

Vectors Exercises - Moderate (Sol'ns) (15 pages; 21/1/21)

(1) Scalar product

Show that if $|\underline{a} - \underline{b}| = |\underline{a} + \underline{b}|$, then \underline{a} & \underline{b} are perpendicular.

Solution

$$|\underline{a} - \underline{b}| = |\underline{a} + \underline{b}| \Rightarrow |\underline{a} - \underline{b}|^2 = |\underline{a} + \underline{b}|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (\underline{a} - \underline{b}) \cdot (\underline{a} - \underline{b}) = (\underline{a} + \underline{b}) \cdot (\underline{a} + \underline{b})$$

$$[\underline{x} \cdot \underline{x} = |\underline{x}| |\underline{x}| \cos 0^\circ = |\underline{x}|^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a} \cdot \underline{a} - \underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} - \underline{b} \cdot \underline{a} + \underline{b} \cdot \underline{b} = \underline{a} \cdot \underline{a} + \underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} + \underline{b} \cdot \underline{a} + \underline{b} \cdot \underline{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow -2\underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} = 2\underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} \quad [\text{since } \underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} = \underline{b} \cdot \underline{a}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a} \cdot \underline{b} = 0$$

and hence \underline{a} & \underline{b} are perpendicular

[Geometrically, $|\underline{a} - \underline{b}|$ & $|\underline{a} + \underline{b}|$ are the 'short' and 'long' diagonals of the parallelogram formed from the adjacent sides \underline{a} & \underline{b} . When these diagonals are equal, the parallelogram is a rectangle.]

(2) Planes

Find the cartesian form of the plane

$$\underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution

$$\underline{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & 1 & 2 \\ \underline{j} & 4 & 3 \\ \underline{k} & 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 7 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 7 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow -8x + 7(y + 2) - 5(z + 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -8x + 7y - 5z = -9 \text{ or } 8x - 7y + 5z = 9$$

Alternative version (once \underline{n} has been found)

Let plane be $-8x + 7y - 5z = p$

As $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ lies in the plane, $-8(0) + 7(-2) - 5(-1) = p$;

so $p = -9$ etc

Alternative method

Eliminate s & t from the 3 simultaneous equations.

(3) Lines and planes

(i)(a) Find the acute angle between the line $\frac{x}{2} = \frac{y+1}{-3} = \frac{z-2}{1}$ and the plane $x + y - 2z = 5$

(b) Show that the same angle is obtained if the line is written in the form

$$\frac{x}{-2} = \frac{y+1}{3} = \frac{z-2}{-1} \text{ (ie without rearranging into the form in (a))}$$

(ii)(a) Find the acute angle between the planes $x + 4y - 3z = 7$

and $x - y + 4z = 2$

- (b) Find the acute angle between the planes $x + 4y - 3z = 7$ and $-x + y - 4z = 2$ (again, without rearranging the equation)

Solution

- (i)(a) The angle between the line and the normal to the plane is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{14}\sqrt{6} \cos\theta, \text{ so that } \cos\theta = \frac{-3}{\sqrt{14}\sqrt{6}} = -0.32733$$

and $\theta = 109.107^\circ$

The acute angle between these vectors is then $180 - 109.107 = 70.893^\circ$

The acute angle between the line and plane is then

$$90 - 70.893 = 19.1^\circ \text{ (1dp)}$$

$$(b) \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{14}\sqrt{6} \cos\theta \Rightarrow \cos\theta = \frac{3}{\sqrt{14}\sqrt{6}} = 0.32733$$

and $\theta = 70.893^\circ$

As we have already found the acute angle between the line and the normal, the acute angle between the line and the plane is $90 - 70.893 = 19.1^\circ \text{ (1dp)}$

- (ii) The angle between the normals to the planes is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{26}\sqrt{18} \cos\theta, \text{ so that } \cos\theta = \frac{-15}{\sqrt{26}\sqrt{18}} = -0.69338$$

and $\theta = 133.898^\circ$

The acute angle between the planes themselves is $180 - 133.898 = 46.1^\circ$

(ii)(b) The angle between the normals to the planes is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{26}\sqrt{18} \cos\theta, \text{ so that } \cos\theta = \frac{15}{\sqrt{26}\sqrt{18}} = 0.69338$$

and $\theta = 46.1^\circ$

The acute angle between the planes is also 46.1° .

