

§10.5: Equations of lines and planes in space

Recall that any point in space determines a vector

$$P(x, y, z) \mapsto \langle x, y, z \rangle = \vec{r}$$

We call this vector the position vector for P .

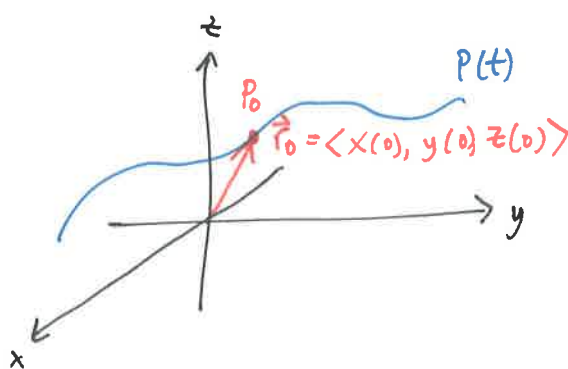
If we think of P as a particle that is moving, then the path of P is a parametrized curve in space

$$P(t) = \begin{cases} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{cases}$$

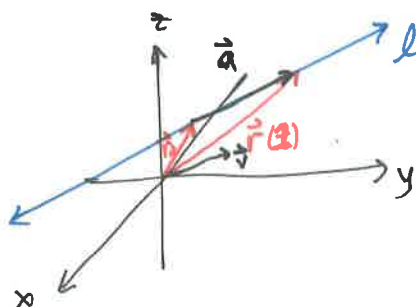
Then we can write the position vector as a parametrized (time-dependent) vector:

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$$

where $\vec{r}(0) = \vec{r}_0$ is the initial position of the particle.



Special Case A line l in space



$\vec{v}$ is the direction vector of the line.
if it's a unit vector:

$$\vec{v} = \frac{\vec{a}}{\|\vec{a}\|}$$

Then the line can be described by

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

vector eq'n.

But $\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$

If $\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$, then we can write out 3 parametric equations for l :

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = x_0 + ta \\ y(t) = y_0 + tb \\ z(t) = z_0 + tc \end{cases} \quad \text{parametric eq'ns.}$$

Ex. Find both for the line passing thru $(5, 1, 3)$ parallel to $\langle 1, 4, -2 \rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}(t) &= \langle 5, 1, 3 \rangle + \langle t, 4t, -2t \rangle \\ &= \langle 5+t, 1+4t, 3-2t \rangle \end{aligned}$$

So, Parametrically:
$$\begin{cases} x(t) = 5+t \\ y(t) = 1+4t \\ z(t) = 3-2t \end{cases}$$

For any value of t we get a point on l .

$$\vec{r}(-1) = \langle 5-1, 1-4, 3+2 \rangle = \langle 4, -3, 5 \rangle$$

so $(4, -3, 5)$ is on the line.

Thus, we could write l as

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

so l can have many parametric representations.

To obtain symmetric equations, solve for t and set them all equal:

$$x = x_0 + at \Rightarrow t = \frac{x - x_0}{a}$$

$$y = y_0 + bt \Rightarrow t = \frac{y - y_0}{b}$$

$$z = z_0 + ct \Rightarrow t = \frac{z - z_0}{c}$$

Symm. Eqs are:

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

Ex. Find all three for the line that passes through $A(2, 4, -3)$ and $B(3, -1, 1)$.

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

vec.

$$\boxed{\vec{r}(t) = \langle 2 + t, 4 - 5t, -3 + 4t \rangle}$$

par. eqn.

$$\boxed{\begin{cases} x = 2 + t \\ y = 4 - 5t \\ z = -3 + 4t \end{cases}}$$

Symm.

$$\boxed{x - 2 = \frac{y - 4}{-5} = \frac{z + 3}{4}}$$

Q. At what point does this line intersect the x - y plane?

$$z = 0 \text{ when } t = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x(3/4) = 2 + 3/4 = 11/4$$

$$y(3/4) = 4 - 5(3/4) = 1/4$$

so intersection is

$$p(11/4, 1/4, 0)$$

Line segments:

$$A(x_0, y_0, z_0) = \vec{r}_0$$

$$B(x_1, y_1, z_1) = \vec{r}_1$$

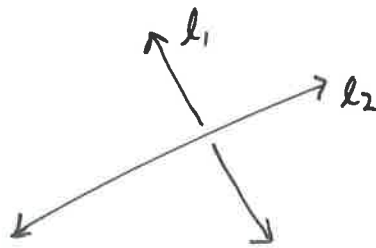


The line segment B given in vector form by

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

$$\text{so, } \vec{r}(0) = \vec{r}_0, \quad \vec{r}(1) = \vec{r}_1$$

In 3D it is possible to have two lines that do not intersect and are not parallel. These are called skew lines.



