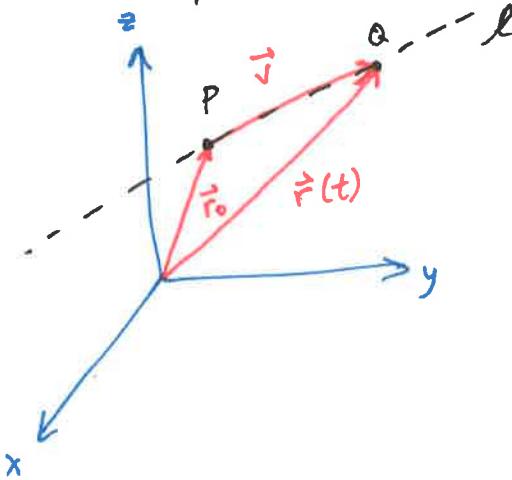


## Sections 10.5 and 10.6

### 10.5: Equations of lines and planes in $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

A line is determined by two points  $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  and  $Q(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ .



The point  $P$  determines a vector  $\vec{r}_0 = \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle$  in standard position. The two points  $P$  and  $Q$  determine a vector  $\vec{v} = \overrightarrow{PQ}$  called the direction vector of the line.

The line  $l$  is described by

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

where  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  is a parameter (cf. Ch. 9), and  $\vec{v} = \langle a, b, c \rangle = \langle x_1 - x_0, y_1 - y_0, z_1 - z_0 \rangle$ .

In coordinates this becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}(t) &= \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle + \langle t \frac{a}{a}, t \frac{b}{b}, t \frac{c}{c} \rangle \\ &= \langle x_0 + t \frac{a}{a}, y_0 + t \frac{b}{b}, z_0 + t \frac{c}{c} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

This is the vector equation of  $l$ .

$\vec{r}$  is the position vector of a "particle" traveling along  $l$ .

Parametric equations for  $\ell$  are obtained by separating the components of  $\vec{r}$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = x(t) = x_0 + t^a \\ y = y(t) = y_0 + t^b \\ z = z(t) = z_0 + t^c \end{array} \right.$$

Solving each of these for  $t$ , then setting them equal, we obtain

Symmetric equations for  $\ell$ :

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

Note: In the book the author uses ~~( $a, b, c$ )~~

Ex. Find eqns of the line through  $(6, 1, -3)$  and  $(2, 4, 5)$

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$$\vec{r}_0 = \langle 6, 1, -3 \rangle \quad \vec{v} = \langle 4, -3, -8 \rangle$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle 6 + 4t, 1 - 3t, -3 - 8t \rangle, \dots \text{etc.}$$

Two lines are parallel if their direction vectors are parallel, and the lines do not coincide.

Two lines are perpendicular if their direction vectors are orthogonal, and the lines intersect.

Two lines are skew if they are not parallel and do not intersect.

Ex. Determine whether the lines are parallel, skew, perpendicular, or intersecting.

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

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

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

clearly not parallel.

$$\begin{cases} 1+2t = -1+s \\ 3t = 4+s \\ 2-t = 1+3s \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} s &= 3t-4 \\ 1+2t &= -1+3t-4 \\ 6 &= t \end{aligned}$$

from x-comp.

$$3/10 \neq 6, \text{ so}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2-t = 1+3(3t-4)$$

the lines are skew.

