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## 3D\_DIRECTION COSINES & DIRECTION RATIOS

### SYNOPSIS

1. Relation between direction ratios and direction coins:

i) Let  $(a,b,c)$  be direction ratios and  $(l_2,m_2,n_2)$  be direction cosine of a line. Then

$$\frac{1}{a} = \frac{m}{b} = \frac{n}{c} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}} \Rightarrow l = \pm \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, m = \pm \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, n = \pm \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

2. Direction ratios and direction cosines of a line segment:

i) The direction ratios of the line segment joining  $A(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  may be taken as  $(x_2 - x_1, y_2 - y_1, z_2 - z_1)$  or  $(x_1 - x_2, y_1 - y_2, z_1 - z_2)$

ii) Direction cosines of line segment joining  $A(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  are  $\pm \left( \frac{x_2 - x_1}{AB}, \frac{y_2 - y_1}{AB}, \frac{z_2 - z_1}{AB} \right)$

iii) A line has two sets of d.c's. If  $(l, m, n)$  is one set then other set is  $(-l, -m, -n)$

3. Co-ordinates of a point on directed line:

i) If  $(l, m, n)$  are the d.c's of  $\overline{OP}$  where 'O' is the origin and  $OP=r$  then  $P = (lr, mr, nr)$

Lagrange's identity:

$$(l_1^2 + m_1^2 + n_1^2)(l_2^2 + m_2^2 + n_2^2) - (l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2)^2 = (l_1 m_2 - l_2 m_1)^2 + (m_1 n_2 - m_2 n_1)^2 + (n_1 l_2 - n_2 l_1)^2$$

4. Angle between two lines:

i) If  $\theta$  is acute angle between two lines whose direction cosines  $(l_1, m_1, n_1)$  are and  $(l_2, m_2, n_2)$  then

a)  $\cos \theta = |l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2|$

b)  $\sin \theta = \sqrt{\sum (l_1 m_2 - l_2 m_1)^2}$

ii) If ' $\theta$ ' is acute angle between the lines whose direction ratios  $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$  are

$$(a_2, b_2, c_2) \text{ and respectively then } \cos \theta = \frac{|a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2|}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}}$$

iii) If  $(l_1, m_1, n_1)$  and  $(l_2, m_2, n_2)$  are direction cosines of two intersecting lines then the d.c's of the line bisecting angle between them are proportional to  $(l_1 \pm l_2, m_1 \pm m_2, n_1 \pm n_2)$

$$\text{iv) D.c's of angular bisectors are } \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{l_1 + l_2}{2 \cos \theta / 2}, \frac{m_1 + m_2}{2 \cos \theta / 2}, \frac{n_1 + n_2}{2 \cos \theta / 2} \\ \frac{l_1 - l_2}{2 \sin \theta / 2}, \frac{m_1 - m_2}{2 \sin \theta / 2}, \frac{n_1 - n_2}{2 \sin \theta / 2} \end{array} \right\} \text{ where } \theta \text{ is angle}$$

between the lines

5. Condition that line are perpendicular, parallel :

i)  $(l_1, m_1, n_1)$  and  $(l_2, m_2, n_2)$  are d.c's of two lines. Then

a) The lines are perpendicular if  $l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2 = 0$

b) The lines are parallel if  $\frac{l_1}{l_2} = \frac{m_1}{m_2} = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$

ii) Let  $(a_1, b_1, c_1)$  and  $(a_2, b_2, c_2)$  be d.r's of two lines, Then

a) The lines are perpendicular if  $a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2 = 0$

b) The lines are parallel if  $\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$

iii) If the d.c's  $(l, m, n)$  of two lines are connected by the relations  $al + bm + cn = 0$  and  $fmn + gnl + hlm = 0$ , the the lines are

a) perpendicular if  $\frac{f}{a} + \frac{g}{b} + \frac{h}{c} = 0$

b) parallel if  $\sqrt{af} \pm \sqrt{bg} \pm \sqrt{ch} = 0$

iv) If the d.c 's  $(l, m, n)$  of two lines are connected by the relations

$al + bm + cn = 0$  and  $ul^2 + vm^2 + wn^2 = 0$  , then the lines are

a) perpendicular if  $\sum a^2(v + w) = 0$

b) parallel if  $\frac{a^2}{u} + \frac{b^2}{v} + \frac{c^2}{w} = 0$

6. Areas :

i) If A  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ , B  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ , C  $(x_3, y_3, z_3)$  are the vertices of triangle ABC then area of

$$\Delta ABC = \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}|$$

ii) If A  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$ , B  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$ , C  $(x_3, y_3, z_3)$  and D  $(x_4, y_4, z_4)$  then

a) Area of parallelogram ABCD  $= \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AC} \times \overrightarrow{BD}| = |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AD}|$

b) Area of plane quadrilateral ABCD  $= \frac{1}{2} |\overrightarrow{AC} \times \overrightarrow{BD}|$

