

MatGeo Assignment 4.4.3

AI25BTECH11007

September 23, 2025

Question

Find the values of λ for which the distance of the point $(2, 1, \lambda)$ from the plane $3x + 5y + 4z = 11$ is $2\sqrt{2}$ units.

Solution

$$\text{Plane: } 3x + 5y + 4z = 11 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let point be

$$\mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

The distance of a point \mathbf{p} from plane $\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 11$ is

$$d = \frac{|\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{p} - 11|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}. \quad (1)$$

Now,

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{p} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 11 + 4\lambda, \quad (2)$$

and

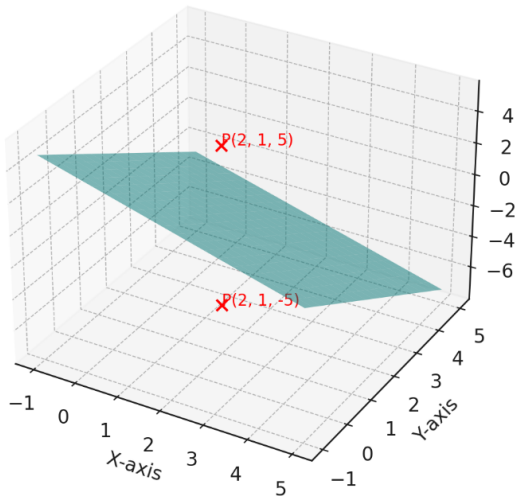
$$\|\mathbf{n}\| = 5\sqrt{2}. \quad (3)$$

Hence,

$$d = \frac{|11 + 4\lambda - 11|}{5\sqrt{2}} = 2\sqrt{2}. \quad (4)$$

$$\therefore \lambda = \pm 5. \quad (5)$$

Point $(2, 1, \lambda)$ and plane $3x + 5y + 4z = 11$



```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <stdlib.h> // For fabs()

int main() {
    // Plane:  $3x + 5y + 4z = 11$ 
    double n[] = {3, 5, 4}; // Normal vector components
    double d_plane = 11; // Plane constant
    double distance = 2 * sqrt(2); // Given distance

    // Point: (2, 1, lambda)
    double x = 2, y = 1;
    double lambda;

    // Distance formula:  $d = |n \cdot p - d_{\text{plane}}| / ||n||$ 
    //  $||n|| = \sqrt{3^2 + 5^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{50} = 5\sqrt{2}$ 
    double norm_n = sqrt(n[0]*n[0] + n[1]*n[1] + n[2]*n[2]);
```

```
// Solve for lambda: |n . p - d_plane| / ||n|| = distance
// n . p = 3*2 + 5*1 + 4*lambda = 11 + 4*lambda
// |11 + 4*lambda - 11| / (5*sqrt(2)) = 2*sqrt(2)
// => |4*lambda| / (5*sqrt(2)) = 2*sqrt(2)
// => |lambda| = 5
lambda = 5;
printf("Lambda = %.2f or %.2f\n", lambda, -lambda);

return 0;
}
```

Python code

```
import math

# Plane:  $3x + 5y + 4z = 11$ 
n = [3, 5, 4] # Normal vector
d_plane = 11 # Plane constant
distance = 2 * math.sqrt(2) # Given distance

# Point: (2, 1, lambda)
x, y = 2, 1

# Norm of the normal vector
norm_n = math.sqrt(n[0]**2 + n[1]**2 + n[2]**2) #  $||n||$ 

lambda_val = 5
print(f"Lambda = {lambda_val} or {-lambda_val}")
```