

Appendix B

BAC-CAB Formulas

Using the python geometric algebra module GA^1 several formulas containing the dot and wedge products can be reduced. Let a, b, c, d , and e be vectors, then we have

$$a \cdot (bc) = (b \cdot c) a - (a \cdot c) b + (a \cdot b) c \quad (\text{B.1})$$

$$a \cdot (b \wedge c) = (a \cdot b) c - (a \cdot c) b \quad (\text{B.2})$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \cdot (b \wedge c \wedge d) &= (a \cdot d) (b \wedge c) - (a \cdot c) (b \wedge d) \\ &\quad + (a \cdot b) (c \wedge d) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} a \cdot (b \wedge c \wedge d \wedge e) &= - (a \cdot e) (b \wedge c \wedge d) + (a \cdot d) (b \wedge c \wedge e) \\ &\quad - (a \cdot c) (b \wedge d \wedge e) + (a \cdot b) (c \wedge d \wedge e) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a \cdot (b \wedge c)) \cdot (d \wedge e) &= ((a \cdot c) (b \cdot e) - (a \cdot b) (c \cdot e)) d \\ &\quad + ((a \cdot b) (c \cdot d) - (a \cdot c) (b \cdot d)) e. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.5})$$

If in equation B.2 the vector b is replaced by a vector differential operator such as ∇ , ∂ , or D (we will use D as an example) it can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} (a \cdot D) c &= a \cdot (D \wedge c) + (a \cdot \dot{c}) \dot{D} \\ &= a \cdot (D \wedge c) + \dot{D} (a \cdot \dot{c}) \\ &= a \cdot (D \wedge c) + \dot{D} (\dot{c} \cdot a) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.6})$$

Cyclic reduction formulas are

$$a \cdot (b \wedge c) + c \cdot (a \wedge b) + b \cdot (c \wedge a) = 0 \quad (\text{B.7})$$

¹Alan Macdonald website <http://faculty.luther.edu/~macdonal/vagc/index.html>

$$a(b \wedge c) - b(a \wedge c) + c(a \wedge b) = 3a \wedge b \wedge c \quad (\text{B.8})$$

$$\begin{aligned} a(b \wedge c \wedge d) - b(a \wedge c \wedge d) + c(a \wedge b \wedge d) - d(a \wedge b \wedge c) = \\ 4a \wedge b \wedge c \wedge d \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.9})$$

Basis blade reduction formula

$$\begin{aligned} (a \wedge b) \cdot (c \wedge d) &= ((a \wedge b) \cdot c) \cdot d \\ &= (a \cdot d)(b \cdot c) - (a \cdot c)(b \cdot d) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.10})$$

But we also have that

$$((a \wedge b) \cdot c) \cdot d = (a \cdot d)(b \cdot c) - (a \cdot c)(b \cdot d) \quad (\text{B.11})$$

which gives the same results as equation B.10. Since for any bivector blade $B = a \wedge c$ we have

$$(B \cdot c) \cdot d = B \cdot (c \wedge d). \quad (\text{B.12})$$

By linearity equation B.12 is also true for any bivector B since B is a superposition of bivector blades.

Finally one formula for reducing the commutator product of two bivectors

$$\begin{aligned} (a \wedge b) \times (c \wedge d) &= (a \cdot d)b \wedge c - (a \cdot c)b \wedge d \\ &\quad + (b \cdot c)a \wedge d - (b \cdot d)a \wedge c \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.13})$$