(4) Lines

$$\text{Given that } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, D = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

(i) Write down the equations of the lines AB and CD (both extended)

(ii) Find $\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{CD}$

(iii) For what value of p are the lines AB and CD parallel? (2 methods)

Solution

(i) Write down the equations of the lines AB and CD (both extended)

$$\underline{r_{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -4 - 1 \\ 3 - 2 \\ 1 - 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } \underline{r_{CD}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 4 - 1 \\ -4 - 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note

$$\text{or eg } \underline{r_{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) Find $\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{CD}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \underline{i} & -5 & p \\ \underline{j} & 1 & 3 \\ \underline{k} & -2 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = -(30 + 2p)\underline{j} - (15 + p)\underline{k} = -(15 + p)(2\underline{j} + \underline{k})$$

(iii) For what value of p are the lines AB and CD parallel? (2 methods)

Method 1: Direction vectors $\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} p \\ 3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$ need to be parallel; hence $p = -15$

Method 2: $\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{CD}$ must be zero

Hence $15 + p = 0$

(5) Planes

Find the plane containing the points

$(2, -1, 4)$, $(-3, 4, 2)$ and $(1, 0, 5)$, in Cartesian form

Solution

Method 1

In parametric form, it is:

$$\underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \left[\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right] + \mu \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\text{or } \underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = 2 - 5\lambda - \mu \quad (1)$$

$$y = -1 + 5\lambda + \mu \quad (2)$$

$$z = 4 - 2\lambda + \mu \quad (3)$$

Eliminating λ & μ : $(1) + (2) \Rightarrow x + y = 1$

Method 2

The normal to the plane is perpendicular to both

$$\begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}; \text{ eg } \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & -5 & -1 \\ \underline{j} & 5 & 1 \\ \underline{k} & -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 7 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that eq'n is $\underline{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ or $x + y = 1$

(6) Distance from point to plane

(i) Find the intersection of the line $\underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and the plane $3x + y + 4z = 77$

(ii) Find the shortest distance from the point $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ to the plane

$$3x + y + 4z = 77$$

Solution

(i) For a point on the line, $x = 2 + 3\lambda, y = -1 + \lambda, z = 5 + 4\lambda$

Substituting into the eq'n of the plane:

$$3(2 + 3\lambda) + (-1 + \lambda) + 4(5 + 4\lambda) = 77$$

$$\Rightarrow 26\lambda = 77 - 25 \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{52}{26} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{point of intersection has position vector } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 1 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) From (i), nearest point on the plane is $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 1 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix}$,

so that shortest distance is $\sqrt{(8-2)^2 + (1-[-1])^2 + (13-5)^2}$
 $= \sqrt{36 + 4 + 64} = \sqrt{104} = 2\sqrt{26}$

Alternative method

From (i), shortest distance is $|\lambda||\underline{n}|$, where λ corresponds to the point of intersection of the line and plane, and \underline{n} is the normal vector for the plane; ie $2\sqrt{3^2 + 1^2 + 4^2} = 2\sqrt{26}$

(7) Distance from point to plane

(i) Given that the shortest distance from the point \underline{p} to the plane

$\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$ is $\frac{|d - \underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}|}{|\underline{n}|}$, what is the significance of $\frac{d}{|\underline{n}|}$ if $d > 0$?

(ii) Find the equation of the plane that is parallel to $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$ and contains the point \underline{p} .

