

# Three Dimensional Geometry

- ✓ Relation between the direction cosines of a line

$$l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$$

direction cosines

- ✓ Direction cosines of a line segment joining two points  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $Q(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  are

$$\frac{x_2 - x_1}{PQ} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{PQ} = \frac{z_2 - z_1}{PQ}$$

where  $PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$

- ✓ Vector Equation of a line that passes through the given point whose position vectors  $\vec{a}$  and parallel to a given vector  $\vec{b}$  is

$$\vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda \vec{b}$$

(vector form)

Cartesian Equation,

$$\frac{x - x_1}{l} = \frac{y - y_1}{m} = \frac{z - z_1}{n}$$

OR

$$\frac{x - x_1}{a} = \frac{y - y_1}{b} = \frac{z - z_1}{c}$$

direction ratios

- ✓ Vector Equation of a line that passes through two points  $\vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda(\vec{b} - \vec{a})$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

position vectors

Cartesian Equation points  $:- (x_1, y_1, z_1) (x_2, y_2, z_2)$

$$\frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{z_2 - z_1}$$

- ✓ If  $a_1, b_1, c_1$  and  $a_2, b_2, c_2$  are the direction ratios of two lines and  $\theta$  is the acute angle between two lines then;

$$\cos \theta = \left| \frac{a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}} \right|$$

Two lines with direction ratios  $a_1, b_1, c_1$  and  $a_2, b_2, c_2$  are

(i) perpendicular  $\theta = 90^\circ$

$$a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2 = 0$$

(ii) parallel  $\theta = 0^\circ$

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$

If  $\theta$  is the acute angle between the line  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{b}_1$  and  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \lambda \vec{b}_2$ ; then  $\theta$  is given by:

$$\cos \theta = \left| \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| |\vec{b}_2|} \right|$$

OR

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| |\vec{b}_2|}$$

(vector form)

- ✓ The shortest distance between the lines  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{b}_1$  and  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \lambda \vec{b}_2$  is

$$\frac{|(\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1)|}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|}$$

Cartesian form, lines  $\frac{x - x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{c_1}$  and  $\frac{x - x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y - y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z - z_2}{c_2}$  is

$$\frac{\begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\sqrt{(b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1)^2 + (c_1 a_2 - c_2 a_1)^2 + (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)^2}}$$

- ✓ Distance between Parallel lines  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \mu \vec{b}$  and  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu \vec{b}$  is

$$\left| \frac{\vec{b} \times (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1)}{|\vec{b}|} \right|$$

- ✓ Equation of a plane in a normal form

$$\vec{r} \cdot \hat{n} = d$$

(vector form)

Cartesian form,  $lx + my + nz = d$

position vector

unit normal vector

distance from origin





- ✓ The equation of a plane through a point whose position vector is  $\vec{a}$  and perpendicular to the vector  $\vec{N}$  is  $(\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{N} = 0$  (vector form)

Cartesian form,  $A(x - x_1) + B(y - y_1) + C(z - z_1) = 0$

- ✓ Equation of a plane passing through three non collinear points

$(\vec{r} - \vec{a})[(\vec{b} - \vec{a}) \times (\vec{c} - \vec{a})] = 0$  (vector form)

Cartesian form,

$$\begin{vmatrix} x - x_1 & y - y_1 & z - z_1 \\ x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ x_3 - x_1 & y_3 - y_1 & z_3 - z_1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

- ✓ Plane passing through the intersection of two given planes  $\vec{r} \cdot (\vec{n}_1 + \lambda \vec{n}_2) = d_1 + \lambda d_2$  (vector form)

Cartesian form,  $(A_1x + B_1y + C_1z - d_1) + \lambda(A_2x + B_2y + C_2z - d_2) = 0$

- ✓ Angle between two planes  $\cos \theta = \left| \frac{\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2}{|\vec{n}_1| |\vec{n}_2|} \right|$

Cartesian form

$$\cos \theta = \left| \frac{A_1 A_2 + B_1 B_2 + C_1 C_2}{\sqrt{A_1^2 + B_1^2 + C_1^2} \sqrt{A_2^2 + B_2^2 + C_2^2}} \right|$$

- ✓ Angle between a line and a plane  $\cos \theta = \left| \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{n}}{|\vec{b}| |\vec{n}|} \right|$

the angle  $\phi$  between the line and the plane is given by  $90^\circ - \theta$ , i.e.  $\sin(90^\circ - \theta) = \cos \theta$

$$\sin \phi = \left| \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{n}}{|\vec{b}| |\vec{n}|} \right| \quad \text{OR} \quad \phi = \sin^{-1} \left| \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{n}}{|\vec{b}| |\vec{n}|} \right|$$