

Let \vec{a} , \vec{b} and \vec{c} be three non-zero vectors such that no two of them are collinear and $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = \frac{1}{3} |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \vec{a}$. If θ is the angle between vectors \vec{b} and \vec{c} , then a value of $\sin \theta$ is:

- (1) $\frac{2}{3}$
- (2) $\frac{-2\sqrt{3}}{3}$
- (3) $\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$
- (4) $\frac{7\sqrt{2}}{3}$

← Correct answer

$$(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{a})$$

Given $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \times \vec{c} = \frac{1}{3} |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \vec{a}$ ← Equating

$$(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{b} - (\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{a}) = \frac{1}{3} |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \vec{a}$$

Since \vec{a} & \vec{b} are not collinear, we can write

$$-(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) (\vec{a}) = \frac{1}{3} |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}| \vec{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow -(\vec{c} \cdot \vec{b}) = \frac{1}{3} |\vec{b}| |\vec{c}|$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta = \frac{1}{3} \text{ where } \theta \text{ is the angle between } \vec{b} \text{ \& } \vec{c}$$

$$\therefore \sin \theta = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta} = \pm \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{3}$$

Option (3) is the correct answer.