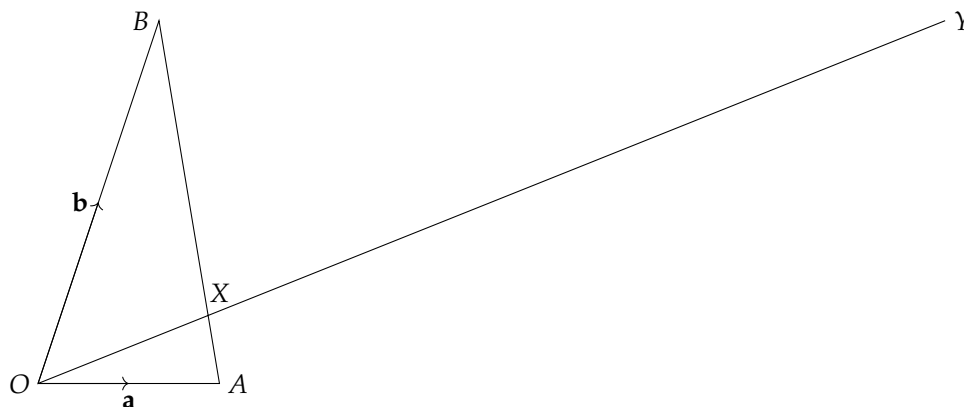


# Vectors

1.

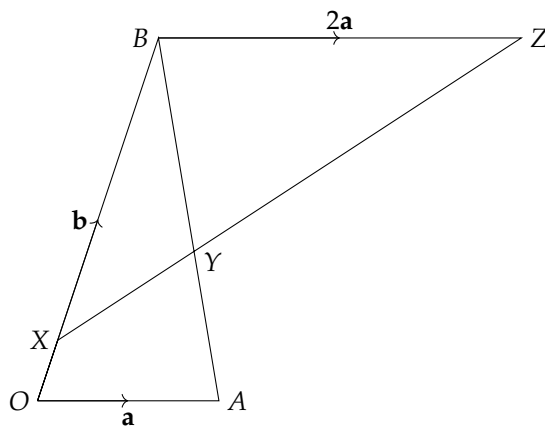


In the diagram,

- $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$
- $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$
- $AX : XB = 1 : 4$
- $\vec{OY} = 5 \times \vec{OX}$

Show that  $\vec{OA}$  and  $\vec{BZ}$  are parallel.

2.

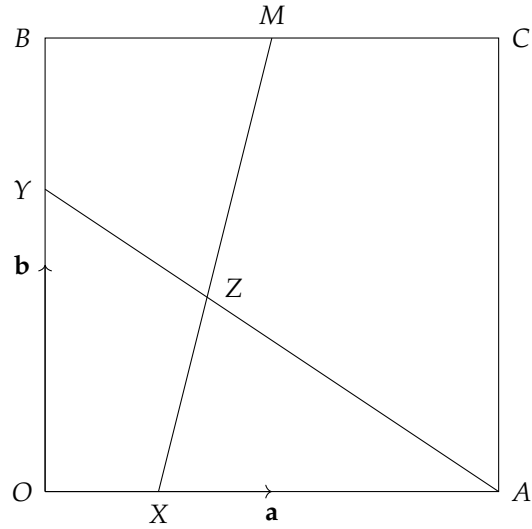


In the diagram,

- $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$
- $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$
- $\vec{BZ} = 2\mathbf{a}$
- $OX : XB = 1 : 5$

Find the ratio  $BY : BA$ .

3.

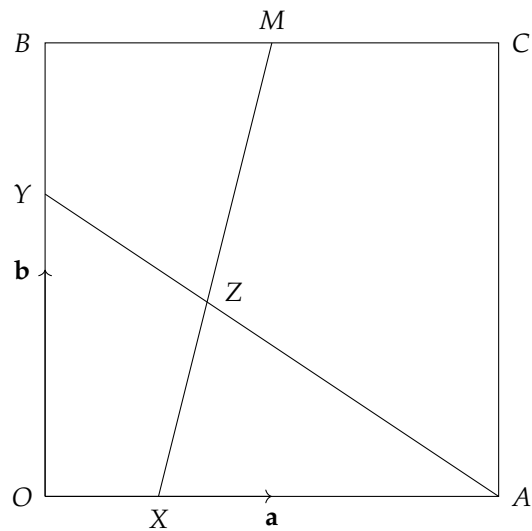


In the diagram,

- $ABCD$  is a square.
- $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$
- $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$
- $M$  is the midpoint of  $BC$
- $OY : YB = 2 : 1$
- $OX : XA = 1 : 3$

Find the vector  $\vec{OZ}$ .

4.



In the diagram,

- $ABCD$  is a square.

