

# Double cross product

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Prove that

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

$$\varepsilon_{ijk} A_j (\varepsilon_{klm} B_l C_m) + \varepsilon_{ijk} B_j (\varepsilon_{klm} C_l A_m) + \varepsilon_{ijk} C_j (\varepsilon_{klm} A_l B_m) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$\varepsilon_{ijk} \varepsilon_{klm} = + \varepsilon_{kij} \varepsilon_{klm} = \delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}$$

$$(\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}) (A_j B_l C_m + B_j C_l A_m + C_j A_l B_m) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \cancel{B_i A_j C_j} - \cancel{C_i A_j B_j} + C_i A_j B_j - \cancel{A_i B_j C_j} \\ & + \cancel{A_i B_j C_j} - \cancel{B_i A_j C_j} = 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Under which condition does

$$\bar{A} \times (\bar{B} \times \bar{C}) = (\bar{A} \times \bar{B}) \times \bar{C} \quad ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{ijk} A_j \varepsilon_{klm} B_l C_m &= \varepsilon_{ijk} (\varepsilon_{jlm} A_l B_m) C_k \\ (\delta_{il} \delta_{jm} - \delta_{im} \delta_{jl}) A_j B_l C_m &= (-\delta_{il} \delta_{km} + \delta_{im} \delta_{kl}) A_l B_m C_k \end{aligned}$$

$$B_i A_j C_j - C_i A_j B_j = B_i A_k C_k - A_i B_k C_k$$

$$\cancel{B_i \bar{A} \cdot \bar{C}} - \cancel{C_i \bar{A} \cdot \bar{B}} = B_i \bar{A} \cdot \bar{C} - A_i \bar{B} \cdot \bar{C}$$

$$\neq C_i \bar{A} \cdot \bar{B} = \neq A_i \bar{B} \cdot \bar{C}$$

The equality above is verified if

$$C_i = \alpha A_i \quad \bar{A} \parallel \bar{C}$$