$$2-t = 1+9t-12$$

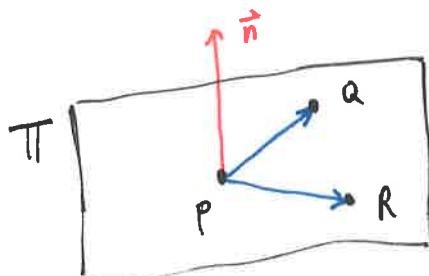
$$13 = 10t$$

$$t = 13/10$$

from z-comp

### Planes:

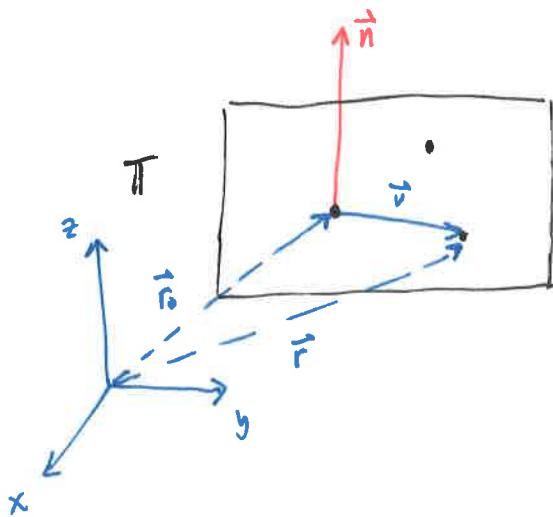
A plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is determined by 3 points (not collinear, of course).



$\vec{n} = \vec{PQ} \times \vec{PR}$   
is a normal vector  
to the plane  $\Pi$ .

$\vec{n}$  is  $\perp$  to  $\Pi$ .

Since  $\vec{n} \perp \Pi$ , then  $\vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$  for any  $\vec{v}$  in  $\Pi$ .



$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= \vec{r} - \vec{r}_0 \\ \vec{r} &= \langle x, y, z \rangle \\ \vec{r}_0 &= \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle \\ \vec{n} &= \langle a, b, c \rangle\end{aligned}$$

so  $\Pi$  is completely determined by the equation:

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

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{r} = \vec{n} \cdot \vec{r}_0$$

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

$$ax + by + cz = \boxed{ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0} \quad \text{just } \# \text{, call it } d.$$

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

(-d bc the book does.)

or

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

Ex. Find an eqn of plane w/ pts  $P(1,3,2)$ ,  $Q(3,-1,6)$ ,  $R(5,2,0)$ .

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

unless they are parallel

Two planes  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  intersect in a line. The angle between two planes is the angle between their normal vectors.

Ex.  $x+y+z=1$ ,  $x-2y+3z=1$ .

1. Find  $\theta$ :  $\arccos\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{42}}\right) \approx 1.257$

2. Find equation of line  $l$  of intersection:

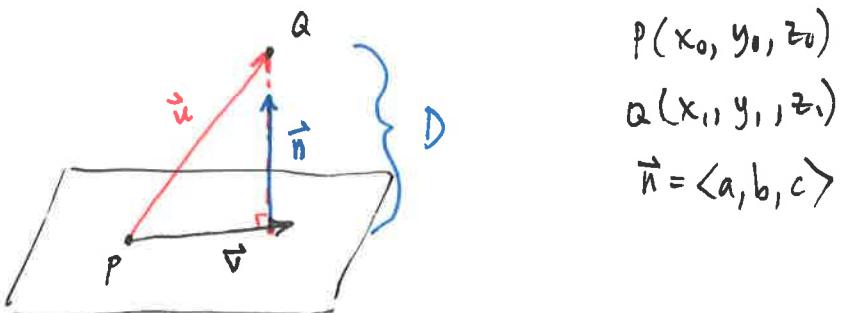
a. find a pt on the line: set  $z=0$ , solve system, get  $(1, 0, 0)$ .

b. find direction:

$$\vec{v} = \vec{n}_1 \times \vec{n}_2 = \langle 5, -2, -3 \rangle.$$

$$\text{so } \vec{r}(t) = \langle 1+5t, -2t, -3t \rangle \quad \text{if}.$$

Distance between a point and a plane.



$D$  is the length of the projection of  $\vec{u}$  onto  $\vec{n}$ .

i.e.,

$$D = \left| \frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{n}}{\|\vec{n}\|} \right| = \frac{|a(x_1 - x_0) + b(y_1 - y_0) + c(z_1 - z_0)|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}}$$

Ex. Find the distance between  $(2,8,5)$  and  $x - 2y - 2z = 1$

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$$D = \frac{|2(1) + 8(-2) + 5(-2) - 1|}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 2^2}} = \frac{|2 - 16 - 10 - 1|}{3} = \boxed{\frac{25}{3}}$$