

## How to use Vectors Calculator

[http://www.la-citadelle.com/mathematics/vectors\\_calculator](http://www.la-citadelle.com/mathematics/vectors_calculator)

Note: Copy and Paste into the Input TextArea what is written after each example in Courier New Font or just click on the **Show Me!** Link.

### Magnitude

Find the magnitude of the vector  $\vec{a} = (1, -2, 3)$  .

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a=(1, -2, 3)  
m=magnitude(a)

### Dot Product

Find the dot product of the vectors  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  and  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
d=a.b

### Cross Product

Find the cross product of the vectors  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  and  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
c=a^b

### Mixed Product

Given  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  ,  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  , and  $\vec{c} = (-2, 1, 3)$  , find  $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
c=(-2, 1, 3)  
d=a.(b^c)

### Double Cross Product

Given  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  ,  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  , and  $\vec{c} = (-2, 1, 3)$  , find  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
c=(-2, 1, 3)  
d=a^(b^c)

### Linear Algebra Expression

Given  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  ,  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  , and  $\vec{c} = (-2, 1, 3)$  , find  $(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) + 2\vec{b} \times \vec{c} - 3(\vec{c} \times \vec{a}) \times \vec{b}$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
c=(-2, 1, 3)  
d=(a.b)\*(a^b)+2\*(b^c)-3\*((c^a)^b)

### Area

(Vector-Vector) Find the area of the parallelogram defined by the vectors  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  and  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  .

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a=(0, -2, 3)  
b=(1, 2, -5)  
c=area(a, b)

## Volume

*(Vector-Vector-Vector) Find the volume of the parallelepiped defined by the vectors  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$ ,  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$  and  $\vec{c} = (-2, 4, 7)$ .*

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$a = (0, -2, 3)$   
 $b = (1, 2, -5)$   
 $c = (-2, 4, 7)$   
 $V = \text{volume}(a, b, c)$

## Angles

*(Vector-Vector) Find the angle between the vectors  $\vec{a} = (0, -2, 3)$  and  $\vec{b} = (1, 2, -5)$ .*

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$a = (0, -2, 3)$   
 $b = (1, 2, -5)$   
 $c = \text{angle}(a, b)$

*(Line-Line) Find the angle between the lines  $L_1 : \vec{r} = (1, 2, 3) + t(2, -1, 4)$  and  $L_2 : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 5) + t(1, 0, 2)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

$L1 = (1, 2, 3, 2, -1, 4)$   
 $L2 = (0, -2, 5, 1, 0, 2)$   
 $a = \text{angle}(L1, L2)$

*(Plane-Plane) Find the angle between the planes  $\pi_1 : -x + y - 2z + 4 = 0$  and  $\pi_2 : 2x + 2y + 4z - 6 = 0$ .*

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$p1 = (-1, 1, -2, 4)$   
 $p2 = (2, 2, 4, -6)$   
 $a = \text{angle}(p1, p2)$

*(Plane-Plane) Find the angle between the planes  $\pi_1 : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 1) + s(0, -2, 3) + t(0, 0, 1)$  and  $\pi_2 : 2x + 2y + 4z - 6 = 0$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

$p1 = [0, -2, 1, 0, -2, 3, 0, 0, 1]$   
 $p2 = (2, 2, 4, -6)$   
 $a = \text{angle}(p1, p2)$

## Distances

*(Point-Point) Find the distance between the point  $A(2, 1, 5)$  and the point  $B(-5, -3, 7)$ .*

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$A = [2, 1, 5]$   
 $B = [-5, -3, 7]$   
 $d = \text{distance}(A, B)$

*(Point-Line) Find the distance from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the line  $L : \vec{r} = (1, 2, 3) + t(2, -1, 4)$ .*

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$A = [2, 0, 5]$   
 $L = (1, 2, 3, 2, -1, 4)$   
 $d = \text{distance}(A, L)$