Recall. Two lines in 3D are parallel if their direction vectors $\vec{v}_1$ and $\vec{v}_2$ are parallel (multiples).

Ex. show that l_1 and l_2 are skew:

$$l_1: \vec{r}_1(t) = \langle 1+t, -2+3t, 4-t \rangle \quad \vec{v}_1 = \langle 1, 3, -1 \rangle$$

$$l_2: \vec{r}_2(s) = \langle 2s, 3+s, -3+4s \rangle \quad \vec{v}_2 = \langle 2, 1, 4 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}_1 \not\parallel \vec{v}_2$$

$$s = \frac{1+t}{2} \Rightarrow -2+3t = 3 + \frac{1+t}{2}$$

$$-4+6t = 6+1+t$$

$$-11 = -5t$$

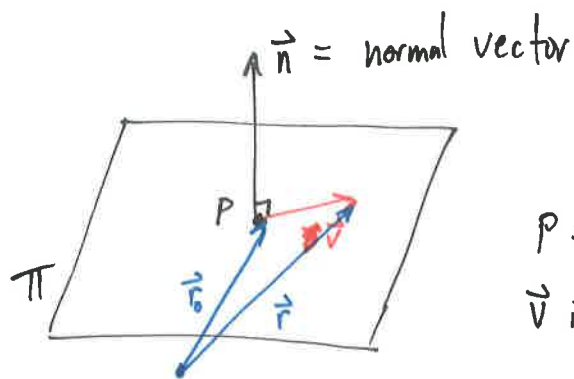
$$t = \frac{11}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow s = \frac{8}{5}$$

But:

$$4 - \frac{11}{5} \neq -3 + \frac{22}{5}$$

Planes are more complicated.



$$P = \vec{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$$

$\vec{v}$ is in the plane Π

The vector $\vec{v} = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_0$ is $\perp$ to $\vec{n}$, so

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = 0. \Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) = 0}$$

All of the points $\vec{r} = \langle x, y, z \rangle$ that satisfy this eqn determine the plane.

$$\vec{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle \neq \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v} = \langle x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0 \rangle$$

so eqn of plane is:

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$$

$$ax + by + cz - (ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0) = 0$$

OR

$$\boxed{ax + by + cz + d = 0}$$

$$\text{w/ } d = -(ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0)$$

Ex. Find eqn of plane passing thru $P(1,3,2), Q(3,-1,6), R(5,2,0)$.

$$\vec{r}_0 = \langle 1, 3, 2 \rangle$$

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

$$\text{so } \vec{r} = \langle 1+t, 3-2t, 2+2t \rangle$$

$$\vec{u} = \vec{QR} = \langle 2, 3, -6 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{n} = \vec{v} \times \vec{u} &= \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & -6 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(6) - \vec{j}(-10) + \vec{k}(7) \\ &= \langle 6, 10, 7 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Plane is thus

$$6(x-1) + 10(y-3) + 7(z-2) = 0$$

$$6x + 10y + 7z = 6 + 30 + 14$$

$$\boxed{6x + 10y + 7z = 50}$$

Defn. Two planes are $\parallel$ if their normal vectors are $\parallel$.

If not $\parallel$, then the angle between the planes is the acute $\angle$ between normal vectors.

Two planes intersect in a line.

Ex. Find the $\angle$ between $x+y+z=1$ and $x-2y+3z=1$

$$\vec{n}_1 = \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle \quad \vec{n}_2 = \langle 1, -2, 3 \rangle$$

$$\angle = \theta = \arccos\left(\frac{\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2}{\|\vec{n}_1\| \|\vec{n}_2\|}\right) = \arccos\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}\right) \approx 72^\circ$$

$$\|\vec{n}_1\| = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\|\vec{n}_2\| = \sqrt{14}$$

$$\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2 = 1 - 2 + 3 = 2$$

Find symmetric eqns for l , the line where π_1 and π_2 intersect.

the line l is $\perp$ to both $\vec{n}_1$ and $\vec{n}_2$, by defn.

