

V. 4

# INTERSECTION OF THREE PLANES

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Let each plane be defined by a point  $P_k$  and a unit normal, vector  $\mathbf{V}_k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Then the unique point of intersection can be written in closed form as

$$P_{\text{Int}} = \{ (P_1 \cdot \mathbf{V}_1)(\mathbf{V}_2 \times \mathbf{V}_3) + (P_2 \cdot \mathbf{V}_2)(\mathbf{V}_3 \times \mathbf{V}_1) \\ + (P_3 \cdot \mathbf{V}_3)(\mathbf{V}_1 \times \mathbf{V}_2) \} / \text{Det}(\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2, \mathbf{V}_3).$$

If two of the given planes are parallel there is no intersection. In this case the denominator  $\text{Det}(\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2, \mathbf{V}_3)$  is zero.