

note $\underline{v} \times \underline{v} = -\underline{v} \times \underline{v} = \underline{0}$

Thm Useful properties:

- $\underline{w} \times \underline{v} = -\underline{v} \times \underline{w}$
- $\underline{v} \times \underline{v} = \underline{0}$
- $\underline{v} \times \underline{w} = \underline{0} \Leftrightarrow \underline{w} = \lambda \underline{v}$ for some scalar $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$
(or $\underline{v} = \underline{0}$ or $\underline{w} = \underline{0}$)
- $(\lambda \underline{v}) \times \underline{w} = \underline{v} \times (\lambda \underline{w}) = \lambda (\underline{v} \times \underline{w})$
- $(\underline{u} + \underline{v}) \times \underline{w} = \underline{u} \times \underline{w} + \underline{v} \times \underline{w}$
 $\underline{u} \times (\underline{v} + \underline{w}) = \underline{u} \times \underline{v} + \underline{u} \times \underline{w}$

Special case

$$\underline{i} \times \underline{j} = \underline{k}$$

$$\underline{j} \times \underline{i} = -\underline{k}$$

$$\underline{i} \times \underline{i} = \underline{0} \text{ etc}$$

$$\underline{j} \times \underline{k} = \underline{i}$$

$$\underline{k} \times \underline{j} = -\underline{i}$$

$$\underline{k} \times \underline{i} = \underline{j}$$

$$\underline{i} \times \underline{k} = -\underline{j}$$

Alternate way of computing $\underline{v} \times \underline{w}$

$$\underline{v} = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle = \underline{i} + \underline{k}$$

$$\underline{w} = \langle 1, -1, 0 \rangle = \underline{i} - \underline{j}$$

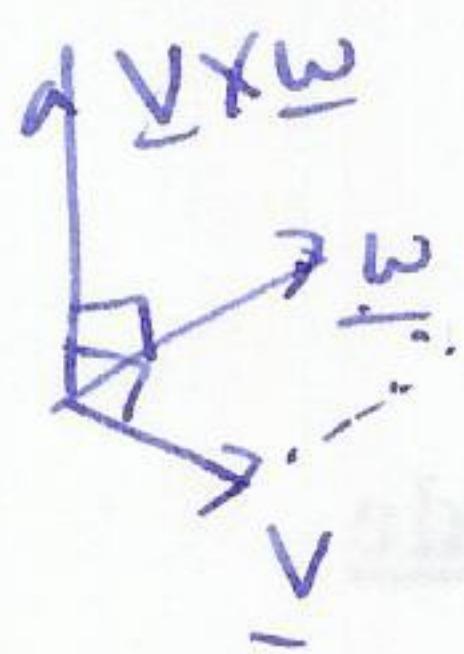
$$\underline{v} \times \underline{w} = (\underline{i} + \underline{k}) \times (\underline{i} - \underline{j}) = \underline{i} \times \underline{i} - \underline{j} \times \underline{i} + \underline{k} \times \underline{i} - \underline{j} \times \underline{k}$$

$$= \underline{i} \times \underline{i} - \underline{i} \times \underline{j} + \underline{k} \times \underline{i} - \underline{k} \times \underline{j}$$

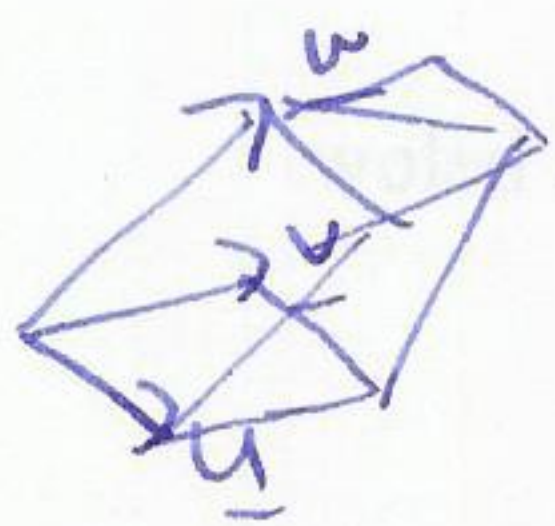
$$= \underline{0} - \underline{k} + \underline{j} + \underline{i} = \underline{i} + \underline{j} - \underline{k}$$

