

# 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.

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