

# MATH-UA 123 Calculus 3: Parallelepipeds, Lines, Planes

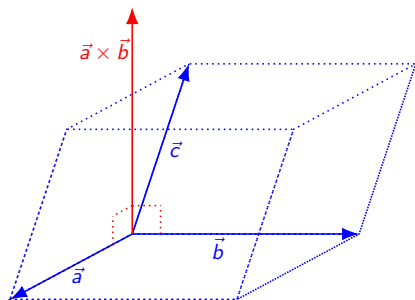
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**START RECORDING  
LIVE TRANSCRIPT**

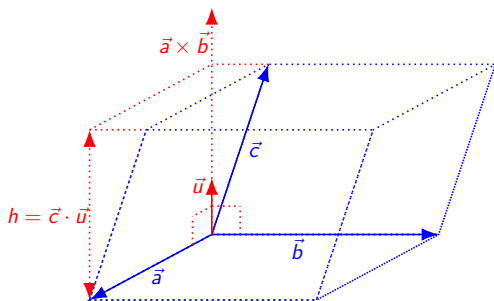
## Parallelepiped spanned by 3 Vectors in 3-space



- ▶ Three vectors  $\vec{a}$ ,  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$  are **linearly independent**, if  $\vec{c}$  does not lie in the plane containing  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$
- ▶ Three linearly independent vectors span a parallelepiped
- ▶ An ordered triple of linearly independent vectors,  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$ , has positive orientation, if it obeys the righthand rule.
- ▶  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$  has positive orientation if and only if

$$\vec{c} \cdot (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) > 0.$$

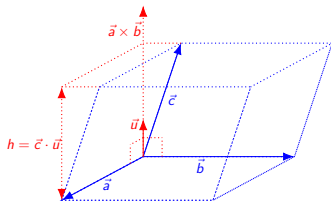
# Volume of a Parallelepiped



- ▶ Volume = (area of base)(height)
- ▶ Area of base =  $|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|$
- ▶ Height =  $|c_{\vec{u}}(\vec{c})| = |\vec{c} \cdot \vec{u}|$ , where

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{a} \times \vec{b}}{|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|}$$

# Unoriented Volume of a Parallelepiped



The unoriented volume  $V$  of the parallelepiped is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} |V| &= (\text{area of base})(\text{height}) \\ &= |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| |\vec{c} \cdot \vec{u}| \\ &= |\vec{a} \times \vec{b}| \left| \vec{c} \cdot \frac{\vec{a} \times \vec{b}}{|\vec{a} \times \vec{b}|} \right| \\ &= |(\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}| \end{aligned}$$

# Oriented Volume of a Parallelepiped

- ▶ Define the oriented volume of a parallelepiped to be

$$V = (\vec{a} \times \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{c}.$$

- ▶ If  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$  has positive orientation, then  $V > 0$
- ▶ If  $(\vec{a}, \vec{b}, \vec{c})$  has negative orientation, then  $V < 0$

## Lines in 2-space

A line in the  $xy$ -plane can be described using equations in at least 3 different ways.

- ▶ Graph,

$$y = mx + b,$$

where  $m$  is the slope and  $b$  is the  $y$ -intercept

- ▶ This does not include vertical lines
- ▶ Linear equation

$$Ax + By = C$$

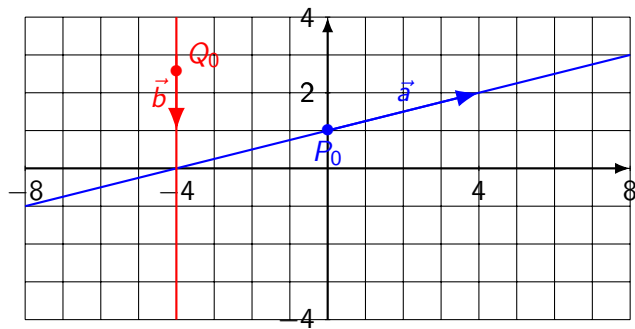
- ▶ A vertical line is given by  $x = C$
- ▶ Linear parameterization: Given any point  $(x_0, y_0)$  on the line and nonzero vector  $\vec{v} = \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$  parallel to the line, then, for any scalar  $t$ ,

