



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Chapter 12 Vectors and Geometry of Space

Section 12.1 Three-Dimensional Coordinate System

Suppose $P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ and $P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ are the given points. Find the distance D . The

$$\text{distance } D = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2 + (z_1 - z_2)^2}$$

Important equations in 3-D to remember:

1. $ax + by + cz = d$ represents a plane
2. $x = a$ is a surface parallel to yz -plane
3. $y = b$ is a surface parallel to zx -plane
4. $z = c$ is a surface parallel to xy -plane
5. $y = x$ is a vertical plane that intersects xy -plane in the line $y = x$
6. $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + (z - c)^2 = d^2$ is a sphere center at (a, b, c) and radius d
7. $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 + (z - c)^2 = d^2, z \geq c$ is a hemisphere center at (a, b, c)

Examples:

1. Find the equation of a sphere center at $(1, 2, -1)$ and radius 1.

Solution: $(x - 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 + (z + 1)^2 = 1$

2. Determine whether the points lie on the straight line

a) $A(5, 1, 3), B(7, 9, -1), C(1, -15, 11)$

Solution: Check that $AB = 2\sqrt{21}, BC = 6\sqrt{21}, AC = 4\sqrt{21}$ and $AB + AC = BC$, The points are on a line.

- b) $K(0, 3, -4), L(1, 2, -2), C(3, 0, 1)$. Like in a) you can show the points are not on the same line.

3. Find the center and radius of the sphere given by $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 6x + 4y - 2z = 11$

Solution: Complete the square as $(x - 3)^2 + (y + 2)^2 + (z - 1)^2 = 5^2$ and then center is at $(3, -2, 1)$ and radius 5.

4. Describe in words the region of \mathcal{R}^3 represented by the equations or inequalities

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| a) $y = -5$ | b) $x = 5$ | c) $x > 4$ | d) $y \geq 0$ |
| e) $0 \leq z \leq 6$ | f) $y = z$ | g) $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 > 1$ | h) $xyz = 0$ |
| i) $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2z < 3$ | j) $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ | k) $x^2 + z^2 \leq 9$ | |

Section 12.2 Vectors

Parallelogram law: If we place two vectors \vec{u}, \vec{v} so that they start at a same point, then $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$ lies along the diagonal of the parallelogram with \vec{u}, \vec{v} vectors as sides.

For two vectors $\vec{u} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$ the vector represented and defined by $\vec{a} = \overrightarrow{AB} = \langle x - a, y - b, z - c \rangle$ and $-\vec{a} = \overrightarrow{BA} = \langle a - x, b - y, c - z \rangle$

The length or magnitude of a vector: $|\vec{a}| = \sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 + (z-c)^2}$

Examples:

1. Given $\vec{a} = \langle 3, -1 \rangle, \vec{b} = \langle 5, 3 \rangle$. Find $\vec{a} + \vec{b}, \vec{a} - 2\vec{b}, 3\vec{a} - \vec{b}$ and $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}|, |\vec{a} - 2\vec{b}|, |3\vec{a} - \vec{b}|$
2. Find a vector that has same direction as the vector $\langle -2, 4, 5 \rangle$ and magnitude 6.

Solution: find unit vector $\vec{u} = \frac{1}{3\sqrt{5}} \langle -2, 4, 5 \rangle$, the vector we are looking for is

$$\vec{w} = 6\vec{u} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \langle -2, 4, 5 \rangle$$

Section 12.3 The Dot Product of Vectors

For two vectors $\vec{u} = \langle a, b, c \rangle, \vec{v} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$ the dot product is defined as $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = ax + by + cz$

If θ is the angle between the vectors \vec{u}, \vec{v} , then $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}||\vec{v}|\cos\theta$

Case 1. $\theta = 0$ vectors are parallel in the same direction and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = |\vec{u}||\vec{v}|$

Case 2. $\theta = -\pi$ vectors are parallel in the opposite direction and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = -|\vec{u}||\vec{v}|$

Case 3. $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ vectors are perpendicular (Orthogonal) and $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

Direction angles and direction cosine: If α, β, γ are the angles of a vector with the coordinate axes x, y and z respectively then those are called the direction angles. And $\cos\alpha, \cos\beta, \cos\gamma$ are direction cosines and $\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma = 1$

Question: Show that $\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma = 1$

