

Problem 1.1 on Page 47

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1 Identity

On page 47 of NFCM [1], we find the identity to prove

$$[\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}] \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} \cdot [(\mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}) \cdot \mathbf{a}]. \quad (1)$$

2 Proof

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}] \cdot \mathbf{a} &= \mathbf{a} \cdot [\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}] \\ &= (\mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}) \\ &= -(\mathbf{b} \wedge \mathbf{a}) \cdot (\mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}) \\ &= -\mathbf{b} \cdot [\mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d})] \\ &= \mathbf{b} \cdot [(\mathbf{c} \wedge \mathbf{d}) \cdot \mathbf{a}] \end{aligned}$$

References

- [1] D. Hestenes, *New Foundations for Classical Mechanics*, 2nd Ed., Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1999.