

Three-dimensional review and extension problems

An introduction to problem 1:

I did Problem 1 in class but now you will derive the justification for the Cartesian equation of a plane. It involves developing a formula for the plane with a specified perpendicular vector and passing through a specified point. This formula, proved in **1b**, is useful in its own right. You can think of it as the point-vector equation form for a plane in 3-D space.

1. Consider the plane that is perpendicular to vector $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ which has (x_0, y_0, z_0) as one of its points. Let (x_0, y_0, z_0) and (x, y, z) stand for the coordinates of two points in the plane.
 - a. Explain why vectors $\langle a, b, c \rangle$ and $\langle x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0 \rangle$ are perpendicular.
 - b. Prove that $a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$.
 - c. Rewrite the equation proved in part **b** to have the form $ax + by + cz = [\text{some expression}]$.
 - d. Now explain why any plane $ax + by + cz = d$ must be perpendicular to $\langle a, b, c \rangle$.

2. Repeat problem 1 in 2-dimensional space. Consider the line that is perpendicular to $\langle a, b \rangle$ and has (x_0, y_0) as one of its points. Take steps analogous to parts **a**, **b**, **c**, and **d**. Then summarize what you have proved, and how it relates to what you previously knew about 2-D lines (be sure to include a comparison to standard and point-slope form).

3. Consider the motion along a line in 3-dimensional space described by these parametric equations: $x = 4 + 3t$, $y = 5 - t$, $z = 6 - 2t$.
 - a. Combine the three parametric equations into a single equation giving (x, y, z) as a function of t . Then combine the three equations into a single vector equation that involves an initial point and a velocity vector.
 - b. What is the speed of the moving object? (That is, how fast is it going, per unit of time?) The answer should be a number not a vector.
 - c. Write a new vector equation for an object that is moving along the same line as the original object but twice as fast.

4. Remember the x - y - z description of a line in 3-D space, in a form we have not focused on:
$$\frac{x - 2}{-3} = \frac{y - 1}{4} = \frac{z - 2}{-1}.$$
 - a. Combine the three equations from part **a** into a single equation for the line, involving a point and a vector.
 - b. If you regard the equations from parts **a** and **b** as giving the position of a moving object at time t , find the speed of the moving object.
 - c. Write an equation for the plane that is perpendicular to the given line at $(2, 1, 2)$.

5. Vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$ sits on plane $M: x - 4y + 2z = 8$ at the point $(8, 1, 2)$.
- Find the angle between vector \mathbf{v} and plane M .
 - Find the distance between the end of the vector and the plane.
 - Project the vector on the plane.
 - Project the vector on the vector perpendicular to the plane.
6. Consider a parallelogram in 3-dimensional space, whose sides are described by the vectors $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{w} = \langle -1, 5, -2 \rangle$. The goal of this problem is to find the parallelogram's area, two different ways (and of course the answers should agree).
- Find the angle between vectors \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} , then find the parallelogram's area using the trigonometric SAS area formula for triangles.
 - Find the parallelogram's area using the cross-product of the vectors.
7. Now consider a parallelepiped (3-D "box" with parallelogram faces) formed by vectors $\mathbf{u} = \langle -3, 1, 0 \rangle$, $\mathbf{v} = \langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{w} = \langle -1, 5, -2 \rangle$. Note that \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} are the same as in the previous problem. Find the volume of this parallelepiped. **Hint:** Recall that any prism's volume equals *(area of the prism's base) · (height of the prism)*. Suppose you regard the face formed by \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} as being the base of the prism. Find the height of the prism using \mathbf{u} and the techniques from problem 3.
8. Consider points $A = (2, 3, 4)$, $B = (5, 7, -8)$, and $C = (-10, 8, 4)$.
- Find vectors \vec{AB} and \vec{AC} in component form.
 - Find a vector that is perpendicular to both \vec{AB} and \vec{AC} .
 - Find the xyz -equation of the plane containing A , B , and C .
 - If point $D = (3, 5, 1)$, are points A , B , C , and D coplanar? Justify your answer.
9. Consider point $X = (-1, 4, 3)$ and plane P whose equation is $2x - y + z = 4$.
- Identify a vector that is perpendicular to plane P .
 - Let l be the line that goes through point X and is perpendicular to plane P . Write either a vector equation or a set of three parametric equations for line l .
 - Find the coordinates of the point where line l and plane P intersect.
 - Find the distance from point X to plane P . **Hint:** Distance between a point and a plane means the shortest distance, and this shortest distance is along the perpendicular line l .