Projections: Prove that scalar projection of \vec{b} onto \vec{a} is $comp_a \vec{b} = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}|}$ and

Vector projection of \vec{b} onto \vec{a} is $proj_a b = \left(\frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}|} \right) \frac{\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|}$ (See your text book page # 811)

Examples:

1. Find the dot product between two given vectors.

a) $\vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, 4 \right\rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle -8, -3 \rangle$ b) $\vec{u} = 4i - 3k$ and $\vec{v} = 2i + 3j - 4k$

2. Given that $|\vec{u}| = 4$, and $|\vec{v}| = 10$, $\theta = 120^\circ$ find $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}$

3. Find the angle between the vectors $\vec{u} = \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, 4 \right\rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle -8, -3 \rangle$

4. Show that $\vec{u} = \langle 2, 6, -4 \rangle$ and $\vec{v} = \langle -3, -9, 6 \rangle$ are parallel

5. Find a unit vector that is orthogonal to both $i + j$ and $i + k$

Solution: Suppose $\vec{a} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$ is the unit vector. Now $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$ and $\langle a, b, c \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle = 0$ and $\langle a, b, c \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle = 0$. Solve for a , b , and c for the unit vector $\vec{a} = \langle a, b, c \rangle = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \langle 1, -1, -1 \rangle$.

6. Find direction cosines and direction angles of the vector $\vec{a} = \langle 2, 3, -6 \rangle$

Solution: $\cos \alpha = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4+9+36}} = \frac{2}{7} \Rightarrow \alpha = \arccos(2/7)$,

$\cos \beta = \frac{3}{\sqrt{4+9+36}} = \frac{3}{7} \Rightarrow \beta = \arccos(3/7)$ and

$\cos \gamma = \frac{-6}{\sqrt{4+9+36}} = \frac{-6}{7} \Rightarrow \gamma = \arccos(-6/7)$

7. If two direction angles are given $\alpha = \pi/4$, $\beta = \pi/3$, find γ .

8. Determine the scalar and vector projection of $\vec{b} = \langle -4, 1 \rangle$ onto $\vec{a} = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$

9. A crate is hauled 8 cm up a ramp under a constant force of 300 N applied at an angle of 30 degrees to the ramp. Find the work done.

Solution: Work done $W = F \cdot D = |F||D| \cos \theta = 300(8) \cos 30^\circ \text{ Nm} = 2078.46J$
Nm stands for Newton-meter and 1 Nm = 1 Joules, which is the unit of work.

10. A force is given by a vector $F = \langle 3, 4, 5 \rangle$ and moves a particle from the point $P(2, 1, 0)$ to the point $Q(3, 2, 1)$. Find the work done.

Solution: $F \cdot D = \langle 3, 4, 5 \rangle \cdot \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$ units = 12 units of work, where D is the distance vector from P to Q.

11. A woman exerts a horizontal force of 25 lb on a crate as she pushes it up a ramp that is 20 ft long and inclined at an angle of 15 degrees above the horizontal. Find the work done on the box. Answer: About 483 ft-lb

Section 12.4 The Cross Product of Vectors

For two vectors $\vec{u} = \langle a, b, c \rangle, \vec{v} = \langle d, e, f \rangle$ the cross product is defined as

$$\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{vmatrix} = i(bf - ec) - j(af - dc) + k(ae - bd)$$

You need to review determinants from any algebra book.

Theorem: The vector $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ is orthogonal to both \vec{u} and \vec{v}

Theorem: If θ is the angle between two vectors then $|\vec{u} \times \vec{v}| = |\vec{u}||\vec{v}|\sin \theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$

Corollary: Two nonzero vectors \vec{u} and \vec{v} are parallel if $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = \vec{0}$

Note: The length of the cross product $\vec{u} \times \vec{v}$ is equal to the area of the parallelogram determined by the vectors.

Scalar Triple Product (STP): For three vectors \vec{u}, \vec{v} and \vec{w} the scalar triple product is defined as $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})$

Volume of a parallelepiped is given by $V = |\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})|$, which is the magnitude of a scalar triple product.