*(Point-Plane) Find the distance from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the plane  $\pi : x + 2y + 3z - 6 = 0$ .*

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$A = [2, 0, 5]$   
 $p = (1, 2, 3, -6)$   
 $d = \text{distance}(A, p)$

*(Point-Plane) Find the distance from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the plane  $\pi : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 1) + s(0, -2, 3) + t(0, 0, 1)$ .*

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$A = [2, 0, 5]$   
 $p = [0, -2, 1, 0, -2, 3, 0, 0, 1]$   
 $d = \text{distance}(A, p)$

(Line-Line) Find the distance between the line  $L_1: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$  and the line  $L_2: \vec{r} = (0,-2,5) + t(1,0,2)$ .

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L1=(1,2,3,2,-1,4)  
L2=(0,-2,5,1,0,2)  
d=distance(L1,L2)

(Line-Plane) Find the distance from the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$  to the plane  $\pi: x+2y+3z-6=0$ .

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L=(1,2,3,2,-1,0)  
p=(1,2,3,-6)  
d=distance(L,p)

(Line-Plane) Find the distance from the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$  to the plane  $\pi: \vec{r} = (0,-2,1) + s(2,-1,4) + t(0,0,1)$ .

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L=(1,2,3,2,-1,0)  
p=[0,-2,1,2,-1,4,0,0,1]  
d=distance(L,p)

(Plane-Plane) Find the distance between the planes  $\pi_1: -x+y-2z+4=0$  and  $\pi_2: 2x-2y+4z-6=0$ .

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p1=(-1,1,-2,4)  
p2=(2,-2,4,-6)  
d=distance(p1,p2)

## Intersections

(Line-Line) Find the intersection between the lines  $L_1: \vec{r} = (3,4,5) + t(1,1,1)$  and  $L_2: \vec{r} = (2,4,4) + t(1,2,1)$ .

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L1=(3,4,5,1,1,1)  
L2=(2,4,4,1,2,1)  
p=intersection(L1,L2)

(Line-Plane) Find the intersection between the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$  and the plane  $\pi: x+2y+3z-6=0$ .

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L=(1,2,3,2,-1,4)  
p=(1,2,3,-6)  
A=intersection(L,p)

(Line-Plane) Find the intersection between the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,1,4)$  and the plane

$\pi: \vec{r} = (0,-2,1) + s(2,-1,4) + t(0,0,1)$ .

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L=(1,2,3,2,1,4)  
p=[0,-2,1,2,-1,4,0,0,1]  
A=intersection(L,p)

(Plane-Plane) Find the intersection between the planes  $\pi_1: -x+y-2z+4=0$  and  $\pi_2: 2x+2y+4z-6=0$ .

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p1=(-1,1,-2,4)  
p2=(2,2,4,-6)  
c=intersection(p1,p2)

(Plane-Plane) Find the intersection between the planes  $\pi_1: -x+y-2z+4=0$

and  $\pi_2: \vec{r} = (0,-2,1) + s(2,-1,4) + t(0,0,1)$ .

[Show Me!](#)

p1=(-1,1,-2,4)  
p2=[0,-2,1,2,-1,4,0,0,1]  
c=intersection(p1,p2)

(Plane-Plane-Plane) Find the intersection between the planes  $\pi_1 : -x + y - 2z + 4 = 0$ ,  $\pi_2 : 2x + 2y + 4z - 6 = 0$ , and

$$\pi_3 : x - y + z - 3 = 0.$$

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$$p1 = (-1, 1, -2, 4)$$

$$p2 = (2, 2, 4, -6)$$

$$p3 = (1, -1, 1, -3)$$

$$L = \text{intersection}(p1, p2)$$

$$A = \text{intersection}(L, p3)$$

(Line-Coordinate Plane) Find the intersection between the line  $L : \vec{r} = (1, 2, 3) + t(2, -1, 4)$  and the  $xy$ -plane.