7. Some standard results :

i) D.c's of line equally inclined with coordinate axes are  $\left( \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$

ii) a) Angle between any two diagonals of a cube is  $\cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{3} \right)$

b) The angle between a diagonal of a cube and the diagonal of a face of the cube is

$$\cos^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$$

iii) If a variable line in two adjacent position has direction cosines

iv)  $(l, m, n), (l + \delta l, m + \delta m, n + \delta n)$  and  $\delta\theta$  is the angle between the two positions then

$$(\delta l)^2 + (\delta m)^2 + (\delta n)^2 = (\delta\theta)^2$$

v) If a, b, c are the lengths of the sides of a rectangular parallelopiped then angle between

any two diagonals is given by  $\cos^{-1} \left( \frac{a^2 \pm b^2 \pm c^2}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \right)$ , (In numerator all the three terms not

have the same sign)

vi) If a line makes angles  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  with the four diagonals of a cube then

$$\cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \beta + \cos^2 \gamma + \cos^2 \delta = \frac{4}{3}$$

## Planes & Lines

1. Normal from of a plane :

i) If  $(l, m, n)$  are the direction cosines of normal to plane  $\pi$  and P is the  $\perp^{er}$  distance from origin to the plane then the equation of plane is  $lx + my + nz = p$

ii) The normal from of the plane representing by the equation  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  is

a) If  $d < 0$   $\frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}x + \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}y + \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}z = \frac{-d}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

b) If  $d > 0$   $\frac{-a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}x + \frac{-b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}y + \frac{-c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}z = \frac{d}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

2. Perpendicular distance from point to the plane :

i) The perpendicular distance from  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  to the plane  $ax + by + cz = 0$  is  $\frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

ii) The perpendicular distance of the plane  $ax + by + cz = 0$  from the origin is  $\frac{|d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$

3. Intercept from of a plane :

i) If a plane cuts X-axis at A(a,0,0), Y-axis at B(0,b,0) and Z-axis at C(0,0,c) then a,b,c are called X-intercept, Y-intercept, Z-intercept of the plane.

ii) The equation of the plane in intercept form is  $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$

iii) If  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  is a plane if  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0, c \neq 0$  then

X-intercept  $= -\frac{d}{a}$ , Y-intercept  $= -\frac{d}{b}$ , Z-intercept  $= -\frac{d}{c}$ ,

iv) The equation of the plane whose intercepts are K times the intercepts made by the plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  on corresponding axes is  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

4. Areas : i) Area of the triangle formed by the plane  $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$  with

a) X-axis , Y-axis is  $\frac{1}{2}|ab|$  Sq. units

b) Y-axis, Z-axis is  $\frac{1}{2}|bc|$  Sq. units

c) Z-axis , X-axis is  $\frac{1}{2}|ca|$  Sq. units

ii) If the plane  $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$  meets the co-ordinate axes in the points A,B,C. then the area of the triangle ABC is  $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2}$

## 5. Angle between Two Planes :

i) The angle between two planes is equal to the angle between the perpendiculars from the origin to the planes.

ii) If ' $\theta$ ' is the angle between the planes  $a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d = 0$  and  $a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d = 0$

then  $\cos \theta = \pm \frac{a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}}$

iii) If the above two planes are parallel then  $\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$

iv) If the above two planes are perpendicular then  $a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 0$

v) Angle between the line with d.c's  $(l_1, m_1, n_1)$  and the plane whose normal with d.c's  $(l_2, m_2, n_2)$  is  $\theta$  then  $\cos(90 - \theta) = |l_1l_2 + m_1m_2 + n_1n_2|$

vi) If  $\theta$  is angle between a line L and a plane  $\pi$  then the angle between L and normal to the plane  $\pi$  is  $90 \pm \theta$

