4.4.22

RATHLAVATH JEEVAN -AI25BTECH11026

September 10, 2025

Question

Find the equation of a plane which passes through the point (3,2,0) and contains the line

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-6}{5} = \frac{z-4}{4}. (1)$$

Solution:

Given: Find the plane using column vectors.

Let the normal be $\mathbf{n} = (a, b, c)^T$. We use the form

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 1. \tag{2}$$

The plane passes through the point P = (3, 2, 0) and contains the line

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-6}{5} = \frac{z-4}{4},\tag{3}$$

so take a point on the line A = (3, 6, 4) and the direction vector $\mathbf{v} = (1, 5, 4)$.

The conditions are

$$\mathbf{n}^T P = 1, \quad \mathbf{n}^T A = 1, \quad \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{v} = 0.$$
 (4)

Put these three column vectors together into a matrix (columns are the given points/vectors):

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (columns are P, A, \mathbf{v}). (5)

Then the three scalar conditions above read compactly as

$$\mathbf{n}^T M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{6}$$

Transposing both sides gives a standard linear system for \mathbf{n} :

$$M^T \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{7}$$

Write this out:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 4 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{8}$$

Solving this 3×3 system (by Gaussian elimination or matrix inverse) yields

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (9)

Thus a convenient normal vector is $\mathbf{n}=(1,-1,1)^T$, and the plane equation in the requested form is

$$\boxed{\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 1} \implies \boxed{x - y + z = 1}.$$
 (10)

Plane and Line

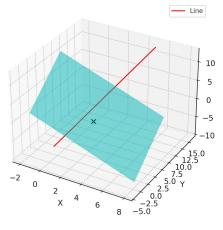


Figure: Caption