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$$L = (1, 2, 3, 2, -1, 4)$$

$$A = \text{intersection}(L, xy)$$

(Plane-Coordinate Axis) Find the intersection between the plane  $\pi : -x + y - 2z + 4 = 0$  and the  $x$ -axis.

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$$p = (-1, 1, -2, 4)$$

$$A = \text{intersection}(p, x)$$

(Plane-Plane-Plane) Find the intersection between the planes  $\pi_1 : \vec{r} = (0, 1, 2) + s(3, 4, 5) + t(6, 7, 8)$ ,

$$\pi_2 : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 1) + s(2, -1, 4) + t(0, 0, 1), \text{ and } \pi_3 : x - y + z - 3 = 0.$$

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$$p1 = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]$$

$$p2 = [0, -2, 1, 2, -1, 4, 0, 0, 1]$$

$$p3 = (1, -1, 1, -3)$$

$$L = \text{intersection}(p1, p2)$$

$$A = \text{intersection}(L, p3)$$

## Perpendicular Lines

(Point-Line) Find the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the line  $L : \vec{r} = (1, 2, 3) + t(2, -1, 4)$ . [Show Me!](#)

$$A = [2, 0, 5]$$

$$L = (1, 2, 3, 2, -1, 4)$$

$$L2 = \text{pline}(A, L)$$

(Point-Plane) Find the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the plane  $\pi : x + 2y + 3z - 6 = 0$ .

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$$A = [2, 0, 5]$$

$$p = (1, 2, 3, -6)$$

$$L = \text{pline}(A, p)$$

(Point-Plane) Find the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2, 0, 5)$  to the plane  $\pi : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 1) + s(2, -1, 4) + t(0, 0, 1)$ .

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$$A = [2, 0, 5]$$

$$p = [0, -2, 1, 2, -1, 4, 0, 0, 1]$$

$$L = \text{pline}(A, p)$$

(Line-Line) Find the perpendicular line to the lines  $L_1 : \vec{r} = (1, 2, 3) + t(2, -1, 4)$  and  $L_2 : \vec{r} = (0, -2, 5) + t(1, 0, 2)$ .

[Show Me!](#)

$$L1 = (1, 2, 3, 2, -1, 4)$$

$$L2 = (0, -2, 5, 1, 0, 2)$$

$$L = \text{pline}(L1, L2)$$

## Perpendicular Foot

*(Point-Line) Find the foot of the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2,0,5)$  to the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
L=(1,2,3,2,-1,4)
P=foot(A,L)
```

*(Point-Plane) Find the foot of the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2,0,5)$  to the plane  $\pi: x+2y+3z-6=0$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
p=(1,2,3,-6)
F=foot(A,p)
```

*(Point-Plane) Find the foot of the perpendicular line from the point  $A(2,0,5)$  to the plane*

*$\pi: \vec{r} = (0,-2,1) + s(2,-1,4) + t(0,0,1)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
p=[0,-2,1,2,-1,4,0,0,1]
F=foot(A,p)
```

*(Line-Line) Find the foots of the perpendicular line to the lines  $L_1: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$  and*

*$L_2: \vec{r} = (0,-2,5) + t(1,0,2)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
L1=(1,2,3,2,-1,4)
L2=(0,-2,5,1,0,2)
A=foot(L1,L2)
B=foot(L2,L1)
```

## Constructors

*(Point-Point->Line) Find the equation of the line that passes through the points  $A(2,0,5)$  and  $B(0,-3,7)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
B=[0,-3,7]
L=line(A,B)
```

*(Point-Direction Vector->Line) Find the equation of the line that passes through the points  $A(2,0,5)$  and has a direction vector  $\vec{u} = (1,2,3)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
u=(1,2,3)
L=line(A,u)
```

