

Matrix Theory Assignment 1

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Abstract—This document contains the solution to problem No.66 from Lines and Planes

1 PROBLEM STATEMENT

If $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$, then show that the vectors $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}$ are perpendicular.

2 THEORY

For two lines having direction vectors \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} respectively, they will be perpendicular if the scalar product of the two direction vector is 0,

$$\mathbf{AB} = 0 \quad (2.0.1)$$

Scalar product of two vectors, $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$ is defined by

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & z_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 x_2 + y_1 y_2 + z_1 z_2 \quad (2.0.3)$$

3 SOLUTION

Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}$.

To check if the two lines are perpendicular, we perform scalar product of the two direction vectors \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} using equation 2.0.2 as follows

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{B} \quad (3.0.1)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})^T (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \quad (3.0.2)$$

NOTE : The transpose of a sum is the sum of transposes so

$$(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})^T = (\mathbf{a}^T + \mathbf{b}^T) \quad (3.0.3)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = (\mathbf{a}^T + \mathbf{b}^T) (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \quad (3.0.4)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{a}^T (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) + \mathbf{b}^T (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}) \quad (3.0.5)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{b} \quad (3.0.6)$$

$$\because \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{a} = 1 \quad (3.0.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow -\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{a} \quad (3.0.8)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = -\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.9)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = -\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.0.10)$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = (5 \times 1 + (-1) \times 3 - (-3) \times (-5)) \quad (3.0.11)$$

$$- (1 \times 5 + 3 \times (-1) + (-5) \times (-3)) \quad (3.0.12)$$

$$\Rightarrow (5 - 3 + 15) - (5 - 3 + 15) = 0 \quad (3.0.13)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{AB} = 0 \quad (3.0.14)$$

Thus the direction vectors of the two lines satisfies the equation 2.0.1, hence proved that the lines are **perpendicular**.

Python Code:

https://github.com/ayushkesh/MatrixTheoryEE5609/blob/master/A1/codes/A1_code.py

Latex codes:

<https://github.com/ayushkesh/Matrix-Theory-EE5609/tree/master/A1/latex/A1.tex>