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (x_0, y_0) + t\vec{v},$$

lies on the line. Conversely, for any point  $(x_1, y_1)$  on the line, there is a scalar  $t_1$  such that

$$(x_1, y_1) = (x_0, y_0) + t_1\vec{v},$$

## Lines in 2-space



$$y = \frac{1}{4}x + 1$$

$$-x + 4y = 4$$

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (0, 1) + t\langle 4, 1 \rangle$$

$$P(t) = P_0 + t\vec{a}$$

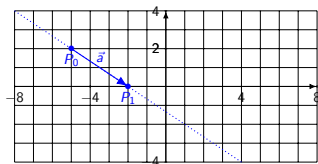
$$x = -2$$

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (-2, 3) + t\langle 0, -2 \rangle$$

$$Q(t) = Q_0 + t\vec{b}$$



## Two Distinct Points Uniquely Determine a Line



- ▶ Linear equation: The slope is  $m = -\frac{2}{3}$  and  $P_1 = (-2, 0)$  is a solution to  $y = mx + b$ . Therefore, the equation is

$$y = -\frac{2}{3}x - \frac{4}{3} \text{ or } 2x + 3y = -4$$

- ▶ Linear parameterization: Since

$$P_0 = (-5, 2), P_1 = (-2, 0), \vec{a} = P_1 - P_0 = \langle 3, -2 \rangle,$$

the linear parameterization

$$P(t) = P_0 + t\vec{a}$$

becomes

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (-5, 2) + t\langle 3, -2 \rangle = (-5 + 3t, 2 - 2t)$$

## Two Distinct Points Uniquely Determine a Line

- ▶ Given two different points  $P_0 = (x_0, y_0)$  and  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ , there is a unique line containing them.
- ▶ Linear equation:
  - ▶ If  $x_0 = x_1$ , then the line is vertical and given by  $x = x_0$
  - ▶ Otherwise, you can solve for  $m$  and  $b$  such that the points  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are solutions to the equation  $y = mx + b$
- ▶ A linear parameterization:
  - ▶  $P(t) = P_0 + t(P_1 - P_0) = P_0 + t\vec{v}$ , where  $\vec{v} = P_1 - P_0$
  - ▶  $P(0) = P_0, P(1) = P_1$

# Equations of a Plane in 3-space

A plane in 3-space can be described using equations in at least 3 ways:

- ▶ Graph:

$$z = ax + by + c$$

- ▶ This does not include vertical planes

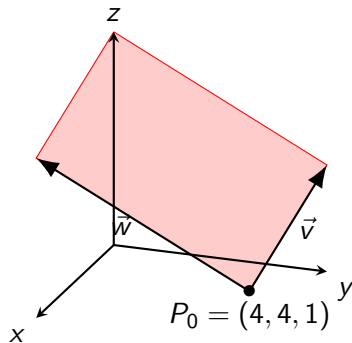
- ▶ Linear equation

$$Ax + By + Cz = D$$

- ▶ A vertical plane always has an equation of the form

$$Ax + By = D$$

## Linear Parameterization of a Plane in 3-space



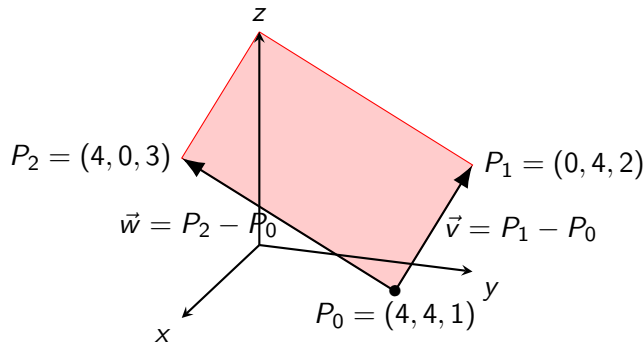
- ▶ Let  $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a point on a plane
- ▶ Let  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  be nonzero non-parallel vectors
- ▶ Given any pair of parameters  $(s, t)$ ,

$$P_0 + s\vec{v} + t\vec{w}$$

lies on the plane

- ▶ Conversely, given any point  $P_1$  on the plane, there exists  $(s_1, t_1)$  such that

## Three Non-collinear Points Uniquely Determine a Plane

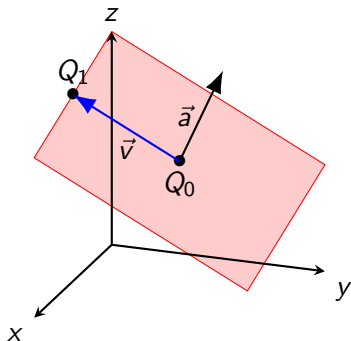


- ▶ Linear equation: Later
- ▶ Linear parameterization:

$$\begin{aligned}P(s, t) &= P_0 + s(P_1 - P_0) + t(P_2 - P_0) \\ &= P_0 + s\vec{v} + t\vec{w}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x(s, t), y(s, t), z(s, t)) &= (4, 4, 1) + s(-4\vec{i} + \vec{k}) + t(-4\vec{j} + 2\vec{k}) \\ &= (4 - 4s, 4 - 4t, 1 + s + 2t)\end{aligned}$$