So it has dir. vector $\vec{v} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2$

$$\vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = \vec{i}(5) - \vec{j}(2) + \vec{k}(-3) \\ = \langle 5, -2, -3 \rangle$$

We also need a point in the intersection.

$$\text{Set } z=0: \begin{cases} x+y=1 \\ x-2y=1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x &= 1-y \\ 1-y-2y &= 1 \\ 3y &= 0 \\ y &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

So $(1, 0, 0)$ is a pt in the line l .

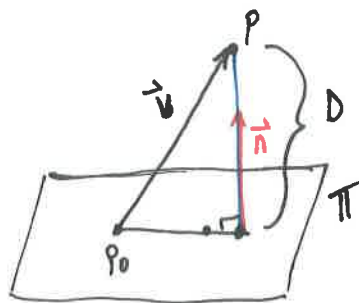
Then l is given by

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle 1+5t, -2t, -3t \rangle$$

or

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

Distance between a pt. and a plane:



$D = \text{length of proj of } \vec{v} \text{ onto } \vec{n}$

$$= \| \text{proj}_{\vec{n}} \vec{v} \| = | \text{comp}_{\vec{n}} \vec{v} |$$

recall: $\text{proj}_{\vec{n}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}}{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{n}} \vec{n}$ and

$$\text{comp}_{\vec{n}} \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{n}\|}$$

here $\vec{v} = \vec{P_1 P_0} = \langle x_1 - x_0, y_1 - y_0, z_1 - z_0 \rangle$

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

$$\text{comp}_{\vec{n}} \vec{v} = \frac{a(x_1 - x_0) + b(y_1 - y_0) + c(z_1 - z_0)}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

so $D = \frac{|a(x_1 - x_0) + b(y_1 - y_0) + c(z_1 - z_0)|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

Ex. Find D between $10x + 2y - 2z = 5$ and $5x + y - z = 1$ } parallel planes

Find any pt in π_1 and find its D to π_2 .

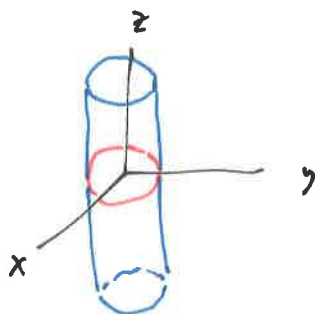
§10.6. Quadratic Surfaces and Cylinders

To graph surfaces, we look at cross-sections called traces.
The cross-sections are parallel to coordinate planes.

Ex. $x^2 + y^2 = 1$

in xy -plane: circle

z can be anything



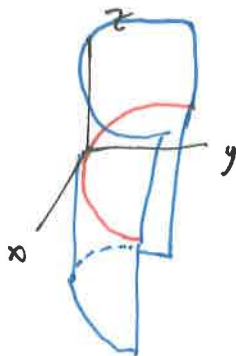
so we get an infinite right circular cylinder.

Ex. $y^2 + z^2 = 1$

Ex. $y = x^2$

In xy -plane: parabola

z : anything

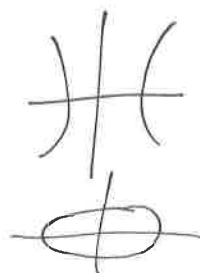


This is also a "cylinder", but it's a parabolic one.

other choices, like

$$x^2 - y^2 = 1$$

$$\frac{x^2}{2^2} + \frac{y^2}{1^2} = 1$$



Quadratic Surfaces

Equations like ~~$(x-h)^2$~~
 ~~a^2~~

~~$Ax^2 + By^2 + Cz^2 + Dx + Ey + Fz + D$~~
all combos of 2nd order x, y, z 's.

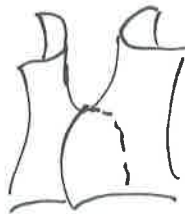
Ex. $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$

sphere of radius r

Ex. $x^2 + \frac{y^2}{9} + \frac{z^2}{4} = 1$ ellipsoid

Ex. $z = 4x^2 + y^2$ elliptic-
paraboloid

Ex. $z = y^2 - x^2$ hyperbolic paraboloid or
saddle surface



Table