## 6. Foot and image :

i) The foot of the perpendicular of the point  $p(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  on the plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

is  $Q(h, k, l)$  then  $\frac{h - x_1}{a} = \frac{k - y_1}{b} = \frac{l - z_1}{c} = \frac{-(ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d)}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$

ii) If  $Q(h, k, l)$  is the image of the point  $p(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  w.r.to the plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

then  $\frac{h - x_1}{a} = \frac{k - y_1}{b} = \frac{l - z_1}{c} = \frac{-2(ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d)}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$

iii) If 'd' is the distance from the origin and  $(l, m, n)$  are the dc's of the normal to the plane through the origin, then the foot of the perpendicular is  $(ld, md, nd)$

## 7. Equations of planes bisecting the angles between given planes :

i) Equations of two planes dissecting the angles between the planes  $a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0$  and  $a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0$  are

$$\frac{a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2}} = \pm \frac{a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2}{\sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}}$$

ii) If  $d_1, d_2 > 0$

Condition	Acute	Obtuse
$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 > 0$	–	+
$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 < 0$	+	–

iii) a) The Bisector planes are perpendicular to each other

b) Positive sign bisector is the bisector containing the origin

#### Some standard results:

- If  $p_1 = a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0$  and  $p_2 = a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0$  are two intersecting planes then the plane passing through their line of intersection is  $p_1 + kp_2 = 0$  where k is any constant.
- The equation of plane which bisects the join of the points  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  at right angles is  $\sum (x_1 - x_2) \left\{ x - \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2) \right\} = 0$
- If a plane meets the coordinates axes in A, B, C such that the centroid of the triangle ABC is the point (p, q, r) then the equation of the plane is  $\frac{x}{p} + \frac{y}{q} + \frac{z}{r} = 3$
- Two systems of rectangular axes have the same origin. If a plane cuts them at distance a, b, c and  $a_1, b_1, c_1$  respectively from the origin, then  $a^{-2} + b^{-2} + c^{-2} = a_1^{-2} + b_1^{-2} + c_1^{-2}$
- A variable plane is at a constant distance 'p' from the origin and meets the axes in A, B and C. The locus of the centroid of the triangle ABC is  $x^{-2} + y^{-2} + z^{-2} = 9p^{-2}$
- A variable plane is at a constant distance 'p' from the origin and meets the axes in A, B and C. The locus of the centroid of the tetrahedron OABC is  $x^{-2} + y^{-2} + z^{-2} = 16p^{-2}$



- vii) A variable plane passes through a fixed point  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  and meets the coordinates axes in A, B, C. Then the locus of the point of intersection of the planes through A, B, C parallel to the coordinates planes is  $\frac{\alpha}{x} + \frac{\beta}{y} + \frac{\gamma}{z} = 1$
- viii) A variable plane at a distance 'p' from the origin meets the axes in A, B and C. Through A, B and C planes are drawn parallel to the coordinate planes. Then the locus of their point of intersection is  $x^{-2} + y^{-2} + z^{-2} = p^{-2}$
- ix) A point P moves on the fixed plane  $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$ . The plane through P, perpendicular to OP meets the coordinates axes in A, B and C. Then the locus of the point of intersection of planes through A, B, C parallel to the coordinate planes is  $\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} = \frac{1}{ax} + \frac{1}{by} + \frac{1}{cz}$
- x) The planes  $x = \pm a, y = \pm b$  and  $z = \pm c$  form a rectangular parallelepiped
- xi) A parallelepiped is formed by the planes drawn through the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  parallel to the coordinate planes. The length of a diagonal of the parallelepiped is  $\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$ . Here  $a = x_2 - x_1, b = y_2 - y_1, c = z_2 - z_1$

### 3D- LINES

#### 1) Symmetrical forms of a line

The equation of the line passing through the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  having direction ratios is

$$\frac{x - x_1}{l} = \frac{y - y_1}{m} = \frac{z - z_1}{n}$$

#### 2) vector form of a line :

Cartesian equation of a line passing through the point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  having direction ratios is

$$\frac{x - x_1}{a} = \frac{y - y_1}{b} = \frac{z - z_1}{c}$$

#### 3) Angle between two lines:

If  $\theta$  is the angle between the lines given by  $\frac{x-x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y-y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z-z_1}{c_1}$  and

$$\frac{x-x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y-y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z-z_2}{c_2} \text{ then } \cos \theta = \frac{|a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2|}{\sqrt{\sum a_1^2} \sqrt{\sum a_2^2}}$$

i) a) If the lines are parallel then  $\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$

b) If the lines are perpendicular then  $a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 0$

ii) If  $\theta$  is the acute angle between the lines  $\frac{x-x_1}{l} = \frac{y-y_1}{m} = \frac{z-z_1}{n}$  and the plane

