

Section 3: The equation of a plane

Exercise level 2

1. (i) Find, in the form $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = d$, the equation of the plane which contains the point $(2, -6, 1)$ and is perpendicular to the vector $3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$.
- (ii) Write the equation in Cartesian form.
- (iii) Find where the plane and the line $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k} + \lambda(2\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})$ intersect.
- (iv) Find the angle between the line and the plane.

2. (i) Find the position vector of the point of intersection of the line

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and the plane } \mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} = 9.$$

- (ii) Find the angle between the line and the plane.

3. A plane contains the points A $(3, 0, 2)$, B $(1, -1, 1)$ and C $(2, 3, -1)$.

Find the equation of the plane

(i) in the form $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda\mathbf{b} + \mu\mathbf{c}$

(ii) in the form $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = d$

4. Show that the plane $\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) = 1$ contains the line

$$\mathbf{r} = 3\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k} + \lambda(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}).$$

5. A plane has equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$.

Write the equation of this plane in Cartesian form.