

Planes

The plane through the point P_0 normal to $\vec{n} = Ai + Bj + Ck$ is given by the vector equation,

$$\vec{n} \cdot \vec{P_0P} = 0$$

and the component equations,

$$A(x - x_0) + B(y - y_0) + C(z - z_0) = 0$$

Given a line L and a point P in a plane you can find the equation of the plane,

Take a point Q on the line. Now find \vec{QP} and the direction vector of the line L (call that d). Now the normal $\vec{n} = \vec{QP} \times d$. Then we can use the formula $A(x - x_0) + B(y - y_0) + C(z - z_0) = 0$ to get the equation.

Distance from a Point to a Plane

The distance from a point S to a plane which contains point P and has normal vector n is,

$$d = \left| \vec{PS} \cdot \frac{n}{||n||} \right|$$

Angle Between Two Planes

\vec{n}_1 and \vec{n}_2 are the normal vectors for the 2 planes.

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{|\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2|}{||\vec{n}_1|| \ ||\vec{n}_2||}$$