(iii) Hence deduce the formula for the shortest distance from the point \underline{p} to the plane $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$

Solution

(i) $\frac{d}{|\underline{n}|}$ is the distance of the plane $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$ from the Origin,

when $d > 0$

(ii) $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = \underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}$

(iii) The shortest distance from the plane $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$ to the Origin is $\frac{d}{|\underline{n}|}$.

The plane parallel to $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$, containing \underline{p} has equation

$\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = \underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}$, and its shortest distance from the Origin is $\frac{\underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}}{|\underline{n}|}$

Hence the shortest distance from the point \underline{p} to the plane $\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = d$

$$\text{is } \left| \frac{\underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}}{|\underline{n}|} - \frac{d}{|\underline{n}|} \right| = \frac{|d - \underline{p} \cdot \underline{n}|}{|\underline{n}|}$$

(8) Volume of tetrahedron

Find the volume of the tetrahedron with corners
 $(2, 1, 3), (-1, 5, 0), (4, 4, 7), (8, 2, 2)$

Solution

Method 1

Label the corners as follows:

$$A(2, 1, 3), B(-1, 5, 0), C(4, 4, 7), D(8, 2, 2)$$

$$\text{Then volume} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot (\overrightarrow{AC} \times \overrightarrow{AD})|$$

(based on $\frac{1}{3} \times \text{area of triangle ABC} \times \text{perpendicular height}$)

$$\text{and } \overrightarrow{AB} \cdot (\overrightarrow{AC} \times \overrightarrow{AD}) = \begin{vmatrix} -3 & 2 & 6 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 & -1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -3(-7) - 4(-26) - 3(-16) = 21 + 104 + 48 = 173$$

So volume is $\frac{173}{6}$ units³.

Method 2a (much longer, but good practice!)

Volume = $\frac{1}{3} \times \text{area of base ABC} \times \text{perpendicular height}$

$$\text{Area of base ABC} = \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}|$$

$$\text{and } \overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & -3 & 2 \\ \underline{j} & 4 & 3 \\ \underline{k} & -3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{so that Area of base ABC} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{25^2 + 6^2 + (-17)^2} = \frac{5}{2} \sqrt{38}$$

The perpendicular height is the shortest distance from D to the plane ABC.

A normal to the plane ABC is $\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix}$ (already calculated).

And the equation of the plane ABC is

$$\underline{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix} = 50 + 6 - 51 = 5,$$

taking $\overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ as a point in the plane.

Let the point of intersection of the perpendicular from D onto the plane ABC be P, given by the following point on the perpendicular:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix}$$

As P lies in the plane ABC,

$$\left(\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix} = 5$$

Then $178 + 950\lambda = 5$, so that $\lambda = -\frac{173}{950}$

and the perpendicular height is $|\lambda| \begin{vmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{vmatrix}$

$$= \frac{173}{950} \sqrt{25^2 + 6^2 + (-17)^2} = \frac{173}{950} \cdot 5\sqrt{38} = \frac{173}{190} \sqrt{38}$$

Hence the volume of the tetrahedron is

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{5}{2} \sqrt{38} \cdot \frac{173}{190} \sqrt{38} = \frac{173}{6} \text{ units}^3$$

Method 2b (even longer)

As Method 2a, but determining λ as follows:

For P to be a point in the plane ABC,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \theta \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

as $\overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ is a point in the plane, and $\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ and

$\overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ are directions parallel to the plane

$$\text{Then } \begin{pmatrix} 25 & 3 & -2 \\ 6 & -4 & -3 \\ -17 & 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda \\ \mu \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 25 & 3 & -2 \\ 6 & -4 & -3 \\ -17 & 3 & -4 \end{vmatrix} = 25(25) - 6(-6) - 17(-17) = 950$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 25 & 3 & -2 \\ 6 & -4 & -3 \\ -17 & 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{950} \begin{pmatrix} 25 & 75 & -50 \\ 6 & -134 & -126 \\ -17 & 63 & -118 \end{pmatrix}^T$$

$$\text{So } \begin{pmatrix} \lambda \\ \mu \\ \theta \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{950} \begin{pmatrix} 25 & 6 & -17 \\ 75 & -134 & 63 \\ -50 & -126 & -118 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{950} \begin{pmatrix} -173 \\ -253 \\ 308 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\text{so that } \lambda = -\frac{173}{950}$$

