

12.5b Planes in Space!!

ESSENTIAL LEARNING TARGETS At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- write a linear equation to represent a plane in space
- find the angle between planes in space





So, if a plane contains point (x_1, y_1, z_1) and vector <a, b, c> is normal to the plane, then the equation of the plane is: Standard form: $a(x - x_1) + b(y - y_1) + c(z - z_1) = 0$ General form: ax + by + cz + d = 0ex) Find the equation of the plane that contains points (2, 1, 1), (0, 4, 1) and (-2, 1, 4) Since we don't have a normal vector, create 2 vectors using the given points and then find their cross product to get an orthogonal vector. Let u = <-2, 3, 0> and v = <-4, 0, 3> $u \times v = \begin{bmatrix} i & j & k \\ -2 & 3 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ -2 & 3 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 9i + 0j + 0k + 12k + 0i + 6j$ $=9i+6j+12k = \langle 9, 6, 12 \rangle$ $n = \langle 3, 2, 4 \rangle$ So the equation of the plane is 9(x - 2) + 6(y - 1) + 12(z - 1) = 0 OR9x + 6y + 12z - 36 = 0 OR3x + 2y + 4z - 12 = 0



You try again! Find the equation of the plane that passes through the points (3, 2, 1) and (3, 1, -5) and is perpendicular to the plane 6x + 7y + 2z = 10.

A vector on the plane would be <0, -1, -6>.

The vector normal to the perpendicular plane would be <6, 7, 2>. But normal to perpendicular means that it would be parallel to the original plane. So use the cross product to get an orthogonal vector.

 $u \times v = \begin{bmatrix} i & j & k \\ 0 & -1 & -6 \\ 6 & 7 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i & j \\ 0 & -1 & -2i \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = -2i - 36j + 0k + 6k + 42i + 0j$

= 40i - 36j + 6k

So the equation would be: 40(x - 3) - 36(y - 2) + 6(z - 1) = 0 OR 40x - 36y + 6z - 54 = 0 OR 20x - 18y + 3z - 27 = 0



If n_1 and n_2 are normal to 2 planes, and θ is the angle between the planes, then

 $\cos \theta = \frac{|n_1 \cdot n_2|}{||n_1||||n_2||}$

If the planes are parallel, then $n_1 = kn_2$ (they are scalar multiples)

If the planes are perpendicular, then $n_1 \cdot n_2 = 0$

ex) Determine whether the planes below are parallel, orthogonal, or if neither, find the angle between them.

a)
$$3x + y - 4z = 3$$
 and $-9x - 3y + 12z = 4$
 $n_1 = \langle 3, 1, -4 \rangle$ and $n_2 = \langle -9, -3, 12 \rangle$
Since $-3n_1 = n_2$, these planes are parallel
b) $3x + 2y - z = 7$ and $x - 4y + 2z = 0$
 $n_1 = \langle 3, 2, -1 \rangle$ and $n_2 = \langle 1, -4, 2 \rangle$
 $n_1 \cdot n_2 = 3 - 8 - 2 = -7$
 $\cos \theta = |-7| / (\sqrt{9 + 4} + 1)\sqrt{(1 + 16 + 4)})$
 $= 7 / (\sqrt{14}\sqrt{21})$
 $\theta \approx 65.91^\circ$

Let's do some review!
Suppose u = <2, -1, -5>, v = <-4, 2, -1> and w = <1, 6, 2>.
Find the following:
a) u • v
b) u × v
c) u × w
d) w × u
e) the angle between u and v
f) the angle between v and w
g) the area of the triangle with sides u and w
h) the area of the parallelogram with adjacent sides u and v
i) the projection of w onto v
a) u · v = 2(-4) + -1(2) + -5(-1) = -5
b) u × v =
$$\begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 2 & -1 & -5 \\ -4 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \frac{i & j}{2} -1 = i + 20j + 4k - 4k + 10i + 2j = (11, 22, 0)$$

c) u × w = $\begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 2 & -1 & -5 \\ 1 & 6 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \frac{i & j}{2} -1 = -2i - 5j + 12k + k + 30i - 4j = (28, -9, 13)$
d) u × w = -(w × u) = (-28, 9, -13)
e) $\cos \theta = \frac{u \cdot v}{||v|||||v||} = \frac{-5}{\sqrt{4 + 1 + 25}\sqrt{16 + 4 + 1}} = \frac{-5}{\sqrt{30}\sqrt{21}}$ so $\theta \approx 101.49^{\circ}$
f) $\cos \theta = \frac{v \cdot w}{||v|||||w||} = \frac{-4 + 12 - 2}{\sqrt{16 + 4 + 1}\sqrt{1 + 36 + 4}} = \frac{6}{\sqrt{21}\sqrt{41}}$ so $\theta \approx 78.2^{\circ}$
g) $\frac{1}{2} ||(28, -9, 13)|| \approx 16.078$
h) $||(11, 22, 0)|| \approx 24.597$
i) $proj_v w = \left(\frac{w \cdot v}{||v||^2}\right) v = \left(\frac{-4 + 12 - 2}{16 + 4 + 1}\right) (-4, 2, -1) = \frac{6}{21}(-4, 2, -1) \text{ or } \frac{7}{7}(-4, 2, -1)$



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