

# 4.8.20

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## Question:

Find the distance between the point  $(2, 3, 4)$  measured along the line  $\frac{x-4}{3} = \frac{y+5}{6} = \frac{z+1}{2}$  from the plane  $3x + 2y + 2z + 5 = 0$

## Solution:

Let the vector  $\mathbf{A}$  be  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ , and the direction vector of the line  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The equation of the plane can be written as;

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{X} = 1 \quad \text{where, } \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.1)$$

The equation of the line passing through  $\mathbf{A}$  and with the direction vector  $\mathbf{b}$  is;

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + \lambda \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.2)$$

The point on the plane lying on this line can be found out by substituting the parametric point in the equation of the plane and find out the value of  $\lambda$ .

After solving for  $\lambda$  we get  $\lambda = -1$ . Thus, the point is  $\mathbf{B}$  would be  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Thus, the final distance along the line can be written as;

$$d = \mathbf{A}^T \cdot \mathbf{B} = 7 \quad (0.3)$$

Thus, the distance between the point  $(2, 3, 4)$  measured along the line  $\frac{x-4}{3} = \frac{y+5}{6} = \frac{z+1}{2}$  from the plane  $3x + 2y + 2z + 5 = 0$  is 7

