancel{A \cdot B \times C}}{\cancel{D \cdot B \times C}} \quad \frac{\vec{D} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}}{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}}$$

(Correction added later)

$$\vec{D} = x \vec{A} + y \vec{B} + z \vec{C}$$

$$D_1 \vec{i} + D_2 \vec{j} + D_3 \vec{k} = x A_1 \vec{i} + x A_2 \vec{j} + x A_3 \vec{k} \\ + y B_1 \vec{i} + \dots + z C_3 \vec{k}$$

$$D_1 = x A_1 + y B_1 + z C_1$$

$$D_2 = x A_2 + y B_2 + z C_2$$

$$D_3 = x A_3 + y B_3 + z C_3$$

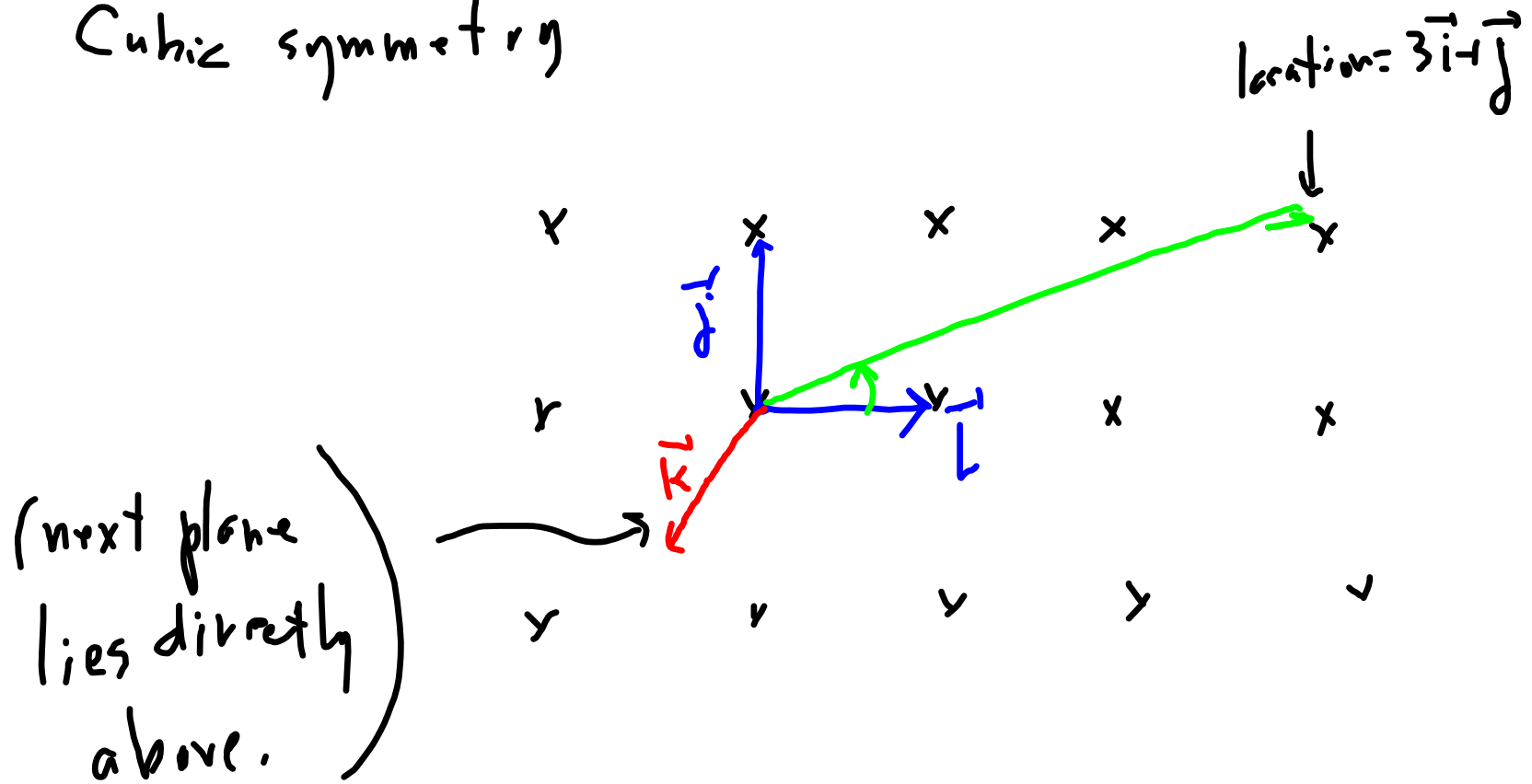
$$\begin{bmatrix} A_1 & B_1 & C_1 \\ A_2 & B_2 & C_2 \\ A_3 & B_3 & C_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

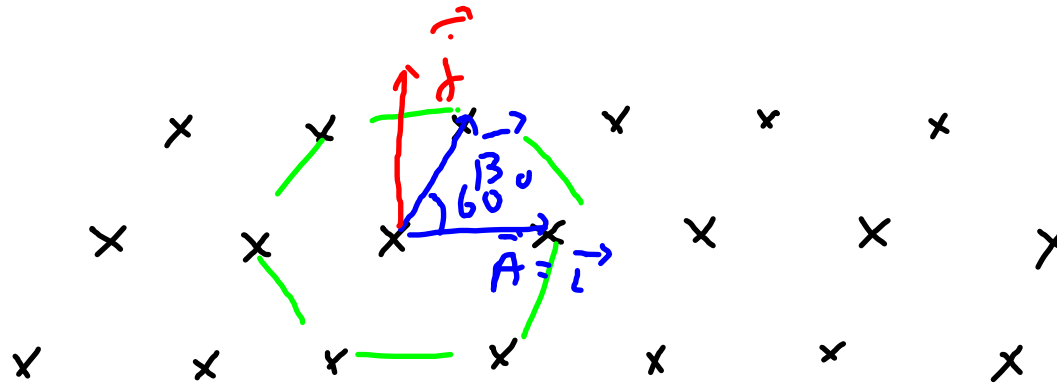
Cramer's Rule

$$x = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} D_1 & B_1 & C_1 \\ D_2 & B_2 & C_2 \\ D_3 & B_3 & C_3 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} A_1 & B_1 & C_1 \\ A_2 & B_2 & C_2 \\ A_3 & B_3 & C_3 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} D_1 & D_2 & D_3 \\ B_1 & B_2 & B_3 \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} A_1 & A_2 & A_3 \\ B_1 & B_2 & B_3 \\ C_1 & C_2 & C_3 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\vec{D} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}}{\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \times \vec{C}}$$

# Application: Chr Xtalography

Cubic symmetry





next plane lies directly above.

Suppose a site is at  $4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} + 0\vec{k}$

How do you ~~get~~ get there moving along  
atoms in the crystal?  
crystal

$$4\vec{i} + 7\vec{j} = \underline{\quad} \vec{A} + \underline{\quad} \vec{B}$$

# Triple Vector Product

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

Visually, (?)

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



$$\vec{F}_{2 \text{ on } 1} = \frac{k q_1 q_2 \vec{v}_1 \times \left[ \vec{v}_2 \times (\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2) \right]}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|^3}$$