$$= \langle 1, 1, -1 \rangle$$

Useful facts

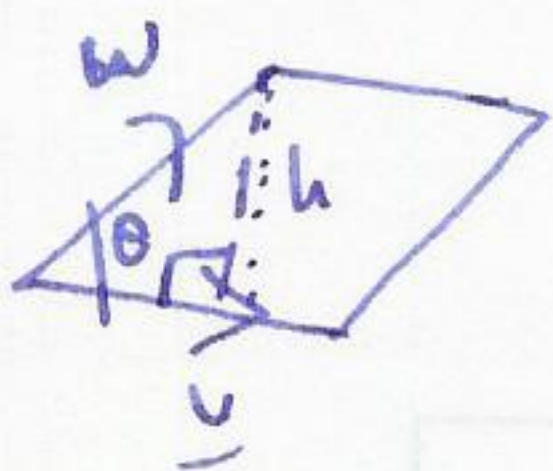


area of parallelogram defined by $\underline{u}, \underline{v}$ is $A = \|\underline{u} \times \underline{v}\|$.



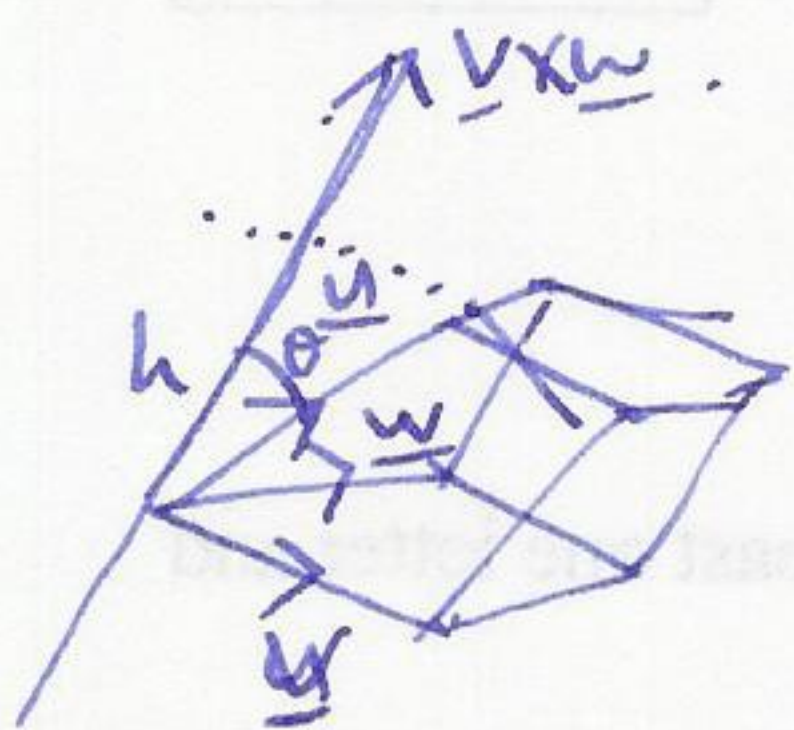
volume of parallelepiped defined by $\underline{u}, \underline{v}, \underline{w}$ is $V = |\underline{u} \cdot (\underline{v} \times \underline{w})|$.

check



area of parallelogram is base $\times$ height
 $\|\underline{u}\| \times \|\underline{v}\| \sin \theta$
 $= \|\underline{u} \times \underline{v}\|$

Volume of parallelepiped is



area of base $\times$ height
 $\|\underline{u} \times \underline{v}\| \|\underline{w}\| \cos \theta$
 $= \|\underline{u} \cdot (\underline{v} \times \underline{w})\|$

Notation

$\underline{u} \cdot (\underline{v} \times \underline{w})$ is called the vector triple product

Warning

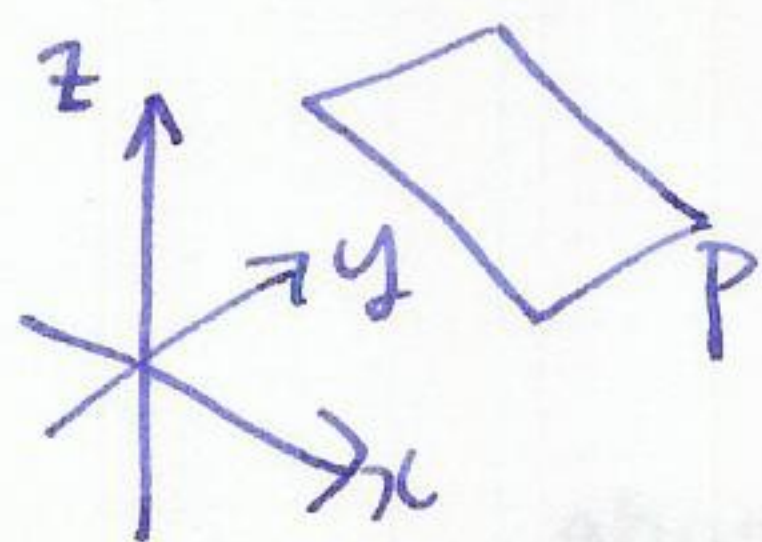
$\underline{u} \cdot (\underline{v} \times \underline{w})$ makes sense
 $(\underline{u} \cdot \underline{v}) \times \underline{w}$ does not!