Note: If $\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = 0$ the vectors are coplanar

Properties:

1. $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = c \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) = \vec{b} \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{a})$
2. $\vec{u} \times \vec{v} = -\vec{v} \times \vec{u}$
3. $i \times i = 0, i \times j = k, k \times i = j$ and so on
4. $\vec{a} \times (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{b} - (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b})\vec{c}$

Examples:

1. Show that $\vec{a} = \langle 1, 4, -7 \rangle, \vec{b} = \langle 2, -1, 4 \rangle$ and $\vec{c} = \langle 0, -9, 18 \rangle$ are coplanar

Solution: One needs to verify that $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c}) = 0$

2. Find a vector perpendicular to the plane that passes through $P(1,4,6)$, $Q(-2,5,-1)$ and $R(1,-1,1)$

Solution: Find $\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \langle -40, -15, 15 \rangle$

3. Find the area of a triangle with vertices $P(1,4,6)$, $Q(-2,5,-1)$ and $R(1,-1,1)$

Solution: Area $A = 1/2 |\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}| = \frac{5\sqrt{82}}{2}$

4. Find $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$ for $\vec{a} = \langle 1, 4, -7 \rangle$, $\vec{b} = \langle 2, -1, 4 \rangle$ and show that the cross product is orthogonal to both \vec{a} and \vec{b}
5. Find two unit vectors orthogonal to both $\langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$ and $\langle 2, 0, 1 \rangle$
6. Show that $\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{a}) = 0$

7. Show that $(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{a} \cdot \vec{c} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{c} \\ \vec{a} \cdot \vec{d} & \vec{b} \cdot \vec{d} \end{vmatrix}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) &= (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{v}) \\ &= \vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c} \times \vec{d}) = \vec{a} \cdot [(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d})\vec{c} - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})\vec{d}] \\ &= (\vec{a} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{b} \cdot \vec{d}) - (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{c})(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{d}) \end{aligned}$$

Section 12.5 Equations of lines and planes

Lines: For a given direction vectors $\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$, the vectors $\vec{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$, and $\vec{r}_0 = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle$ lies on the line L

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r} &= \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v} \\ \langle x, y, z \rangle &= \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle + t\langle a, b, c \rangle \\ &= \langle x_0 + at, y_0 + bt, z_0 + ct \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The parametric equation of the line L is $x = x_0 + at$, $y = y_0 + bt$, $z = z_0 + ct$

Also we can write the symmetric form (eliminating t)

$$\frac{x - x_0}{a} = \frac{y - y_0}{b} = \frac{z - z_0}{c}$$

where a , b , and c are called direction numbers or direction ratios.

The line segment from $\vec{r}_0 = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle$ to $\vec{r}_1 = \langle x_1, y_1, z_1 \rangle$ is the vector given by

$$\vec{r}(t) = (1-t)\vec{r}_0 + t\vec{r}_1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

For two points $p_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ and $p_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ on L has the symmetric equation

$$\frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{y - y_0}{y_1 - y_0} = \frac{z - z_0}{z_1 - z_0}$$

Planes: Vector equation of a plane is defined as $\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$, where \vec{n} is the unit normal vector to the plane, containing \vec{r} , and \vec{r}_0 .

A plane passing thru a point $p_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$ with normal vector $\vec{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$ has scalar equation $a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$ which also can be written as $ax + by + cz + d = 0$. The distance of a point $p_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$ from the plane

$ax + by + cz + d = 0$ is defined as $D = \frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

Angle between two planes $ax + by + cz + d = 0$ and $a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0$ is given by

$\cos \theta = \frac{n_1 \cdot n_2}{|n_1||n_2|}$, where $n_1 = \langle a, b, c \rangle$ and $n_2 = \langle a_1, b_1, c_1 \rangle$

Examples:

A. Lines

1. Find a vector equation and parametric equations for the line that passes thru $(5, 1, 3)$ and is parallel to $\vec{v} = \langle 1, 4, -2 \rangle$

Vector equation

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, y, z \rangle &= \langle 5, 1, 3 \rangle + t \langle 1, 4, -2 \rangle \\ &= \langle 5 + t, 1 + 4t, 3 - 2t \rangle = (5 + t)i + (1 + 4t)j + (3 - 2t)k \end{aligned}$$

Parametric equation $x = 5 + t, y = 1 + 4t, z = 3 - 2t$

2. Find a symmetric equation and parametric equations for the line that passes thru $(2, 4, 3)$ and $(3, 1, 1)$

The symmetric equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} &= \frac{y - y_0}{y_1 - y_0} = \frac{z - z_0}{z_1 - z_0} \\ \frac{x - 2}{1} &= \frac{y - 4}{-3} = \frac{z - 3}{-2} \end{aligned}$$