## Normal Vector to a Plane



- ▶ A vector  $\vec{v}$  is said to be parallel to a plane, if any line parallel to  $\vec{v}$  either lies entirely in the plane or never intersects the plane
- ▶ A vector  $\vec{a}$  is normal to a plane, if, for any vector  $\vec{v}$  that is parallel to the plane,  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$
- ▶ A vector  $\vec{a}$  is normal to a plane if, for any two points  $Q_0$  and  $Q_1$  in the plane,  $\vec{a} \cdot (Q_1 - Q_0) = 0$

## Equation of Plane from Its Normal

- ▶ Suppose  $\vec{a}$  is a vector normal to and  $Q_0$  is a point in a plane  $A$
- ▶ A point  $Q$  lies in  $A$  if and only if  $Q - Q_0$  is a vector normal to  $\vec{a}$

$$Q \in A \iff \vec{a} \cdot (Q - Q_0) = 0.$$

- ▶ Example: Suppose  $A$  is a plane containing the point  $(1, -1, 0)$  and the vector  $2\vec{i} + \vec{k}$  is normal to  $A$ . A point  $Q = (x, y, z)$  lies in  $A$  if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \vec{a} \cdot (Q - Q_0) \\ &= (2\vec{i} + \vec{k}) \cdot ((x, y, z) - (1, -1, 0)) \\ &= (2\vec{i} + \vec{k}) \cdot ((x - 1)\vec{i} + (y + 1)\vec{j} + z\vec{k}) \\ &= 2(x - 1) + z \\ &= 2x + z - 2 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ The plane  $A$  is the set of solutions to

$$2x + z = 2$$

## Normal Vector From Equation of Plane

- ▶ Any plane is given by an equation of the form

$$Ax + By + Cz = D$$

- ▶ Therefore, given any two points  $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  and  $P_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$  in the plane,

$$Ax_1 + By_1 + Cz_1 = D$$

$$Ax_0 + By_0 + Cz_0 = D$$

- ▶ Subtracting the two equations above, we get

$$A(x_1 - x_0) + B(y_1 - y_0) + C(z_1 - z_0) = 0$$

- ▶ If we set  $\vec{n} = A\vec{i} + B\vec{j} + C\vec{k}$ , then this becomes

$$\vec{n} \cdot (P_1 - P_0) = 0$$

- ▶ Since this holds for any two points in the plane, it follows that  $\vec{n}$  is a normal vector to the plane



## Upshot: Normal Vector of Plane = Coefficients of Equation

- ▶ If a plane is given by an equation  $Px + Qy + Rz = S$ , then  $\vec{n} = P\vec{i} + Q\vec{j} + R\vec{k}$  is normal to the plane
- ▶ If the normal vector of a plane  $\Sigma$  is  $\vec{n} = \vec{i}n_1 + \vec{j}n_2 + \vec{k}n_3$ , then, for any constant  $D$ , the plane given by

$$n_1x + n_2y + n_3z = D$$

is parallel to  $\Sigma$ . There is a unique value of  $D$  such that this plane is equal to  $\Sigma$ .

- ▶ Example: A normal vector of the plane given by

$$-x + 2y + 5z = 17$$

is  $\vec{n} = -\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 5\vec{k}$  and a unit normal vector of

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{n}}{|\vec{n}|} = \frac{-\vec{i} + 2\vec{j} + 5\vec{k}}{\sqrt{30}}.$$

## Equation of Plane Given Three Non-Collinear Points

- ▶ Suppose  $P_0, P_1, P_2$  are three non-collinear points in 3-space
- ▶ A linear parameterization of the plane containing all three points is

$$P(t) = P_0 + s(P_1 - P_0) + t(P_2 - P_0) = P_0 + s\vec{v} + t\vec{w}$$

- ▶ Then the vectors  $\vec{v} = P_1 - P_0$  and  $\vec{w} = P_2 - P_0$  are not parallel
- ▶ Therefore,  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w} \neq \vec{0}$ ,
- ▶ If  $\vec{n} = \vec{v} \times \vec{w} \neq \vec{0}$ , then it is normal to the plane. Therefore, an equation of the plane is

$$0 = (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) \cdot (P - P_0)$$

## Example

- ▶ Consider three points  $A = (1, 1, 1)$ ,  $B = (-2, 0, 1)$ ,  $C = (2, 3, 1)$
- ▶ Let  $\Sigma$  be a plane containing  $A, B, C$
- ▶ Let  $\vec{a} = C - B = \langle 4, 3, 0 \rangle$  and  $\vec{b} = A - C = \langle -1, -2, 0 \rangle$ .
- ▶ A normal to  $\Sigma$  is  
$$\vec{n} = \vec{a} \times \vec{b} = (4\vec{i} + 3\vec{j}) \times (-\vec{i} - 2\vec{j}) = (-8 + 3)\vec{k} = -5\vec{k}$$
- ▶ Therefore, an equation for  $\Sigma$  is of the form

$$0x + 0y - 5z = D$$

- ▶ Since  $(1, 1, 1)$  lies in  $\Sigma$ , it follows that  $D = -5$  and an equation of the plane is

$$-5z = -5 \text{ or, equivalently, } z = 1$$

- ▶ There is only one possible plane  $D$  containing  $A, B, C$

## Another Example

- ▶ Let  $P = (4, -8, 16)$ ,  $Q = (4, 0, 8)$ , and  $R = (4, -6, 14)$
- ▶ Let  $\vec{v} = R - P = 2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}$  and  $\vec{w} = Q - R = 8\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}$
- ▶ A normal to a plane containing  $P, Q, R$  is