(9) Planes

(i) Find a vector that is perpendicular to both $\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$ & $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(ii) Use (i) to find the plane that passes through the points with position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$ & $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution

(i) **Method 1**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i} & 7 & 1 \\ \underline{j} & 0 & 3 \\ \underline{k} & -10 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ -3 \\ 21 \end{pmatrix}$$

[From the theory of the vector product,] this is perpendicular to the given vectors (as is $\frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ -3 \\ 21 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$).

Method 2

Let the required vector be $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$

Then $\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0$, so that $7 - 10b = 0$ & $b = \frac{7}{10}$

And $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0$, so that $1 + 3a - b = 0$,

and $a = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7}{10} - 1 \right) = -\frac{1}{10}$

Thus (multiplying by 10) a suitable vector is $\begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$.

(ii) Let $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$ & $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ represent the points A, B & C, respectively.

Then $\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$ & $\overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

From (i), a vector that is perpendicular to \overrightarrow{AB} & \overrightarrow{AC} (and therefore a normal to the plane) is $\begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$.

So the equation of the plane is

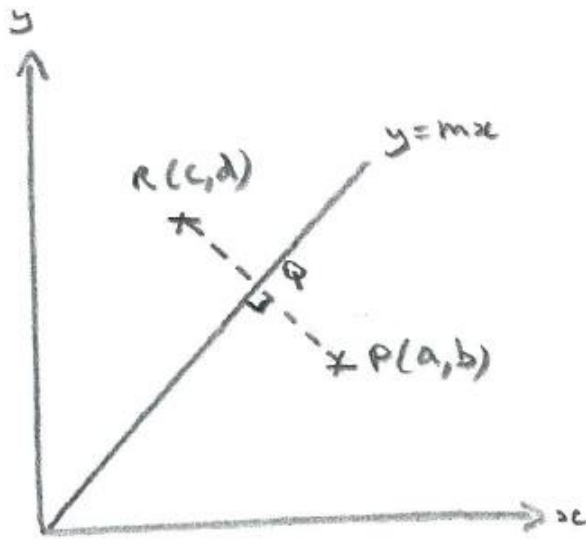
$$\underline{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} = 10 - 2 + 21 = 29$$

or (in cartesian form) $10x - y + 7z = 29$ [as $\underline{r} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$]

(10) Points and lines

Show that the coordinates of the reflection of the point (a, b) in the line $y = mx$ are $\frac{1}{m^2+1} \begin{pmatrix} a(1-m^2) + 2bm \\ 2am + b(m^2-1) \end{pmatrix}$

Solution



Referring to the diagram, let $\lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix}$ be the point Q.

Then, as \overrightarrow{QP} is perpendicular to the line $y = mx$,

$$\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix} = 0; \text{ ie } \begin{pmatrix} a - \lambda \\ b - \lambda m \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

$$\text{so that } a - \lambda + (b - \lambda m)m = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda(m^2 + 1) = a + bm, \text{ and } \lambda = \frac{a + bm}{m^2 + 1}$$

$$\text{Then } \overrightarrow{OR} = \overrightarrow{OQ} + \overrightarrow{QR} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix} + \overrightarrow{PQ}$$

$$= \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \lambda - a \\ \lambda m - b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2\lambda - a \\ 2\lambda m - b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{m^2+1} \begin{pmatrix} 2(a+bm) - a(m^2+1) \\ 2m(a+bm) - b(m^2+1) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{m^2+1} \begin{pmatrix} a(1-m^2) + 2bm \\ 2am + b(m^2-1) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

[Note that, when $m = 1$, R is (b, a) .]