AI25BTECH11003 - Bhavesh Gaikwad

Question: Find the distance between the point P(6, 5, 9) and the plane determined by the points A(3, -1, 2), B(5, 2, 4) and C(-1, -1, 6).

Solution: Let the Equation of the Plane be $\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} = 1$.

Since, A, B, C lie on the Plane.

$$\therefore \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{A} = 1, \, \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{B} = 1, \, \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{C} = 1 \tag{0.1}$$

OR

$$\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{n} = 1, \ \mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{n} = 1, \ \mathbf{C}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{n} = 1 \tag{0.2}$$

Let
$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

From Equation 0.2,

$$(\mathbf{A}\,\mathbf{B}\,\mathbf{C})^{\mathsf{T}}n = 1\tag{0.3}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 5 & 2 & 4 \\ -1 & -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{0.4}$$

From Equation 0.4,

$$n_1 = 3/19, n_2 = -4/19, n_3 = 3/19$$
 (0.5)

... The Equation of the Plane is:
$$\frac{1}{19} (3 -4 3) \mathbf{x} = 1$$
 (0.6)

The Distance of Point from a Plane is given by the formula:

$$d = \frac{\left\| \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{Q} - 1 \right\|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|} \tag{0.7}$$

Let d be the distance between Point **P** and the Plane.

Then,
$$d = \frac{\left\| \mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{P} - 1 \right\|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}$$
 (0.8)

1

$$d = \frac{\left\| \frac{18 - 20 + 27}{19} - 1 \right\|}{\left(\frac{\sqrt{34}}{19}\right)} \tag{0.9}$$

$$\therefore d = \frac{3\sqrt{34}}{17} \tag{0.10}$$

The Distance between the Plane and
$$\mathbf{P}is \frac{3\sqrt{34}}{17} units$$
. (0.11)

Distance between Point and Plane

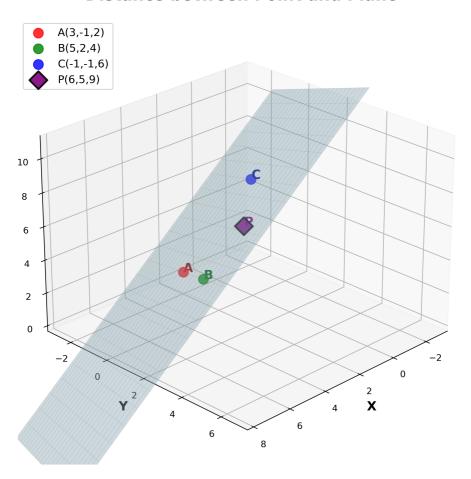


Fig. 0.1: Plane