

### 3-D co-geometry

1. Find the point of intersection of the plane  $3x - y + 7z + 8 = 0$  and the line

$$x = 4 + 5t, y = -2 + t, z = 4 - t.$$

Find also the angle between the line and the plane.

Substitute the line in the plane,

$$3(4 + 5t) - (-2 + t) + 7(4 - t) + 8 = 0$$

$$7t + 50 = 0$$

$$\therefore t = -\frac{50}{7}$$

$$x = 4 + 5\left(-\frac{50}{7}\right) = -\frac{222}{7}, \quad y = -2 + \left(-\frac{50}{7}\right) = -\frac{64}{7}, \quad z = 4 - \left(-\frac{50}{7}\right) = \frac{78}{7}$$

$$\therefore (x, y, z) = \left(-\frac{222}{7}, -\frac{64}{7}, \frac{78}{7}\right)$$

The direction of the given straight line is  $\mathbf{r} = 5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$

The normal of the plane is  $\mathbf{N} = 3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 7\mathbf{k}$

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{N} = |\mathbf{r}||\mathbf{N}|\cos(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N})$$

$$\Rightarrow (5)(3) + (1)(-1) + (-1)(7) = \sqrt{5^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2} \sqrt{3^2 + (-1)^2 + 7^2} \cos(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N})$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}) = \frac{7\sqrt{19}}{171}$$

$$\text{Angle between the line and the plane} = \theta = \frac{\pi}{2} - \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}) \Rightarrow \cos(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}) = \sin \theta$$

$$\therefore \sin \theta = \frac{7\sqrt{19}}{171} \Rightarrow \theta = 10.2785847750013^\circ \text{ (or } 0.1793951467691 \text{ rad.)}$$

2. The position vectors of points P and Q referred to an origin O are given by  $\mathbf{OP} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{OQ} = 5\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  respectively. Show that the cosine of  $\angle POQ$  is equal to  $\frac{4}{\sqrt{38}}$ .

Hence, or otherwise, find the position vector of M on OQ such that PM is perpendicular to OQ.

$$\mathbf{OP} \cdot \mathbf{OQ} = |\mathbf{OP}||\mathbf{OQ}| \cos \angle POQ$$

$$(3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) \cdot (5\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) = |3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}| |5\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}| \cos \angle POQ$$

$$(3)(5) + (1)(-4) + (3)(3) = \sqrt{3^2 + 1^2 + 3^2} \sqrt{5^2 + (-4)^2 + 3^2} \cos \angle POQ$$

$$20 = \sqrt{19}\sqrt{50} \cos \angle POQ$$

$$\therefore \cos \angle POQ = \frac{20}{\sqrt{19}\sqrt{50}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{38}}$$

Since M on  $\mathbf{OQ}$ ,  $\mathbf{OM} = m(5\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) = 5m\mathbf{i} - 4m\mathbf{j} + 3m\mathbf{k}$ , where m is a scalar.

$$\mathbf{PM} = \mathbf{OM} - \mathbf{OP} = (5m - 3)\mathbf{i} + (-4m - 1)\mathbf{j} + (3m - 3)\mathbf{k}$$

Since  $\mathbf{PM} \perp \mathbf{OQ}$ ,  $\mathbf{PM} \cdot \mathbf{OQ} = 0$

$$(5m - 3)(5) + (-4m - 1)(-4) + (3m - 3)(3) = 0$$

$$\therefore m = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{OM} = \frac{2}{5}(5\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) = 2\mathbf{i} - \frac{8}{5}\mathbf{j} + \frac{6}{5}\mathbf{k}$$

3. Given two lines  $l_1: x = 1 + 2t, y = -2 + 3t, z = 2 + 2t$

$$l_2: \frac{1-x}{2} = \frac{y-2}{3} = z - 1$$

Determine whether these lines are parallel, intersect or skewed.

