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# LINEAR SYSTEMS AND SIGNAL PROCESSING ASSIGNMENT 4

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## Download latex codes from

https://github.com/VARSHITHAGANJI/ EE3900\_VECTORS\_ASSIGNMENTS/blob/ main/LINEAR\_FORMS\_ASSIGNMENT4/ LINEAR\_FORMS\_ASSIGNMENT4.tex

Download all python codes from

https://github.com/VARSHITHAGANJI/ EE3900\_VECTORS\_ASSIGNMENTS/blob/ main/LINEAR\_FORMS\_ASSIGNMENT4/ skew\_lines\_code.py

# **QUESTION**

**Linearforms 2.23** Find the shortest distance between the lines

$$L_1: \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\2\\3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1\\-3\\2 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.1}$$

$$L_2: \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.2}$$

# **SOLUTION**

We have,

$$L_1: \mathbf{x} = a_1 + \lambda_1 b_1 \tag{0.0.3}$$

$$L_2: \mathbf{x} = a_2 + \lambda_2 b_2 \tag{0.0.4}$$

where  $a_i, b_i$  are positional vector, slope vector of line  $L_i$  respectively.

As  $\mathbf{b_1} \neq k\mathbf{b_2}$ , the lines are not parallel to each other.

Let us assume that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect at a point. Therefore,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1\\2\\3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1\\-3\\2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4\\5\\6 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2\\3\\1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.5}$$

$$\lambda_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.6)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -3 & -3 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.7)

The augmented matrix for the above equation in row reduced form

$$\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -2 & 3 \\
-3 & -3 & 3 \\
2 & -1 & 3
\end{pmatrix}
\xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + 3R_1}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -2 & 3 \\
0 & 3 & 9 \\
2 & -1 & 3
\end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_1}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -2 & 3 \\
0 & 3 & 9 \\
0 & 3 & -3
\end{pmatrix}
\xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow \frac{R_2}{3}}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & -2 & 3 \\
0 & 1 & 9 \\
0 & 0 & -3
\end{pmatrix}$$
(0.0.8)

 $\therefore$  The rank of the matrix = 3. Hence the lines do not intersect.

 $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are skew lines.

Let d be the shortest distance and  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$  be positional vectors of its end points. For d to be shortest, we know that,

$$\mathbf{b_1}^{\mathsf{T}} \left( \mathbf{p_2} - \mathbf{p_1} \right) = 0 \tag{0.0.9}$$

$$\mathbf{b_2}^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{p_2} - \mathbf{p_1}) = 0$$
 (0.0.10)

$$\mathbf{b_1}^{\mathsf{T}} ((\mathbf{a}_2 - \mathbf{a}_1)) + (\mathbf{b_2} \quad \mathbf{b}_1) \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.11)

$$\mathbf{b_2}^{\mathsf{T}} ((\mathbf{a}_2 - \mathbf{a}_1)) + (\mathbf{b_2} \quad \mathbf{b_1}) \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (0.0.12)

Let

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b_2} & \mathbf{b_1} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b_2}^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \mathbf{b_1}^{\mathsf{T}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad (0.0.13)$$

By combining equations (0.0.11) and (0.0.12) and writing in terms of **B** and  $\mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}$  using (0.0.13), we get

$$\mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ -\lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}} \left( \mathbf{a}_1 - \mathbf{a}_2 \right) \tag{0.0.14}$$

By putting the values of  $a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2$  in (0.0.14), we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} 14 & -5 \\ -5 & 14 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ -\lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -18 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.15}$$

Solving (0.0.15), we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ -\lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1.4736 \\ -0.5263 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.0.16}$$

Substituting the value of  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  in (0.0.3) and (0.0.4), we get

$$\mathbf{p_1} = \begin{pmatrix} -0.4736 \\ 6.4210 \\ 0.0526 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{p_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 5.05263 \\ 6.57894 \\ 6.5263 \end{pmatrix} \qquad (0.0.17)$$

Hence, the shortest distance between these two skew lines is

$$d = \|\mathbf{p_2} - \mathbf{p_1}\| = 8.5131 \tag{0.0.18}$$

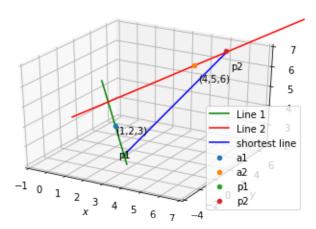


Fig. 1: Plot of skew lines