



**IIT Madras**  
ONLINE DEGREE

# Examples

Question. Show that the two lines  $a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0$  and  $a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0$ ,  $b_1, b_2 \neq 0$  are

- parallel if  $a_1b_2 = a_2b_1$ , and
- perpendicular if  $a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 = 0$ .

Using Slope-intercept form,

$$m_1 = -\frac{a_1}{b_1} \text{ and } m_2 = -\frac{a_2}{b_2}$$

If the lines are parallel, then  $a_1b_2 = a_2b_1$ .

If the lines are perpendicular, then  $a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 = 0$ .

Two non-vertical lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  are parallel if and only if their slopes are equal.

Two non-vertical lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  are perpendicular if and only if  $m_1m_2 = -1$