

## 2.10.3

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# Question

Find the unit vector perpendicular to the plane determined by:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Direction Vectors

Compute:

$$\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\mathbf{n}$  be perpendicular to both:

$$\mathbf{n}^T(\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{n}^T(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{P}) = 0$$

Solving gives:

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Plane Equation

We use the plane equation:

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{P}$$

Compute:

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 8(1) + 2(-1) + 4(2) = 14 \Rightarrow \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 14$$

Normalize:

$$\|\mathbf{n}\| = \sqrt{8^2 + 2^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{84} \Rightarrow \hat{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{84}} \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then:

$$\hat{n}^T \mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{84}} \cdot 14 = \frac{14}{\sqrt{84}}$$

$$\hat{n}^T \mathbf{x} = \frac{14}{\sqrt{84}}$$

# Final Answer

$$\hat{n} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{8}{\sqrt{84}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{84}} \\ \frac{4}{\sqrt{84}} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{n}^T \mathbf{x} = \frac{14}{\sqrt{84}}$$

This is the unit vector perpendicular to the plane defined by **P**, **Q**, **R**

# Python Code (Part 1)

```
import numpy as np

P = np.array([1, -1, 2])
Q = np.array([2, 0, -1])
R = np.array([0, 2, 1])

A = Q - P
B = R - P

M = np.array([A, B])
U, S, Vt = np.linalg.svd(M)
```

## Python Code (Part 2)

```
N = Vt[-1] # Null space vector

unit_vector = N / np.linalg.norm(N)
print("Unit vector:", unit_vector)
```

# C Code for .so File (Part 1)

```
#include <math.h>

void normal_vector(float* A,
                  float* B,
                  float* out) {

    float z = 1.0;

    float denom = A[0]*B[1] - B[0]*A[1];
    float x = (B[1]*A[2] - A[1]*B[2]) / denom;
```



## C Code for .so File (Part 2)

```
float y = (A[0]*B[2] - B[0]*A[2]) / denom;  
  
out[0] = x;  
out[1] = y;  
out[2] = z;  
  
float mag = sqrt(out[0]*out[0] +  
                 out[1]*out[1] +  
                 out[2]*out[2]);  
  
for(int i=0;i<3;i++) out[i]/=mag;  
}
```

# Python Code Using .so File (Part 1)

```
import ctypes
import numpy as np

lib = ctypes.CDLL('./libnormal.so')
lib.normal_vector.argtypes = [
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float),
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float),
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float)
]

P = np.array([1, -1, 2], np.float32)
```

## Python Code Using .so File (Part 2)

```
Q = np.array([2, 0, -1], np.float32)
R = np.array([0, 2, 1], np.float32)

A = Q - P
B = R - P
out = np.zeros(3, np.float32)

lib.normal_vector(
    A.ctypes.data_as(ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float)),
    B.ctypes.data_as(ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float)),
    out.ctypes.data_as(ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_float))
)

print("Unit vector:", out)
```

Plane with Unit Normal Vector and Points

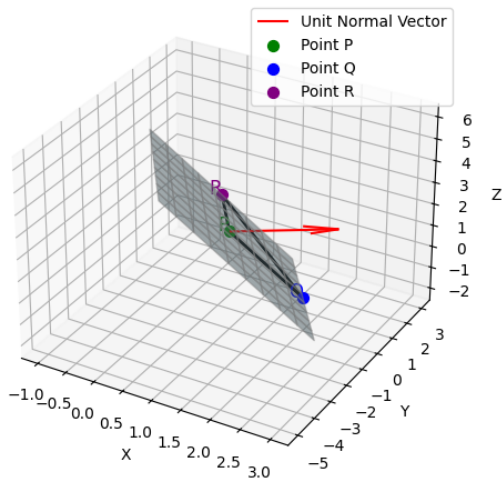


Figure: Plane and its unit normal