

## Section 2: The vector equation of a line

## Exercise level 1

1. Find vector equations for the lines joining

- (i) (2, 5) to (3, -1)  
 (ii) (-3, 2) to (1, 6)  
 (iii) passing through (0, 6) and parallel to  $3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}$

2. Find the points of intersection of the lines

- (i)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{s} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$   
 (ii)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{s} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

3. (i) Find the angle between the lines

$$\mathbf{r} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \lambda(3\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j}) \text{ and } \mathbf{s} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mu(2\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}).$$

(ii) Which line is perpendicular to

- (a)  $8\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j}$                       (b)  $6\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$

(iii) For each line, find the unit vector which is parallel to the line.

4. Find the vector and Cartesian equations of the line joining (3, 1, 1) to (-2, 3, 5).

5. Write in Cartesian form the equation of the line  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

6. Write in vector form the equation of the line  $\frac{x-1}{1} = \frac{y+2}{4} = \frac{z-3}{2}$ .

7. Find whether each pair of lines intersects or not. If they do intersect, give the coordinates of the point of intersection.

(i)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

(ii)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(iii)  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$

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$$(iv) \quad \tilde{\mathbf{r}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{r}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$