Note

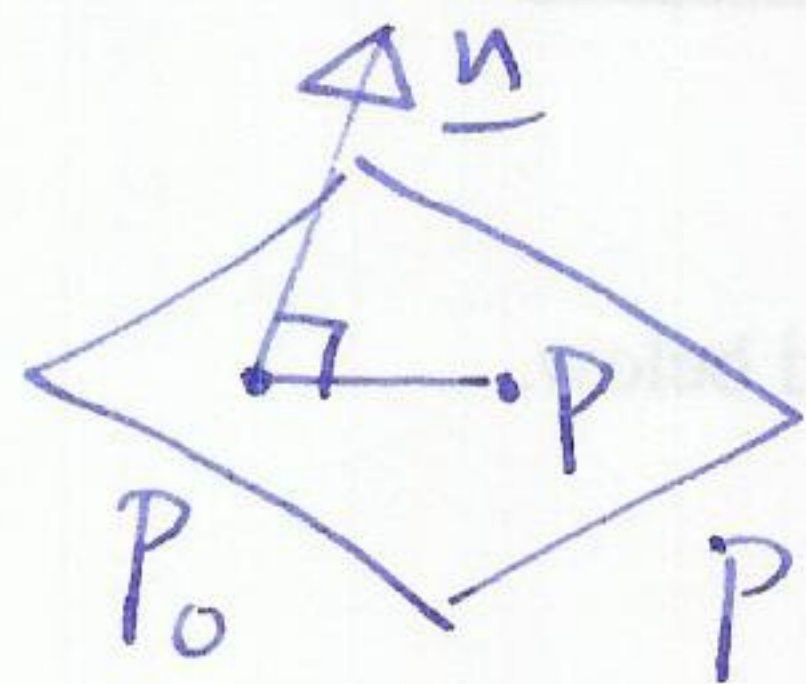
if $\underline{u} = \langle u_1, u_2, u_3 \rangle$ then $\underline{u} \cdot (\underline{v} \times \underline{w}) = \underline{u} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & \underline{j} & \underline{k} \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix}$
 $\underline{v} = \langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$
 $\underline{w} = \langle w_1, w_2, w_3 \rangle$
 $= \begin{vmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \underline{u} \\ \underline{v} \\ \underline{w} \end{pmatrix}$

§12.5 Planes in $\mathbb{R}^3$

(16)



claim: a plane in $\mathbb{R}^3$ is defined by a linear equation $ax+by+cz=d$



Proof let P_0 be a point on P $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$

let $\underline{n}$ be the normal vector to P $\underline{n} = \langle a, b, c \rangle$

let $P = (x, y, z)$ be some other point on the plane

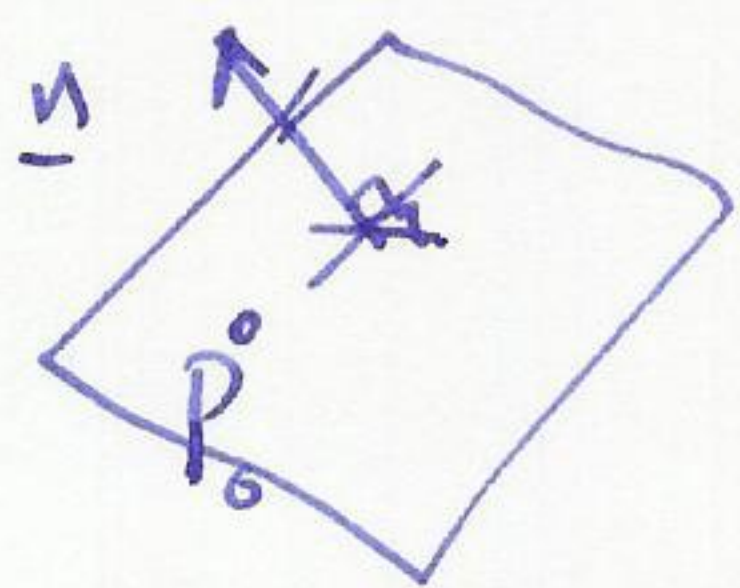
then $\underline{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0 P} = 0$

$$\langle a, b, c \rangle \cdot \langle x-x_0, y-y_0, z-z_0 \rangle = 0$$

$$a(x-x_0) + b(y-y_0) + c(z-z_0) = 0$$

$$ax + by + cz = \underbrace{ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0}_{=d}$$