The parametric form is $x = 2 + t, y = 4 - 3t, z = 3 - 2t$

3. In example 2, find intersection of the line with xy-plane.

On the xy-plane $z = 0$. Then $x = 2 + t, y = 4 - 3t, z = 0 = 3 - 2t \Rightarrow t = 3/2$

We have the point $(7/2, -1/2, 0)$

B. Planes

4. Find an equation of a plane through $(2, 4, -1)$ with a normal vector $\vec{n} = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$

The plane has equation

$$\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0 \Rightarrow \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle \cdot \langle x-2, y-4, z+1 \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow 2(x-2) + 3(y-4) + 4(z+1) = 0$$

5. Find the equation of a plane thru $P(1, 3, 2)$, $Q(3, -1, 6)$ and $R(5, 2, 0)$

Derive vectors $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \langle 2, -4, 4 \rangle$, $\overrightarrow{PR} = \langle 4, -1, -2 \rangle$, and $\vec{n} = \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}$. Now you can consider the point $P(1, 3, 2)$ and the normal vector to find your plane

$$12(x-1) + 20(y-3) + 14(z-2) = 0$$

6. Find the angle between two given planes $x + y + z = 1$ and $x - 2y + 3z = 1$.

Notice that we have $\vec{n}_1 = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$ and $\vec{n}_2 = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$. Now find $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2}{|\vec{n}_1| |\vec{n}_2|}$

7. Find the symmetric equations of the line of intersection L of two planes $x + y + z = 1$ and $x - 2y + 3z = 1$.

Suppose \vec{n}_1 and \vec{n}_2 are the normal vectors to the given planes. Then $\vec{n}_1 = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$ and $\vec{n}_2 = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$. The line L has direction vector $\vec{v} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2 = \langle 5, -2, -3 \rangle$. Let us find a point common to both the planes letting $z = 0$, which could be $(1, 0, 0)$. Thus we have the

equation of L in symmetric form, $\frac{x-1}{5} = \frac{y}{-2} = \frac{z}{-3}$

Section 12.6 Cylinder and quadric surfaces

A cylinder is a surface that consists of all lines (called rulings) that are parallel to a given line and passes thru a given plane curve.

A quadric surface is the graph of a second-degree equation in three variables x , y and z . The most general equation of a quadric surface is

$$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + Dxy + Eyz + Fzx + Gx + Hy + Iz + J = 0$$

General forms:

Look at page number 386 on your text for the diagrams

1. $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$ is an ellipsoid. For $a = b = c$, the ellipsoid is a sphere

2. $\frac{z}{c} = \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2}$ is an elliptic paraboloid. For $a = b$ it is circular paraboloid.

3. $\frac{z}{c} = \frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2}$ is a hyperbolic paraboloid.
4. $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1$ is a hyperboloid of one sheet
5. $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = -1$ is a hyperboloid of two sheets
6. $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} - \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 0$ is a cone

Homework problems:

8. since z is missing in $x^2 - y^2 = 1$, we consider $x^2 - y^2 = 1$ with $z = k$, is a hyperbola on the $z = k$ plane. The surface is hyperbolic cylinder.

12. Find the traces of $4y = x^2 + z^2$ in the planes $x = k$, $y = k$, and $z = k$.

When $x = k$: $4y = k^2 + z^2$ is a parabola,

$y = k$: $4k = x^2 + z^2$ is a circle

and $z = k$: $4y = x^2 + k^2$ is also a parabola

Thus the surface is a circular paraboloid with axis in the y axis and vertex $(0, 0, 0)$

22. $9x^2 + 4y^2 + z^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{1/9} + \frac{y^2}{1/4} + \frac{z^2}{1} = 1$ is an ellipsoid with intercepts $(\pm 1/\sqrt{3}, 0, 0)$, $(0, \pm 1/2, 0)$, $(0, 0, \pm 1)$

34. Reduce the equation $4y^2 + z^2 - x - 16y - 4z + 20 = 0$ to one of the standard forms and classify the surface and make a rough sketch.

Solution: We find the form $\frac{x}{4} = \frac{(y-2)^2}{1} + \frac{(z-2)^2}{4}$ is an elliptic paraboloid vertex at $(0, 2, 2)$ and axis is the horizontal line $y = 2, z = 2$.