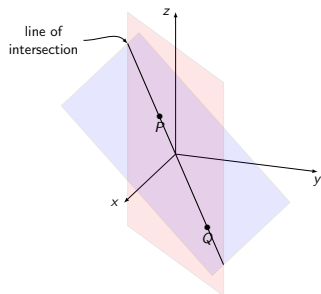
$$\vec{n} = \vec{v} \times \vec{w} = (2\vec{j} - 2\vec{k}) \times (8\vec{j} - 8\vec{k}) = 0$$

- ▶ Note that  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  point in the same direction
- ▶ Therefore,  $P, Q, R$  lie along a line, and there are infinitely many planes containing them
- ▶ Suppose  $\vec{n}$  is a nonzero vector normal to  $\vec{v}$  and therefore also to  $\vec{w}$ , such as  $\vec{n} = \vec{i}$
- ▶ A plane normal to  $\vec{n}$  therefore has an equation of the form

$$x = D$$

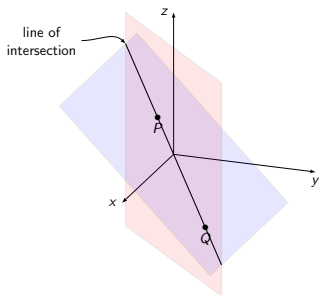
- ▶ If  $D = 4$ , then  $P, Q, R$  all lie in the plane
- ▶ Any other choice of  $\vec{n}$  normal to  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  also works
- ▶ Another possible choice is  $\vec{n} = \vec{j} + \vec{k}$

# Geometric Description of Line in 3-Space



- ▶ Given two distinct points in 3-space, there is a unique line containing them
- ▶ The intersection of two non-parallel planes is a line

# Description of Line in 3-Space Using Equations



- ▶ Linear parameterization: For each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$(x(t), y(t), z(t)) = (x_0, y_0, z_0) + t\langle v_1, v_2, v_3 \rangle$$

- ▶ The set of all points  $Q$  such that

$$\vec{n}_1 \cdot (Q - P) = 0 \text{ and } \vec{n}_2 \cdot (Q - P) = 0$$

- ▶ The set of solutions  $(x, y, z)$  to

$$a_1x + b_1y + c_1z = d_1 \text{ and } a_2x + b_2y + c_2z = d_2$$

## Example: Parameterization

- ▶ In general, given two distinct points  $P$  and  $Q$ , the parameterized line

$$(x, y, z)(t) = P + t(Q - P)$$

satisfies  $(x, y, z)(0) = P$  and  $(x, y, z)(1) = Q$  and therefore is a line that contains both  $P$  and  $Q$

- ▶ A parameterized line that contains  $(1, 1, 0)$  and  $(0, -1, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}(x, y, z)(t) &= (1, 1, 0) + t((0, -1, 1) - (1, 1, 0)) \\ &= (1, 1, 0) + t\langle -1, -2, 1 \rangle \\ &= (1 - t, 1 - 2t, t)\end{aligned}$$

## Example: Intersection of Two Planes

- ▶ Start with two points,  $P = (1, 1, 0)$  and  $Q = (0, -1, 1)$
- ▶ A plane contains the line through  $P$  and  $Q$  if its normal is orthogonal to

$$\vec{v} = Q - P = (0, -1, 1) - (1, 1, 0) = \langle -1, -2, 1 \rangle$$

- ▶ Two possible normals are

$$\vec{n}_1 = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle \text{ and } \vec{n}_2 = \langle 0, 1, 2 \rangle$$

- ▶ The first plane has the equation

$$0 = \vec{n}_1 \cdot ((x, y, z) - P) = \langle 1, 0, 1 \rangle \cdot \langle x - 1, y - 1, z \rangle = x - 1 + z$$

- ▶ The second plane has the equation

$$0 = \vec{n}_2 \cdot ((x, y, z) - P) = \langle 0, 1, 2 \rangle \cdot \langle x - 1, y - 1, z \rangle = y - 1 + 2z$$

- ▶ Therefore, the line is the intersection of the two planes and therefore the set of solutions to

$$x + z = 1 \text{ and } y + 2z = 1$$