1

Assignment 1

Jaswanth Chowdary Madala

1) Show that the vectors $2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}$, $\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 5\hat{k}$ and $3\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$ form the vertices of a right angled triangle.

Solution: Let us first check whether the given points form a triangle. Let us consider,

$$\mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.1)

To check whether the points A, B, C form a triangle, we find the rank of the matrix $(A \ B \ C)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ -1 & -3 & -4 \\ 1 & -5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.2}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - \frac{1}{2}R_1} \qquad (0.0.3)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -\frac{5}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{11}{2} & -\frac{11}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.4)

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - \frac{11}{5}R_2} \tag{0.0.5}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -\frac{5}{2} & -\frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.6}$$

The rank of the matrix is 2 and the points are in 3-Dimensional space, So the points **A**, **B**, **C** form a triangle.

Now, we check whether the triangle is right angled at any of the vertices - \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{B} , \mathbf{C} . For a right angled triangle ABC which is right

angled at A

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = 0 \tag{0.0.7}$$

 a) checking whether the triangle is right angled at A

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.8}$$

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.9}$$

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = 35$$

$$(0.0.10)$$

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) \neq 0 \tag{0.0.11}$$

The triangle is not right angled at A.

b) checking whether the triangle is right angled at ${\bf B}$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.12}$$

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.13}$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 6$$
(0.0.14)

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}) \neq 0 \tag{0.0.15}$$

The triangle is not right angled at **B**.

c) checking whether the triangle is right angled

at C

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \qquad (0.0.16)$$

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad (0.0.17)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(0.0.18)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}) = 0 \qquad (0.0.19)$$

Hence the triangle is right angled at C.