Thm Equation of a plane in point-normal form.



equation of a plane through P_0 with normal vector $\underline{n}$

can be written as:

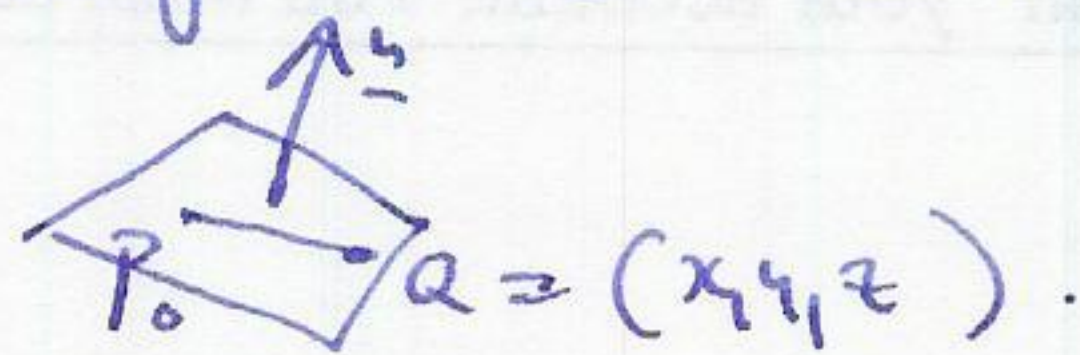
vector form: $\underline{n} \cdot \langle x, y, z \rangle = d$ ($d = \underline{n} \cdot \langle x_0, y_0, z_0 \rangle = ax_0 + by_0 + cz_0$)

scalar form: $a(x-x_0) + b(y-y_0) + c(z-z_0) = 0$

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

Example find equation of plane through $P_0 = (1, 2, 3)$ with

normal vector $\underline{n} = \langle 2, 1, -1 \rangle$

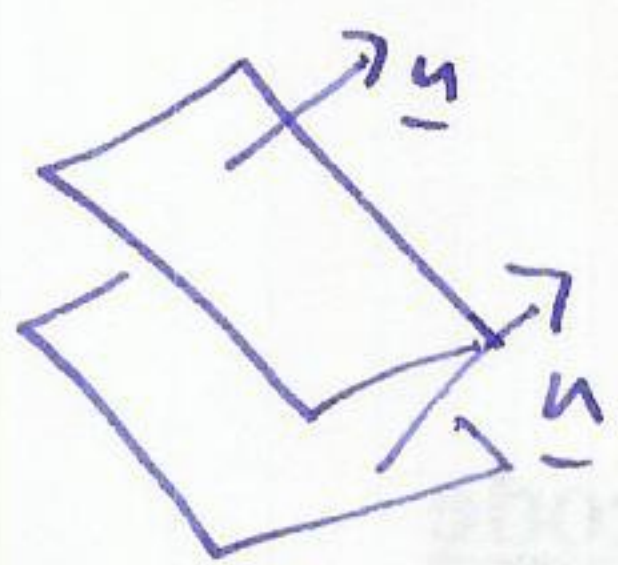


$$\underline{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0 Q} = 0$$

$$\langle 2, 1, -1 \rangle \cdot \langle x-1, y-2, z-3 \rangle = 2(x-1) + 1(y-2) - 1(z-3) = 0$$

$$2x + y - z = 7$$

- Parallel planes have the same normal vector



find the plane parallel to $x - 3y + 2z = 4$
through the point $P = (6, 4, 2)$

$$\underline{n} = \langle 1, -3, 2 \rangle$$

so equation of plane is $1(x-6) - 3(y-4) + 2(z-2) = 0$

- Three points determine a plane.



find normal vector: $\underline{n} = \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR}$