Rewrite  $l_2$  in parametric form,

$$l_2: x = 1 - 2t, y = 2 + 3t, z = 1 + t$$

Direction of  $l_1$ :  $\mathbf{r}_1 = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$

Direction of  $l_2$ :  $\mathbf{r}_2 = -2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$

Since  $\mathbf{r}_1 \neq k\mathbf{r}_2$  for any scalar  $k$ ,  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  are not parallel.

Equate the corresponding  $x, y, z$  values,

$$\begin{cases} 1 + 2t = 1 - 2t \\ -2 + 3t = 2 + 3t \\ 2 + 2t = 1 + t \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} t = \frac{1}{4} \\ \text{no solution for } t \\ t = -1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{no solution for } t$$

There is no intersection point for  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ .

$\therefore l_1$  and  $l_2$  are skewed.

4.  $\pi_1: 2x - y + z + 5 = 0$ ,  $\pi_2: 4x + y + z - 7 = 0$  are two planes.

O is the origin and the point P has coordinates (4,5,2).

(a) Verify that the vector  $\mathbf{r} = -\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  is parallel to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

(b) Find the vector equation of the plane which passes through P and is perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

(c) Find the coordinates of one point common to  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  and hence, find the Cartesian equation of the line of intersection of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

(a) The normal to the plane  $\pi_1: 2x - y + z + 5 = 0$  is  $\mathbf{N}_1 = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ .

The normal to the plane  $\pi_2: 4x + y + z - 7 = 0$  is  $\mathbf{N}_2 = 4\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{r} = -\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$$

$$\text{Since } \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{N}_1 = (-1)(2) + (1)(-1) + (3)(1) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{N}_2 = (-1)(4) + (1)(1) + (3)(1) = 0$$

∴ The vector  $-\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  is parallel to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

$$(b) \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{N}_1 \times \mathbf{N}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}$$

Since  $\mathbf{N}_1 \times \mathbf{N}_2$  is a vector perpendicular to the plane made by the normals of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ ,  $\mathbf{n}$  is the normal of the plane perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

Let  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$

Let the vector equation of the plane which passes through P and is perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  is  $\pi$  and  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$  be a variable point on  $\pi$ .

The required vector equation is

$$\pi: (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{OP}) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$$

$$[(x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}) - (4\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k})] \cdot (-2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}) = 0$$

(c) We can find a common point by putting  $x = 0$  in  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

$$\text{We get } \begin{cases} -y + z + 5 = 0 \\ y + z - 7 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Solve we get  $y = 6, z = 1$

Then  $P = (0, 6, 1)$  is a point common to  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{N}_1 \times \mathbf{N}_2 = -2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}$  in (b) is a vector parallel to the line of intersection of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

The required equation is  $\frac{x-0}{-2} = \frac{y-6}{2} = \frac{z-1}{6}$ .

5. The points A, B, C and D have position vectors, relative to the origin O, given by

$\mathbf{OA} = \mathbf{i} + a\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{OB} = -\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{OC} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{OD} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ , where a is a constant.

Given OA is perpendicular to OB,

(a) find the value of a and  $\mathbf{OA}$ ,

(b) show that  $\mathbf{OA}$  is normal to the plane OBC,

(c) find an equation of the plane through D parallel to the plane OBC and, hence, find the position vector of the point of intersection of this plane and the line AC.

$$(a) \mathbf{OA} \cdot \mathbf{OB} = 0, (1)(-1) + (a)(2) + (-1)(3) = 0, a = 2$$

$$\mathbf{OA} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$$

$$(b) \mathbf{N} = \mathbf{OB} \times \mathbf{OC} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 5\mathbf{i} + 10\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k} \text{ which is the normal of the plane OBC.}$$

$$\text{Since } \mathbf{N} = 5\mathbf{i} + 10\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k} = 5(\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = 5\mathbf{OA}$$

Therefore OA is normal to the plane OBC.

(c) Since O is on the plane, OBC:  $5x + 10y - 5z = 0$ .

Let the required plane be  $\pi: 5x + 10y - 5z = k$

D is on  $\pi$ , therefore  $5(1) + 10(1) - 5(1) = k$ .

