

# 4.8.14

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## Question:

Let  $\mathbf{P}(3, 2, 6)$  be a point in space and  $\mathbf{Q}$  be a point on the line  $\mathbf{r} = (\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) + \mu(-3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 5\hat{k})$ . Then the value of  $\mu$  for which the vector  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$  is parallel to the plane  $x - 4y + 3z = 1$  is

## Solution:

$$\text{The position vector of point } \mathbf{P} \text{ is } \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.1)$$

Point  $\mathbf{Q}$  lies on line  $\mathbf{r}$ . So

$$\text{The position vector of point } \mathbf{Q} \text{ is } \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3\mu \\ -1 + \mu \\ 2 + 5\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.2)$$

$$\overrightarrow{PQ} = \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3\mu - 3 \\ -1 + \mu - 2 \\ 2 + 5\mu - 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 - 3\mu \\ -3 + \mu \\ -4 + 5\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.3)$$

Equation of plane is  $x - 4y + 3z = 1$

$$\text{Normal of plane is } \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.4)$$

$\overrightarrow{PQ}$  is parallel to the plane, So  $\mathbf{n}^T(\mathbf{PQ}) = 0$

$$\mathbf{n}^T(\mathbf{PQ}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 - 3\mu \\ -3 + \mu \\ -4 + 5\mu \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad (0.5)$$

$$-2 - 3\mu + 12 - 4\mu - 12 + 15\mu = 0 \quad (0.6)$$

$$-2 + 8\mu = 0 \quad (0.7)$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{4} \quad (0.8)$$

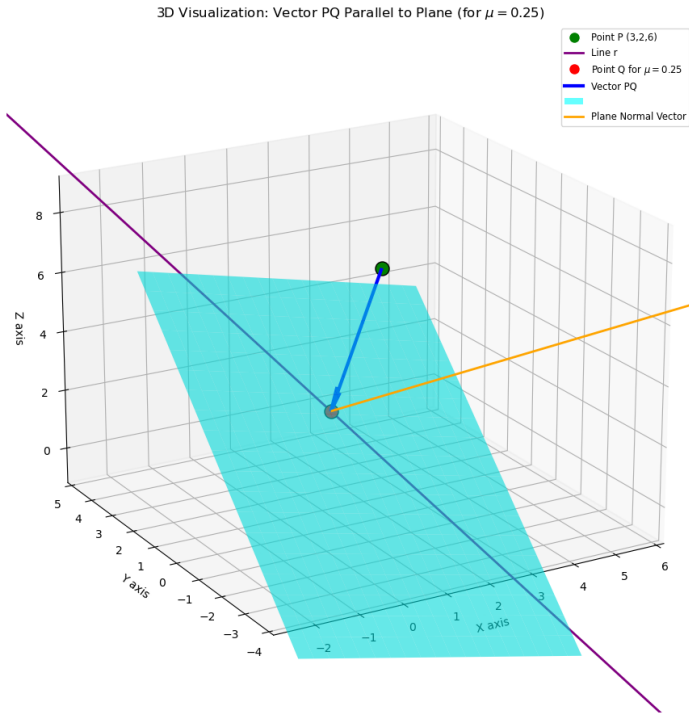


Fig. 0.1