

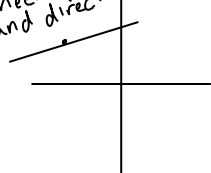
Notes 13.5

Monday, July 02, 2007
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Equations of Lines and Planes

• \mathbb{R}^2 to describe a line

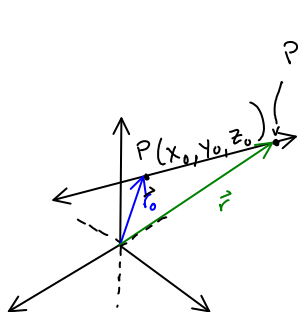
need point
and direction



$$y = mx + b$$

$$Ax + By = C$$

• \mathbb{R}^3 : need point and direction to describe a line



$$\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 = t\vec{v} \quad (\text{for some scalar } t)$$

$$\star \boxed{\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v}} \quad \text{vector equation of a line}$$

$$\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle \Rightarrow t\vec{v} = \langle ta, tb, tc \rangle$$

$$\langle x, y, z \rangle = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle + \langle ta, tb, tc \rangle$$

$$= \langle x_0 + ta, y_0 + tb, z_0 + tc \rangle$$

ie) $\star \boxed{x = x_0 + ta, y = y_0 + tb, z = z_0 + tc}$ parametric equation of a line

Solve for t in $\star \star$

$$t = \frac{x - x_0}{a} = \frac{y - y_0}{b} = \frac{z - z_0}{c} \quad \text{symmetric equations of a line}$$

Ex) line through $(5, 1, 3)$ parallel to $i + 4j - 2k$
Find vector and parametric equations

vector $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v}$

$$\vec{r}_0 = \langle 5, 1, 3 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v} = \langle 1, 4, -2 \rangle$$

vector eq. = $\vec{r} = \langle 5, 1, 3 \rangle + t\langle 1, 4, -2 \rangle$

parametric

$$x = 5 + t, \quad y = 1 + 4t, \quad z = 3 - 2t$$

Find 2 other points on this line

- Any value of t gives another point on this line

$$t = 1$$

$$x = 6, \quad y = 5, \quad z = 1 \quad (6, 5, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} t=1 & \quad x=6, y=5, z=1 \quad (6, 5, 1) \\ t=2 & \quad x=7, y=9, z=-1 \quad (7, 9, -1) \end{aligned}$$

Ex. Let L be the line through A(2, 4, -3), B(3, -1, 1)

At what point does this intersect the xy-plane? xy plane $z=0$

$$\vec{v} = \vec{AB} = \langle 1, -5, 4 \rangle$$

$$A = \vec{r}_0 = \langle 2, 4, -3 \rangle$$

symmetric equations: $\frac{x-2}{1} = \frac{y-4}{-5} = \frac{z+3}{4}$

sub $z=0$ into equation

$$\frac{x-2}{1} = \frac{y-4}{-5} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{11}{4}, \quad y = \frac{-15}{4} + \frac{16}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

point $\left(\frac{11}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, 0\right)$

How do we describe the line segment AB?

Parametric equations for L: $x = 2+t, y = 4-5t, z = -3+4t$

get point A when $t=0$

get point B when $t=1$

So AB is described by _____, restricting $0 \leq t \leq 1$

In general, take two points P_0, P_1 with position vectors \vec{r}_0, \vec{r}_1
Set $\vec{v} = \vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_0$

Vector equation: $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{v}$

$$= \vec{r}_0 + t(\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_0)$$

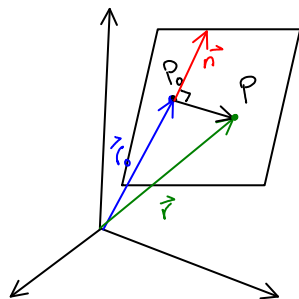
$$= \vec{r}_0 + t\vec{r}_1 - t\vec{r}_0$$

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

Planes

We describe planes with a point P_0 and a normal vector \vec{n}

Normal vector, \vec{n} is orthogonal to the plane.



$$\begin{aligned} P(x, y, z) \\ P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0) \\ \vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 \perp \vec{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0 \quad \text{vector eq. of a plane}$$

$$\vec{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$$

$$\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0$$

$$\langle a, b, c \rangle \cdot \langle x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0 \rangle = 0$$

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0 \quad \text{scalar equation of a plane}$$

$$a(x-x_0) + b(y-y_0) + c(z-z_0) = 0 \quad \text{scalar equation of a plane}$$

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

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

$$2x + 3y + 4z - 12 = 0$$

any plane can be written in form $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

x intercept

x-axis described by $y = z = 0$

$$2x - 12 = 0 \quad x = 6 \quad (6, 0, 0)$$

y intercept

$$3y - 12 = 0 \quad (0, 4, 0)$$

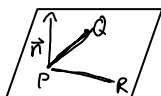
z intercept

$$4z - 12 = 0 \quad (0, 0, 3)$$

Example: P(1,3,2) Q(3,0,1) R(5,2,0) Find the plane through these points.

$$\vec{PQ} = \langle 2, -4, 4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{PR} = \langle 4, -1, -2 \rangle$$



$$\vec{PQ} \times \vec{PR}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 2 & -4 & 4 \\ 4 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} i & j \\ 2 & -4 \\ 4 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 8i + 16j - 2k + 16k + 4i + 4j$$

$$\vec{n} = 12i + 20j + 14k$$

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

*Note! Multiple possible answers. Can cross product any two PQ PR QR etc... can also choose P, Q, or R as point.

Example: find the angle between the planes.

$$x + y + z = 1$$

$$x - 2y + 3z = 1$$

*fact: The angle between the planes is the same as the angle between the normal vectors.

$$\vec{n}_1 = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle$$

$$\vec{n}_2 = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2}{|\vec{n}_1| |\vec{n}_2|}$$

In \mathbb{R}^2 , two lines L and M are either parallel or intersecting.

In \mathbb{R}^3 , two lines L and M are either parallel, intersecting, or skew

Example: Show that the lines are skew

$$L: x=1+t, y=-2+3t, z=4-t$$

$$M: x=2s, y=3+s, z=-3+4s$$

Vectors associated to lines:

$$L: \vec{v} = \langle 1, 3, -1 \rangle$$

$$M: \vec{w} = \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle$$

Are these parallel? We could show that $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} = \vec{0}$
Or, notice that w is not a multiple of \vec{v} .

not parallel

Do they intersect?

Can we find t, s , that match up

$$\begin{aligned} \text{solve } 1+t &= 2s \rightarrow t = 2s-1 \\ -2+3t &= 3+s \rightarrow -2+3(2s-1) = 3+s \\ -2+6s-3 &= 3+s \\ 5s &= 8 \\ s &= 8/5 \\ t &= \frac{11}{5} \end{aligned}$$

check $4-t \neq -3+4s$
skew

Distance from a point to a plane:

$$\begin{aligned} P(x_0, y_0, z_0) \\ \text{Plane } ax+by+cz+d=0 \\ D = \frac{|ax_0+by_0+cz_0+d|}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2+c^2}} \end{aligned}$$

Distance from two parallel planes:

Just pick a point on one plane and apply distance formula.