

Preparatory exercises should be attempted before coming to the tutorial. Questions labelled with an asterisk are suitable for students aiming for a credit or higher.

Important Ideas and Useful Facts:

- (i) A line in space is determined by two points, or by one point and a direction.
- (ii) A plane in space is determined either by three non-collinear points, or by one point and a perpendicular (normal) direction.
- (iii) If the vector \mathbf{v} points in the direction of a line \mathcal{L} containing the point P_0 , then the *parametric vector equation* of \mathcal{L} is

$$\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0 = t\mathbf{v} \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + t\mathbf{v}$$

where \mathbf{r} is the position vector of a typical point on \mathcal{L} , \mathbf{r}_0 is the position vector of P_0 and t is a parameter which varies over all real numbers.

- (iv) If the vector $\mathbf{v} = a\mathbf{i} + b\mathbf{j} + c\mathbf{k}$ points in the direction of a line \mathcal{L} containing the point $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$, then the *parametric scalar equations* of \mathcal{L} are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x &= x_0 + ta \\ y &= y_0 + tb \\ z &= z_0 + tc \end{aligned} \right\} t \in \mathbb{R}$$

and the *Cartesian equations* are (in the case that a, b, c are all nonzero):

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

- (v) If the vector \mathbf{n} is normal to a plane \mathcal{P} containing the point P_0 , then the *vector equation* of \mathcal{P} is

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{r}_0 \cdot \mathbf{n}$$

where \mathbf{r} is the position vector of a typical point and \mathbf{r}_0 is the position vector of P_0 .

- (vi) If the vector $\mathbf{n} = a\mathbf{i} + b\mathbf{j} + c\mathbf{k}$ is normal to the plane \mathcal{P} containing the point $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$, then the *Cartesian equation* of \mathcal{P} is

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

where $d = ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0$.

- (vii) If P_1, P_2, P_3 are non-collinear points on a plane, then a normal vector to the plane is

$$\mathbf{n} = \overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \times \overrightarrow{P_1P_3}.$$

Preparatory Exercises:

1. Find parametric vector, parametric scalar and Cartesian equations of the line passing through the point $(2, 3, 5)$ in the direction of $\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$.
2. Find vector and Cartesian equations of the plane containing the point $(2, 3, 5)$ with normal vector $\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$.
3. Let $P = (1, 2, 3)$, $Q = (-1, -2, -3)$ and $R = (4, -4, 4)$.
 - (i) Express \overrightarrow{PQ} and \overrightarrow{PR} in Cartesian form.
 - (ii) Find the cross product $\overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}$.
 - (iii) Find the Cartesian equation of the plane containing P , Q , R .

Tutorial Exercises:

4. Find parametric vector, parametric scalar and Cartesian equations of the line passing through P in the direction of \mathbf{v} in each of the following cases:
 - (i) $P = (1, 0, -1)$, $\mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$
 - (ii) $P = (-6, 5, 2)$, $\mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{k}$
 - (iii) $P = (0, 1, -1)$, $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$
 - (iv) $P = (2, 3, -3)$, $\mathbf{v} = -\mathbf{i}$
5. Find parametric vector, parametric scalar and Cartesian equations of the line passing through P and Q in each of the following cases:
 - (i) $P = (-4, 3, 5)$, $Q = (-2, 4, -1)$
 - (ii) $P = (0, 5, 0)$, $Q = (5, 0, -5)$
6. Find vector and Cartesian equations of the plane containing P having normal vector \mathbf{n} in each of the following cases:
 - (i) $P = (4, -1, 0)$, $\mathbf{n} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k}$
 - (ii) $P = (7, 5, -3)$, $\mathbf{n} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}$
 - (iii) $P = (0, 0, -9)$, $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$
 - (iv) $P = (-6, 5, 6)$, $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{j}$
7. Find a Cartesian equation for the plane containing
$$P = (6, 7, -2), \quad Q = (0, -8, 11), \quad R = (14, -3, 9).$$
8. (*Homework*) The planes $x + y + z = 2$ and $x - y + 3z = 0$ intersect in a line \mathcal{L} .
 - (i) Find a point on \mathcal{L} .
 - (ii) Use cross products to find a vector pointing in the direction of \mathcal{L} .
 - (iii) Write down parametric scalar and Cartesian equations for \mathcal{L} .

