

Coordinate Geometry and Lines

1. Distance Formula

The distance between point $P_1(x_1, y_1)$ and $P_2(x_2, y_2)$ is $|P_1P_2| = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$

2. The **slope** of non-vertical line that passes through points $P_1(x_1, y_1)$ and $P_2(x_2, y_2)$ is

$$k = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}. \text{ The slope of vertical line is not defined.}$$

3. Point-slope form of line equation

The equation of line passing through the point $P_1(x_1, y_1)$ and having slope k is $y - y_1 = k \cdot (x - x_1)$.

4. Slope-intercept form of a line equation

The line equation with slope k and y-intercept b is $y = k \cdot x + b$

5. Alternate form of line equation

$$A \cdot x + B \cdot y + C = 0$$

6. Parallel and Perpendicular Lines

a) Two nonvertical lines are **parallel** iff they have **same slope**.

b) Two lines with slopes k_1 and k_2 are **perpendicular** iff $k_1 \cdot k_2 = -1 \Rightarrow k_2 = -\frac{1}{k_1}$

7. Alternative forms of line that passes through points $P_1(x_1, y_1)$ and $P_2(x_2, y_2)$:

$$k = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{x - x_1} = \frac{y - y_2}{x - x_2} \Rightarrow \frac{x - x_1}{x - x_2} = \frac{y - y_1}{y - y_2}$$

In determinant form:

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & y & 1 \\ x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ y_2 & y_2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

8. Line Equation in Segments

Given 2 points: $A(0, b)$ and $B(a, 0)$ lying at y-axis and x-axis correspondingly.

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$$

Analysis of Line Equation

$$A \cdot x + B \cdot y + C = 0$$

If 1 or 2 coefficients are 0, this equation is incomplete. Here are possible cases:

1. $C=0; \Rightarrow A \cdot x + B \cdot y = 0$ - line through origin (0,0)
2. $B=0 (A \neq 0) \Rightarrow A \cdot x + C = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -\frac{C}{A} = a$; line \perp x-axis, can be written as $x=a$.
3. $B=0, C=0 (A \neq 0) \Leftrightarrow x=0$ - y-axis itself
4. $A=0 (B \neq 0) \Rightarrow B \cdot y + C = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = -\frac{C}{B} = b$; line \perp y-axis, can be written as $y=b$.
5. $A=0, C=0 (B \neq 0) \Rightarrow B \cdot y = 0 \Leftrightarrow y=0$ - x-axis itself
6. If $A \neq 0$ and $B \neq 0$ and $C \neq 0$, line equation can be written in this form:

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1 \quad \text{This is line equation in segments.}$$

$$\text{where } a = -\frac{C}{A}, b = -\frac{C}{B}$$

Analysis of Lines Intersection

If 2 lines have the following equations $A_1 \cdot x + B_1 \cdot y + C_1 = 0$ and $A_2 \cdot x + B_2 \cdot y + C_2 = 0$

4 cases are possible:

- a. $\frac{A_1}{A_2} \neq \frac{B_1}{B_2} \Rightarrow$ 2 lines have 1 common point
- b. $\frac{A_1}{A_2} = \frac{B_1}{B_2} \neq \frac{C_1}{C_2} \Rightarrow$ lines are parallel (\parallel)
- c. $\frac{A_1}{A_2} = \frac{B_1}{B_2} = \frac{C_1}{C_2} \Rightarrow$ lines are the same, i.e. 2 equation define the same line.
- d. $\frac{A_1}{B_2} = -\frac{B_1}{A_2} \Leftrightarrow A_1 \cdot A_2 + B_1 \cdot B_2 = 0 \Rightarrow$ lines are perpendicular (\perp)

To see if 3 lines with given equations of $A \cdot x + B \cdot y + C = 0$, $A_1 \cdot x + B_1 \cdot y + C_1 = 0$ and $A_2 \cdot x + B_2 \cdot y + C_2 = 0$

intersect, check if $d = \begin{vmatrix} x & y & 1 \\ x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ y_2 & y_2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$. If $d=0$, these 3 lines intersect.

Alternative view at the same question is to solve the system below for x, y, and z:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Ax+By+C=0 \\ A_1x+B_1y+C_1=0 \\ A_2x+B_2y+C_2=0 \end{array} \right.$$