*(Point-Point-Point->Plane) Find the equation of the plane that passes through the points  $A(2,0,5)$ ,  $B(0,-3,7)$ , and  $C(7,-5,10)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
B=[0,-3,7]
C=[7,-5,10]
p=plane(A,B,C)
```

*(Point-Point-Point->Triangle) Find the triangle with the vertices  $A(2,0,5)$ ,  $B(0,-3,7)$ , and  $C(7,-5,10)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
B=[0,-3,7]
C=[7,-5,10]
p=triangle(A,B,C)
```

*(Point-Point-Point-Point ->Pyramid) Find the pyramid with the vertices  $A(2,-2,-2)$ ,  $B(3,5,2)$ ,  $C(-5,2,3)$ , and  $D(2,-1,7)$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,-2,-2]
B=[3,5,2]
C=[-5,2,3]
D=[2,-1,7]
p=pyramid(A,B,C,D)
```

## MidPoint and Centroid

*(Midpoint) Find the mid point between the points  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
M=(A+B)/2
```

*(Centroid) Find the centroid of the points  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ ,  $C(-2,2,-2)$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
C=[-2,2,-2]
M=(A+B+C)/3
```

## Triangle

*(Median Line) Consider the triangle with the vertices  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ ,  $C(-2,2,-2)$ . Find the equation of the median line from the vertex  $A$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
C=[-2,2,-2]
M=(B+C)/2
u=M-A
L=line(A,u)
```

*(Bisector Line) Consider the triangle with the vertices  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ ,  $C(-2,2,-2)$ . Find the equation of the bisector line from the vertex  $A$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
C=[-2,2,-2]
AB=B-A
AC=C-A
u=AB/magnitude(AB)+AC/magnitude(AC)
L=line(A,u)
```

*(Altitude Line) Consider the triangle with the vertices  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ ,  $C(-2,2,-2)$ . Find the equation of the altitude line from the vertex  $A$ .* [Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
C=[-2,2,-2]
AB=B-A
AC=C-A
BC=C-B
n=AB^AC
u=n^BC
L=line(A,u)
```

*(Perpendicular Bisector Line) Consider the triangle with the vertices  $A(4,6,5)$ ,  $B(0,-2,7)$ ,  $C(-2,2,-2)$ . Find the equation of the perpendicular bisector to the side  $BC$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[4,6,5]
B=[0,-2,7]
C=[-2,2,-2]
AB=B-A
AC=C-A
BC=C-B
n=AB^AC
u=n^BC
M=(B+C)/2
L=line(M,u)
```

## Descriptors

*(Point or Vector) Describe the vector  $\vec{a} = (0,-2,3)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
a=(0,-2,3)
d=describe(a)
```

*(Line) Describe the line  $L: \vec{r} = (1,2,3) + t(2,-1,4)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
L=(1,2,3,2,-1,4)
d=describe(L)
```

*(Plane) Describe the plane  $\pi: -x + y - 2z + 4 = 0$ .*

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```
p=(-1,1,-2,4)
d=describe(p)
```

*(Plane) Describe the plane  $\pi: \vec{r} = (0,-2,1) + s(2,-1,4) + t(0,0,1)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
p=[0,-2,1,2,-1,4,0,0,1]
d=describe(p)
```

*(Triangle) Describe the triangle with the vertices  $A(2,0,5)$ ,  $B(0,-3,7)$ , and  $C(7,-5,10)$ .*

[Show Me!](#)

```
A=[2,0,5]
B=[0,-3,7]
C=[7,-5,10]
p=triangle(A,B,C)
d=describe(p)
```

## Predefined Elements

These elements are defined internally in the system. Do not redefined them or use with another purpose.

```
x=(0,0,0,1,0,0) //the x-axis
y=(0,0,0,0,1,0) //the y-axis
z=(0,0,0,0,0,1) //the z-axis
yz=(1,0,0,0) //the yz-plane
zy=(1,0,0,0) //the zy-plane
zx=(0,1,0,0) //the zx-plane
xz=(0,1,0,0) //the xz-plane
xy=(0,0,1,0) //the xy-plane
yx=(0,0,1,0) //the yx-plane
```