- 10.** Consider point $X = (-1, 4, 3)$ and line l described by $(x, y, z) = (3, 0, -4) + t\langle 1, 4, 2 \rangle$.
- Find an equation for plane P that contains point X and is perpendicular to line l .
 - Find the coordinates of the point where P and l intersect perpendicularly.
 - Now find the distance from point X to line l .
- 11.** Consider two planes whose equations are $2x - 5y + 3z = 12$ and $3x + 4y - 3z = 6$.
- Find the measure of the angle between the planes.
 - Find the equation of the line of intersection of the planes. *Hint:* Think about the angle the intersection line makes with the vectors perpendicular to the planes.
- 12. a.** Find an equation for the plane determined by the points $(1, 2, 3)$, $(4, 2, 0)$, and $(-1, -2, 5)$.
- b.** Do the points $(5, 0, 2)$, $(3, -1, 4)$, and $(-1, -3, 8)$ determine a plane? Justify your answer.
- 13.** The planes $x - 3y + 4z = 6$ and $x - 3y + 4z = 10$ are parallel (as proved in problem **1d**). Find the distance between these planes. *Hint:* Choose any line perpendicular to both planes, find the points where the line intersects the planes, then find the distance between those points.
- 14.** Consider the vectors $\mathbf{v} = \langle \cos a, \sin a, 0 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{w} = \langle \cos b, \sin b, 0 \rangle$, where $a > b > 0$.
- Find the dot product $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}$, and use the result to prove the identity $\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos\alpha \cos\beta + \sin\alpha \sin\beta$.
 - Find the cross product $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}$, and use the result to prove the identity $\sin(\alpha - \beta) = \sin\alpha \cos\beta - \cos\alpha \sin\beta$.
- 15.** Prove that, for any vectors \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} , if $|\mathbf{v}| = |\mathbf{w}|$ then $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$ is perpendicular to $\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}$.
- 16.** ABCDEFGH is a regular octagon. The vector $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{p}$, the vector $\overrightarrow{BC} = \mathbf{q}$. Express the vector \overrightarrow{AH} in terms of \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} .

ANSWERS

1. See your notes or Brown p. 453.
2. I expect great things from you.
3. a. $\frac{x-4}{3} = 5 - y = \frac{z-6}{-2}$ or $(x, y, z) = (4, 5, 6) + t\langle 3, -1, -2 \rangle$.
 b. speed = $|\langle 3, -1, -2 \rangle| = \sqrt{14}$
 c. $(x, y, z) = (4, 5, 6) + t\langle 6, -2, -4 \rangle$.
4. a. $x = -3t + 2, y = 4t + 1, z = -t + 2$ so $(x, y, z) = (2, 1, 2) + t\langle -3, 4, -1 \rangle$.
 b. speed = magnitude of $\langle -3, 4, -1 \rangle$, which is $\sqrt{26}$
 c. Write $-3x + 4y - z = d$, then substitute $(2, 1, 2)$ for (x, y, z) . Answer: $-3x + 4y - z = -4$.
5. a. 4.649°
 b. 0.436
 c. length = 5.367 but that is not enough so use the line perpendicular to the plane through the point at the end of the vector and find $t = 2/21$ thus the projection is

$$\mathbf{v} + \frac{2}{21}\langle 1, -4, 2 \rangle = \left\langle \frac{44}{21}, \frac{71}{21}, \frac{88}{21} \right\rangle$$