9. (suitable for group discussion) Two lines in space are *skew* if they are not parallel and do not intersect. The following lines are not parallel. Show that they are not skew, by finding their point of intersection:

$$\mathcal{L}_1 : \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} + t(3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}), \quad \mathcal{L}_2 : \mathbf{r} = 6\mathbf{i} - 6\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} + s(-7\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k})$$

- 10.* Find the distance from $P(3, 0, -1)$ to the plane \mathcal{P} described by the equation

$$4x + 2y - z = 6.$$

Find the closest point to P which lies on \mathcal{P} .

Further Exercises:

11. For each of (i)–(vii), find two matching descriptions from (a)–(n).

- (i) line containing $(0, 0, 0)$ in the direction of $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$
- (ii) line containing $(-1, 2, -1)$ in the direction of $-\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$
- (iii) line containing $(-1, 2, -1)$ and $(0, 0, -2)$
- (iv) plane containing $(0, 0, 0)$ with normal vector $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$
- (v) plane containing $(-1, 2, -1)$ with normal vector $-\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$
- (vi) plane containing $(-1, 2, -1)$, $(0, 0, -2)$ and $(1, 3, 3)$
- (vii) plane containing $(-1, 2, -1)$, $(0, 0, -2)$ and $(1, 3, 2)$

(a) $x + y + z = 0$ (b) $x = y = z$ (c) $x + y - z = 2$

(d) $x + 1 = \frac{y - 2}{-2} = \frac{z + 1}{-2}$ (e) $7x + 6y - 5z = 10$

(f) $x + 1 = \frac{y - 2}{-2} = \frac{z + 1}{-1}$ (g) $x - 2y - 2z = -3$

(h) $(\mathbf{r} + 2\mathbf{k}) \cdot (7\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k}) = 0$ (i) $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k} + t(\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k})$

(j) $(\mathbf{r} + 2\mathbf{k}) \cdot (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = 0$ (k) $\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) = 0$

(l) $(\mathbf{r} + 3\mathbf{i}) \cdot (\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}) = 0$ (m) $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k} + t(\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$

(n) $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} - t(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})$

12. Find Cartesian equations of the line passing through $(1, 0, -2)$ and perpendicular to the plane $3x - 4y + z = 6$.

13. Verify that the line

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

is parallel to the plane $4x + 4y - 5z = 14$.

14. Find the Cartesian equation of the plane containing $(1, 1, 1)$ and the line

$$\frac{x-4}{-2} = y+3 = \frac{z-1}{3}.$$

15.* (Homework) Find the distance from $P(2, 1, 1)$ to the line \mathcal{L} given by the equations

$$x-1 = \frac{y-1}{3} = \frac{z+4}{-1}.$$

Find the closest point to P lying on \mathcal{L} .

Selected Short Answers:

1. $\mathbf{r} = 2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k} + t(\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}), \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} x = 2+t \\ y = 3+3t \\ z = 5-t \end{array} \right\} t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x-2 = \frac{y-3}{3} = \frac{z-5}{-1}$
2. $\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = 6, \quad x + 3y - z = 6.$
3. (i) $-2\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k}, \quad 3\mathbf{i} - 6\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ (ii) $-40\mathbf{i} - 16\mathbf{j} + 24\mathbf{k}$ (iii) $5x + 2y - 3z = 0$
4. (i) $\frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z+1}{-1}$ (ii) $\frac{x+6}{2} = \frac{z-2}{-5}, \quad y = 5$
(iii) $x = \frac{y-1}{2}, \quad z = -1$ (iv) $y = 3, \quad z = -3$
5. (i) $\frac{x+4}{2} = y-3 = \frac{z-5}{-6}$ (ii) $x = 5 - y = -z$
6. (i) $3x + y - 4z = 11$ (ii) $2x + z = 11$ (iii) $x + y - z = 9$ (iv) $y = 5$
7. $-7x + 34y + 36z = 124$
9. Point of intersection is $(-8, 4, -11).$ 10. $\sqrt{21}/3, \quad (5/3, -2/3, -2/3)$
11. (i) (b)(n) (ii) (d)(i) (iii) (f)(m) (iv) (a)(k) (v) (g)(l) (vi) (e)(h) (vii) (c)(j)
12. $\frac{x-1}{3} = \frac{y}{-4} = z+2$ 13. $(2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}) \cdot (4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k}) = 0$
14. $12x + 9y + 5z = 26$