

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

ASSIGNMENT 2

MATH 2050

WINTER 2018

SOLUTIONS

- [4] 1. If the plane is perpendicular to the line ℓ then the direction vector for ℓ ,

$$\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix},$$

is a normal to the plane. Thus the equation of the plane has the form

$$3x + 4y - z = d.$$

Since $P(1, -2, -9)$ is a point in the plane,

$$d = 3(1) + 4(-2) - (-9) = 4,$$

so the equation of the plane is

$$3x + 4y - z = 4.$$

- [6] 2. We need two vectors in the plane, such as

$$\overrightarrow{BA} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \overrightarrow{CA} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A normal to the plane is

$$\mathbf{n} = \overrightarrow{BA} \times \overrightarrow{CA} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} - \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{j} + \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k} = 4\mathbf{i} - 20\mathbf{j} + 20\mathbf{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -20 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus the equation of the plane has the form

$$4x - 20y + 20z = d.$$

Since $A(3, 0, 1)$ is a point in the plane,

$$d = 4(3) - 20(0) + 20(1) = 32,$$

so the equation of the plane is

$$4x - 20y + 20z = 32.$$

[4] 3. A direction vector for the line is

$$\mathbf{d} = \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

so an appropriate vector equation is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The corresponding parametric equations are

$$x = -7 + 5t$$

$$y = 1 + 4t$$

$$z = 2 + 3t.$$

[6] 4. (a) We will use s to represent the parameter of the second line. Then, comparing the corresponding parametric equations, we must have

$$8 - 6t = -s$$

$$-5 + t = 11 + 3s$$

$$2 + 4t = -6 - 2s.$$

Multiplying the second equation by 6 and adding it to the first equation gives

$$-22 = 66 + 17s \implies 17s = -88 \implies s = -\frac{88}{17}.$$

Substituting this back into the first equation, we have

$$8 - 6t = -\left(-\frac{88}{17}\right) \implies 6t = \frac{48}{17} \implies t = \frac{8}{17}.$$

But we must ensure that this is consistent with the third equation, where we find that

$$2 + 4t = 2 + 4\left(\frac{8}{17}\right) = \frac{66}{17}$$

while

$$-6 - 2s = -6 - 2\left(-\frac{88}{17}\right) = \frac{74}{17}.$$

Since these are not equal, there are no values of t and s which satisfy all three equations, and hence the two lines do not intersect.

[6] (b) We have

$$\begin{aligned}8 - 6t &= -s \\ -5 + 2t &= 11 + 3s \\ 2 + 4t &= -6 - 2s.\end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the second equation by 3 and adding it to the first equation gives

$$-7 = 33 + 8s \implies 8s = -40 \implies s = -5.$$

Substituting this back into the first equation gives

$$8 - 6t = -(-5) \implies 6t = 3 \implies t = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Again, we must ensure that this solution is consistent with the third equation, where we find that

$$2 + 4t = 2 + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 4$$

while

$$-6 - 2s = -6 - 2(-5) = 4$$

as well. Thus we have found a solution to the equation, which upon substitution into either vector equation yields the point of intersection $(5, -4, 4)$.

[2] (c) This time we can simply compare the direction vectors of the two lines and observe that

$$\begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = -2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since these two vectors are parallel, we can conclude that the lines are also parallel and so they do not intersect.

[2] 5. (a) Setting $x = -5$, $y = 0$ and $z = 2$ in the equations of both planes, we see that

$$x - y + 3z = -5 - 0 + 3(2) = 1$$

and

$$x - 2y + 3z = -5 - 2(0) + 3(2) = 1$$

as well. Thus both equations are satisfied, and hence the point $(-5, 0, 2)$ must lie in both planes.

[6] (b) We have already identified a point on this line, so we just need its direction vector. Since this vector must lie in both planes, it must be perpendicular to both of their respective normals. Such a vector is given by the cross product of the two normals:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{j} + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} \mathbf{k} = 3\mathbf{i} - 0\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence the vector equation of the line of intersection is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- [4] 6. From the equation of the line, we can see that $x = 3 + t$, $y = 1 + 4t$ and $z = 6 - 3t$ for any point which lies on it. If such a point also lies in the plane then we must have

$$5(3 + t) - 2(1 + 4t) - (6 - 3t) = 3$$

$$15 + 5t - 2 - 8t - 6 + 3t = 3$$

$$7 = 3,$$

which is not possible. Thus the line and the plane do not intersect.