 d. $\langle -0.095, 0.381, -0.191 \rangle$
6. a. $\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w}}{|\mathbf{v}| |\mathbf{w}|} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{29}\sqrt{30}}$, whose inverse cosine is $\theta \approx 80.24^\circ$.
 Area = $|\mathbf{v}| |\mathbf{w}| \sin \theta \approx \sqrt{29}\sqrt{30} \sin(80.24^\circ) \approx 29.069$.
 b. $|\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}| = |\langle 26, 0, 13 \rangle| = 13\sqrt{5} = 29.069$
7. Volume = Area of the Base * Height = $|\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}| * |\mathbf{u}| \cos \theta$ where θ is the angle between vector \mathbf{u} and the plane formed by \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} . The volume is 78.
8. a. $\mathbf{AB} = \langle 3, 4, -12 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{AC} = \langle -12, 5, 0 \rangle$
 b. $\langle 60, 144, 63 \rangle = 3\langle 20, 48, 21 \rangle$
 c. $20x + 48y + 21z = 268$
 d. $20(3) + 48(5) + 21(1) = 321 \neq 268$ so not coplanar
9. a. $\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle$
 b. $(x, y, z) = (-1, 4, 3) + t\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle$, then split into separate equations for x, y , and z
 c. Substitute the three parametric equations into $2x - y + z = 4$ to get
 $2(-1 + 2t) - (4 - t) + (3 + t) = 4$. Solve for t to get $t = \frac{7}{6}$. Then use the parametric equations to get x, y , and z . Answer: $(\frac{8}{6}, \frac{17}{6}, \frac{25}{6})$.
 d. Calculate distance between $(-1, 4, 3)$ and $(\frac{8}{6}, \frac{17}{6}, \frac{25}{6})$
 or calculate $\frac{7}{6}$ times the magnitude of $\langle 2, -1, 1 \rangle$. Answer: $\frac{7\sqrt{6}}{6}$.

10. a. $x + 4y + 2z = 21$.

b. Turn the line's equation into three parametric equations, then substitute into the plane's equation. Get $(3 + t) + 4(4t) + 2(-4 + 2t) = 21$. Solve for t , get $t = \frac{26}{21}$. Substitute $t = \frac{26}{21}$ into the parametric equations to get $(x, y, z) = (\frac{89}{21}, \frac{96}{21}, -\frac{32}{21})$.

c. Using the distance formula, find the distance between $(-1, 4, 3)$ and $(\frac{89}{21}, \frac{96}{21}, -\frac{32}{21})$.
 $d = 26.519$

11. a. angle between $\langle 2, -5, 3 \rangle$ and $\langle 3, 4, -3 \rangle$ is 50.217°

b. the vector perpendicular to $\langle 2, -5, 3 \rangle$ and $\langle 3, 4, -3 \rangle$ is in both planes so $\langle 3, 15, 23 \rangle$ is the vector for the line. Find a point on both planes by assuming x, y , or z is some value and solve for the other two (ex. if $x = 0$ then $(0, -12, 34)$ is on both planes) so the equation is $(x, y, z) = (0, -12, 34) + t \langle 3, 15, 23 \rangle$

12. a. Call the points $A(1, 2, 3)$, $B(4, 2, 0)$, and $C(-1, -2, 5)$. $\mathbf{AB} = \langle 3, 0, -3 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{AC} = \langle -2, -4, 2 \rangle$ so a vector equation of the plane is $(x, y, z) = (1, 2, 3) + t \langle 3, 0, -3 \rangle + s \langle -2, -4, 2 \rangle$.

b. Call the points $D(5, 0, 2)$, $E(3, -1, 4)$, and $F(-1, -3, 8)$. $\mathbf{DE} = \langle -2, -1, 2 \rangle$ and $\mathbf{DF} = \langle -6, -3, 6 \rangle$ which is $3 \langle -2, -1, 2 \rangle$ so they are collinear points.

13. Follow the method described in the hint. The easiest line to choose is

$(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0) + t \langle 1, -3, 4 \rangle$. The final answer is $\sqrt{\frac{8}{13}} = \frac{2\sqrt{26}}{13}$ (or an equivalent expression).

14. and 15. I can't type the proofs right now.

16. The easiest way to try this is to put the octagon on a coordinate grid with point A at the origin. Make each side of length one so that point B is at $(0, 1)$ (which means that $\mathbf{p} = \langle 0, 1 \rangle$). Once you have figured out the vector \mathbf{q} and vector \mathbf{AH} then you can make the linear combination of \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} to determine that $\mathbf{AH} = \mathbf{q} - \sqrt{2} \mathbf{p}$.