

## 4.5.6

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### Question

Find the equations of the line that passes through the point (3,0,1) and parallel to the planes  $x + 2y = 0$  and  $3y - z = 0$ .

### Solution

We know that the normal form of a plane is  $\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 0$

The plane  $x + 2y = 0$  can be expressed in vector form as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^T \mathbf{x} = 0 \quad (1)$$

therefore,

$$\mathbf{n}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

The plane  $3y - z = 0$  can be expressed in vector form as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}^T \mathbf{x} = 0 \quad (3)$$

therefore,

$$\mathbf{n}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

The direction vector of the line is given by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} = 0 \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - \frac{2}{3}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1/3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Therefore the equation of the line is:

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

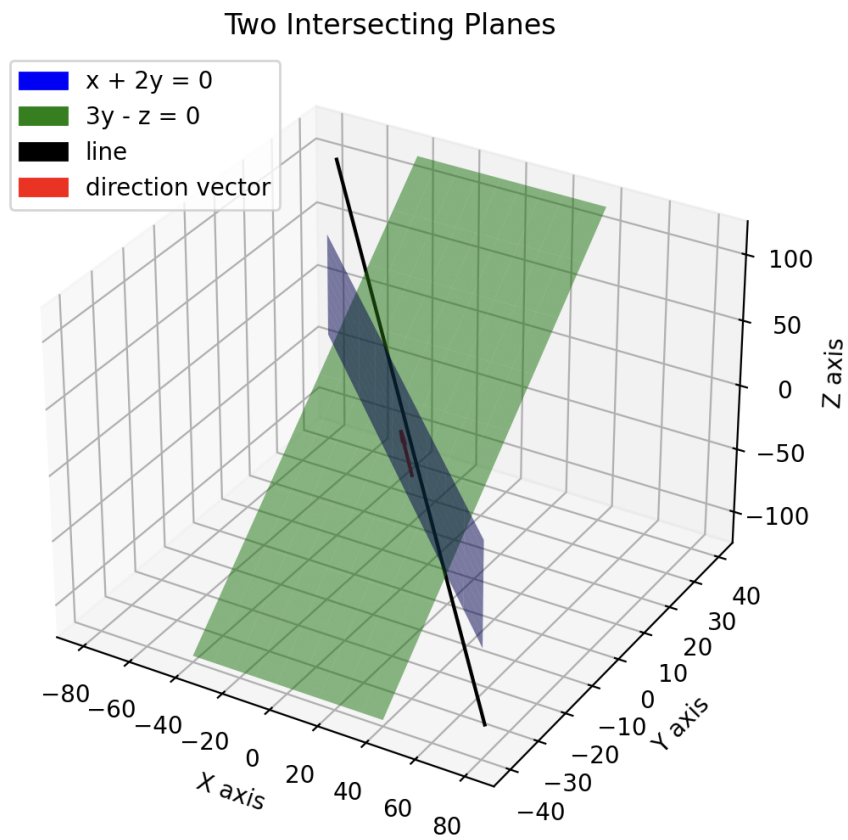


Figure 1: Plot