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0 \text{ the } \sin \theta = \frac{|al + bm + cn|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \sqrt{l^2 + m^2 + n^2}}$$

iii) If the line  $\frac{x-x_1}{l} = \frac{y-y_1}{m} = \frac{z-z_1}{n}$  is parallel to the plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  then  $al + bm + cn = 0$  (Normal to the plane is perpendicular to the line)

iv) If the line  $\frac{x-x_1}{l} = \frac{y-y_1}{m} = \frac{z-z_1}{n}$  perpendicular to the planes  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  then

$$\frac{a}{l} = \frac{b}{m} = \frac{c}{n}$$

v) D.C's of the line which make equal angles with coordinate axes are  $\pm \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right)$  and the dr's of the line are (1,1,1).

4. **Coplanar lines:** Two lines are said to be coplanar if they are either parallel or intersect.

5. **Non-Coplanar Lines:** Two lines are said to be non coplanar or skew lines if they are neither parallel nor intersecting.

6. **Condition for two lines to be coplanar:**

i) The line lies  $\frac{x-x_1}{l} = \frac{y-y_1}{m} = \frac{z-z_1}{n}$  in the plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  if  $ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d = 0$ ,  $al + bm + cn = 0$ .

ii) The lines  $\frac{x-x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y-y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z-z_1}{c_1}$ ,  $\frac{x-x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y-y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z-z_2}{c_2}$  are



$$\text{coplanar } \begin{vmatrix} x-x_2 & y-y_2 & z-z_2 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

## 7. Equation of a plane containing lines:

i) The equation of the plane containing the lines  $\frac{x-x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y-y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z-z_1}{c_1}$  and

$$\frac{x-x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y-y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z-z_2}{c_2} \text{ is } \begin{vmatrix} x-x_1 & y-y_1 & z-z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \text{ (OR) } \begin{vmatrix} x-x_2 & y-y_2 & z-z_2 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

ii) If the lines  $\frac{x-x_1}{l} = \frac{y-y_1}{m} = \frac{z-z_1}{n}$ ,  $a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0 = a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0$  are

$$\text{coplanar then } \frac{a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1}{a_1l + b_1m + c_1n} = \frac{a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2}{a_2l + b_2m + c_2n}$$

## 8. Skew lines:

Two straight lines are said to be skew lines if they are neither parallel nor intersecting. i.e the lines which do not lie in plane.

## 9. Shortest distance:

If  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are skew lines then there is one and only one line perpendicular to both of the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  which is called the line of shortest distance. If PQ is the line of shortest distance then the distance between P and Q is called distance between the skew lines.

i. The shortest distance between the skew lines  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{b}_1, \vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu \vec{b}_2$  is

$$\frac{[(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2) \cdot (\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2)]}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|} \text{ (or) } \frac{[(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2) \cdot \vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2]}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|}$$

ii. If the above two lines are coplanar or intersecting then  $[(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2) \cdot \vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2] = 0$

iii. Shortest distance between the lines  $\frac{x-x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y-y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z-z_1}{c_1}$  and  $\frac{x-x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y-y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z-z_2}{c_2}$ . is

$$\frac{\begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\sqrt{\sum (b_1 c_1 - b_2 c_1)^2}}$$

## 10. Distance between parallel lines:

The distance between the parallel lines  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu \vec{b}$  is  $\frac{|\vec{b} \times (\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2)|}{|\vec{b}|}$

i. To find the direction of a line with greatest slope:

Let  $\pi_1, \pi_2$  be two planes intersecting in a line  $l_1$  then the line of greatest slope in  $\pi_1$  is the line lying in the plane  $\pi_1$  and perpendicular to the line  $l_1$ .

ii .Let  $\vec{a}, \vec{b}$  be the vectors along the normals to the planes  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  respectively then the vector  $\vec{a} \times (\vec{a} \times \vec{b})$  will be along the line of greatest slope is  $\pi_1$ .