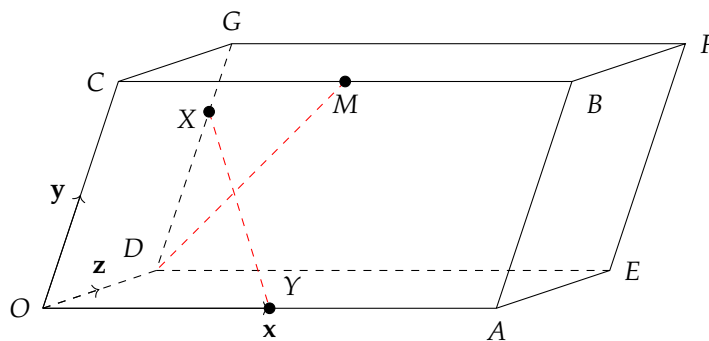
- $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$
- $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$
- $M$  is the midpoint of  $BC$
- $\vec{OX} = m \times \vec{OA}$
- $\vec{OY} = n \times \vec{OB}$

Find the vector  $\vec{OZ}$ , giving your answer in terms of  $m$  and  $n$ .

5. A **median** of a triangle is a line segment passing through a vertex and the midpoint of the opposite side. For example, in triangle  $ABC$  one of the medians is the line segment between  $A$  and the midpoint of  $BC$ .

Using a vector method, show that the three medians of a triangle meet at a single point.

6.



In the diagram,

- $OABCDEFG$  is a parallelepiped.
- $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{x}$
- $\vec{OC} = \mathbf{y}$
- $\vec{OD} = \mathbf{z}$
- $M$  is the midpoint of  $BC$
- $Y$  is the midpoint of  $OA$
- $\vec{DX} = k \times \vec{DG}$

Show that, for every  $0 < k < 1$ , the lines  $XY$  and  $MD$  intersect. If the point of intersection is  $Z$ , find the vector  $\vec{OZ}$ , giving your answer in terms of  $k$ .

1.  $\vec{OX} = \mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{5}(-\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) = \frac{4}{5}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{5}\mathbf{b}$ . So,  $\vec{OY} = 5 \times \vec{OX} = 4\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$ . Then  $\vec{BY} = \vec{BO} + \vec{OY} = -\mathbf{b} + 4\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = 4\mathbf{a} = 4 \times \vec{OA}$ . So  $\vec{OA}$  and  $\vec{BY}$  are parallel.

2.  $\vec{BY} = \lambda \vec{BA} = \lambda(-\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a})$ .

Also,  $\vec{BY} = \vec{BX} + \mu \vec{XZ} = -\frac{5}{6}\mathbf{b} + \mu(\frac{5}{6}\mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{a})$ .

Equating these,  $\lambda = 2\mu$  and  $-\lambda = -\frac{5}{6} + \frac{5}{6}\mu$ , giving us  $\lambda = \frac{10}{17}$ . So  $BY : BA = 10 : 17$ .

3.  $\vec{OZ} = \vec{OX} + \lambda \vec{XZ} = \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \lambda(-\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}) = \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \lambda(\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})$ .

Also,  $\vec{OZ} = \vec{OY} + \mu \vec{YA} = \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{b} + \mu(-\frac{2}{3}\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a})$ .

Equating these,  $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4}\lambda = \mu$  and  $\lambda = \frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3}\mu$ , giving us  $\lambda = \frac{3}{7}$ , and so  $\vec{OZ} = \frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \frac{3}{7}(\frac{1}{4}\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}) = \frac{5}{14}\mathbf{a} + \frac{3}{7}\mathbf{b}$ .

4. Using a similar method to before, we obtain  $\vec{OZ} = \mathbf{a}(m - \lambda m + 0.5\lambda) + \lambda\mathbf{b}$  and also  $\vec{OZ} = \mu\mathbf{a} + (n - \mu n)\mathbf{b}$ . Equating and solving simultaneously, we get

$$\mu = \frac{n - 2mn + 2m}{n - 2nm + 2}$$

and so

$$\vec{OZ} = n\mathbf{b} + \frac{n - 2mn + 2m}{n - 2nm + 2}(-n\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a}) = \frac{n - 2mn + 2m}{n - 2nm + 2}\mathbf{a} + \frac{n(2 - 2m)}{n - 2nm + 2}\mathbf{b}$$

5. Suppose the triangle has vertices  $OAB$  with  $\vec{OA} = \mathbf{a}$  and  $\vec{OB} = \mathbf{b}$ . Define the midpoint of the side opposite angle  $X$  as  $M_X$ . Then  $\vec{OM}_O = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\vec{AM}_A = -\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\vec{BM}_B = -\mathbf{b} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}$ .

Suppose the lines  $AM_A$  and  $BM_B$  meet at the point  $X$ . Then  $\vec{OX} = \vec{OA} + \lambda \vec{AM}_A = \mathbf{a} + \lambda(-\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{b})$ . But also  $\vec{OX} = \vec{OB} + \mu \vec{BM}_B = \mathbf{b} + \mu(-\mathbf{b} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a})$ . Equating these, we obtain  $\lambda = \mu = \frac{2}{3}$ . Then  $\vec{OX} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a} + \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{b} = \frac{2}{3}\vec{OM}_O$ , so  $X$  lies on  $OM_O$ , as required.

6.  $\vec{OZ} = \frac{k}{2(1+k)}\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{1+k}\mathbf{y} + \frac{1}{1+k}\mathbf{z}$ .