Example $P = (1, 0, 1)$ $Q = (2, 3, 1)$ $R = (-1, -1, 3)$

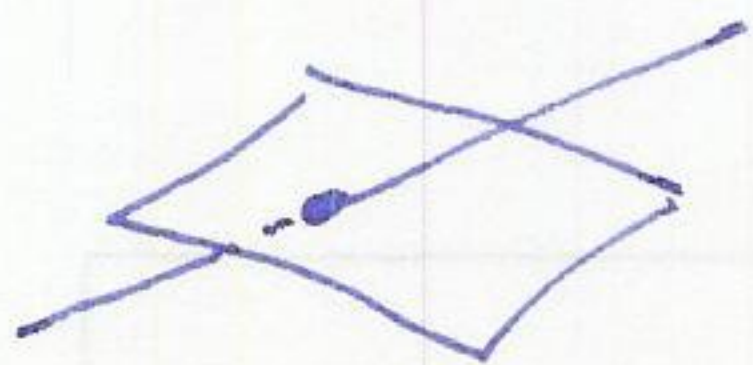
$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \langle 1, 3, 0 \rangle \quad \overrightarrow{PR} = \langle -2, -1, 2 \rangle$$

$$\underline{n} = \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} = \langle 1, 3, 0 \rangle \times \langle -2, -1, 2 \rangle = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & \underline{j} & \underline{k} \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ -2 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \langle 6, 2, -7 \rangle$$

equation: $6(x-1) + 2(y-0) - 7(z-1) = 0$

- intersection of a plane and a line



plane: $2x - 3y + 4z = 2$

line: $\langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle + t \langle -2, 1, 1 \rangle$

$$x = 1 - 2t$$

$$y = 2 + t$$

$$z = 1 + t$$

substitute in to equation of plane:

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

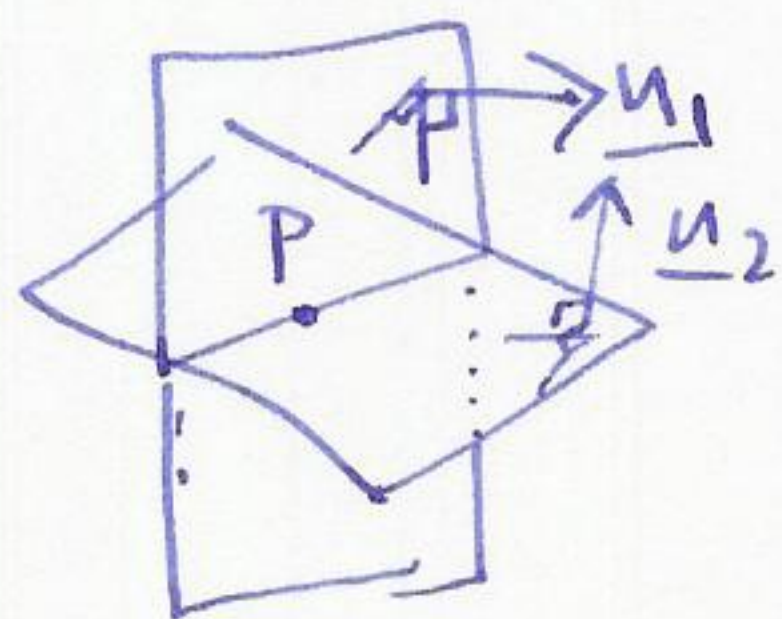
$$2 - 4t - 6 - 3t + 4 + 4t = 2$$

$$-3t = 2 \quad t = 2/3$$

so the point is : $\langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle + \frac{2}{3} \langle -2, 1, 1 \rangle = \langle -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{8}{3}, \frac{5}{3} \rangle$.

check!

• intersection of two planes.



direction vector for the line is perpendicular to both $\underline{n}_1, \underline{n}_2$ so can choose it to be

$$\underline{v} = \underline{n}_1 \times \underline{n}_2$$

then just need to find point on plane. (Chgs)

Example

$$x+y-z=2$$

$$x+2y+z=4$$

$$\underline{n}_1 = \langle 1, 1, -1 \rangle$$

$$\underline{n}_2 = \langle 1, 2, 1 \rangle$$

$$\underline{n}_1 \times \underline{n}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & \underline{j} & \underline{k} \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \underline{i} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - \underline{j} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + \underline{k} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= \langle -3, -2, 1 \rangle$$

find point on intersection

try: set $z=0$: $\begin{cases} \textcircled{1} x+y=2 \\ \textcircled{2} x+2y=4 \end{cases}$ solve these.

$\textcircled{1} - \textcircled{2}$: $-y = -2 \quad y=2 \Rightarrow x=0$ so $(0, 2, 0)$ works.