Solve we get  $k = 10$ .

$$\pi: 5x + 10y - 5z = 10 \quad \text{or} \quad \pi: x + 2y - z = 2$$

$$\mathbf{AC} = \mathbf{OC} - \mathbf{OA} = (2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}) - (\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$$

The line AC must pass through  $A(1, 2, -1)$ .

$$\text{AC: } x = 1 + t, y = 2 - t, z = -1 - 5t$$

$$\text{It cuts the plane } \pi: x + 2y - z = 2, \text{ therefore } (1 + t) + 2(2 - t) - (-1 - 5t) = 2$$

$$t = -1$$

$\therefore$  Intersection point  $(x, y, z) = (0, 3, 4)$

6. Let the equations of two planes be  $\pi_1: \mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 2$  and  $\pi_2: \mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 3$ .

- (a) Find the acute angle between  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ , giving your answer to the nearest  $0.1^\circ$ .
- (b) Determine the length of the projection of the vector  $\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}$  to  $\pi_1$ .
- (c) Find the equation of the plane  $\pi_3$  which is perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  and passes through the point  $P(1, 3, -2)$ .

(a) The angle between two intersecting planes is the angle between their normal vectors.

$$\mathbf{N}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{N}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ are the normals of } \pi_1 \text{ and } \pi_2 \text{ respectively.}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_1 \cdot \mathbf{N}_2 = |\mathbf{N}_1| |\mathbf{N}_2| \cos \theta$$

$$(1)(1) + (1)(-3) + (2)(4) = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + 2^2} \sqrt{1^2 + (-3)^2 + 4^2} \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{(1)(1) + (1)(-3) + (2)(4)}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + 2^2} \sqrt{1^2 + (-3)^2 + 4^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{39}}{13}$$

$$\theta = 61.3^\circ, \text{ to the nearest } 0.1^\circ.$$

(b) Let  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j}$ ,  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{N}_1 = |\mathbf{r}| |\mathbf{N}_1| \cos \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1)$

$$(1)(1) + (3)(1) + (0)(2) = \sqrt{1^2 + 3^2 + 0^2} \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 2^2} \cos \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1)$$

$$4 = 3\sqrt{10} \cos \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1)$$

$$\cos \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1) = \frac{4}{3\sqrt{10}} = \frac{2\sqrt{10}}{15}$$

$$\sin \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1) = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{2\sqrt{10}}{15}\right)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{185}}{15}$$

$$\therefore \text{Length of the projection of the vector } \mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} \text{ to } \pi_1 = |\mathbf{r}| \sin \angle(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{N}_1) = \sqrt{10} \times \frac{\sqrt{185}}{15} = \frac{\sqrt{74}}{3}$$

$$(c) \quad \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{N}_1 \times \mathbf{N}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 10\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$$

Since  $\mathbf{N}_1 \times \mathbf{N}_2$  is a vector perpendicular to the plane made by the normals of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ ,  $\mathbf{n}$  is the normal of the plane perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ .

Let  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$

Let the vector equation of the plane which passes through P and is perpendicular to both  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  is  $\pi$  and  $\mathbf{r} = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$  be a variable point on  $\pi$ .

The required vector equation is

$$\pi: (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{OP}) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$$

$$[(x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}) - (\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k})] \cdot (10\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}) = 0$$

$$(x - 1)(10) + (y - 3)(-4) + (z + 2)(-2) = 0$$

$$5x - 2y - z - 1 = 0$$

7. A(1,4,2), B(3, -1,5), C(2,6,0), D(4,3, -1), E(3,7,3) and F(4,5,2) are six points in three dimensional space. The points A, B and C lie on the plane  $\pi_1$ , whereas the points D, E and F lie on the plane  $\pi_2$ .

A straight line  $L_1$  passes through the points E and F.

- (a) Determine whether  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC}$  are perpendicular vectors.
- (b) Find the Cartesian equation of the plane  $\pi_1$ .
- (c) Find the equation of line  $L_1$  in vector form and in parametric form.
- (d) Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of the line  $L_1$  and the plane  $\pi_1$ .
- (e) Find the Cartesian equation of the straight line  $L_2$  passes through the point (10,8,9) and perpendicular to the plane  $\pi_1$ .
- (f) Find the position vector of the point of intersection between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .
- (g) Find the acute angle between the plane  $\pi_1$  and the plane  $\pi_2$ .

$$(a) \quad \overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{OB} - \overrightarrow{OA} = 2\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}, \overrightarrow{AC} = \overrightarrow{OC} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}.$$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = (2)(1) + (-5)(2) + (3)(-2) = -14 \neq 0$$

$\overrightarrow{AB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC}$  are not perpendicular vectors.

$$(b) \quad \overrightarrow{AC} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \mathbf{N}_1 = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 4\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k}. \text{ which is the normal of the plane } \pi_1.$$

Since A(1,4,2) is on the plane, the Cartesian equation of the plane  $\pi_1$  is

$$4(x - 1) + 7(y - 4) + 9(z - 2) = 0$$

$$\pi_1: 4x + 7y + 9z = 50$$

(c)  $\vec{EF} = \vec{OF} - \vec{OE} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$

Since  $E(3,7,3)$  is on  $L_1$ , equation of the line  $L_1$  is

$$\vec{r} = 3\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} + \lambda(\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$$

In parametric form,  $L_1: \begin{cases} x = 3 + \lambda \\ y = 7 - 2\lambda \\ z = 3 - \lambda \end{cases}$

(d) Put  $L_1$  in  $\pi_1$ ,

$$4(3 + \lambda) + 7(7 - 2\lambda) + 9(3 - \lambda) = 50$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

The point of intersection of the line  $L_1$  and the plane  $\pi_1$  is

$$x = 3 + \lambda = 5, y = 7 - 2\lambda = 3, z = 3 - \lambda = 1$$

$$\text{or } (5, 3, 1)$$

(e) The normal of the plane  $\pi_1$  is  $\mathbf{N} = 4\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k}$  which is the direction of  $L_2$ .

The Cartesian equation of the straight line  $L_2$  passes through the point  $(10, 8, 9)$

and perpendicular to the plane  $\pi_1$  is

$$L_2: \frac{x-10}{4} = \frac{y-8}{7} = \frac{z-9}{9}$$

(f) Substitute  $L_1$  in  $L_2$ , we get  $\frac{(3+\lambda)-10}{4} = \frac{(7-2\lambda)-8}{7} = \frac{(3-\lambda)-9}{9}$

$$\therefore \lambda = 3$$

The required point is  $x = 3 + \lambda = 6, y = 7 - 2\lambda = 1, z = 3 - \lambda = 0$ .

The position vector of the point of intersection between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is

$$6\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$$

(g)  $D(4, 3, -1), E(3, 7, 3)$  and  $F(4, 5, 2)$

$$\vec{DE} \times \vec{DF} = \mathbf{N}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & -3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = -8\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_1 \cdot \mathbf{N}_2 = (4\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j} + 9\mathbf{k}) \cdot (-8\mathbf{i} - 7\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}) = (4)(-8) + (7)(-7) + (9)(5) = -36$$

$$\mathbf{N}_1 \cdot \mathbf{N}_2 = |\mathbf{N}_1||\mathbf{N}_2|\cos(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2) = \sqrt{4^2 + 7^2 + 9^2}\sqrt{(-8)^2 + (-7)^2 + 5^2}\cos(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2)$$

$$= 2\sqrt{5037}\cos(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2)$$

$$2\sqrt{5037}\cos(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2) = -36$$

$$\cos(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2) = \frac{-36}{2\sqrt{5037}}$$

$$\angle(\mathbf{N}_1, \mathbf{N}_2) = 104.7^\circ$$

$\therefore$  The acute angle between the plane  $\pi_1$  and the plane  $\pi_2$  is  $180^\circ - 104.7^\circ = 75.3^\circ$

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