Geometric Algebra HW 3 (Wedge Product in \mathbb{R}^3) MultiV 2021-22 / Dr. Kessner

1. For each of the following sets of vectors, find the following: $u \wedge v$, $u \times v$, $u \wedge v \wedge w$, and $(u \times v) \cdot w$.

a.
$$u = 3e_1, v = 2e_2, w = 5e_3$$

b.
$$u = 3e_1 + e_2$$
, $v = 2e_1 + 2e_2$, $w = 5e_3$

c.
$$u = 3e_1 + e_2$$
, $v = 2e_1 + 2e_2$, $w = 7e_1 + 11e_2 + 5e_3$

2. Use the wedge product representation of the plane

$$(r - r_0) \wedge u \wedge v = 0$$

to solve the following problems.

- a. Find the standard equation of the plane through the points $\begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$. Also find the distance from the plane to the origin.
- b. Find the standard equation of the plane through the points $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

 Also find the distance from the plane to $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

Answers:

• 1a.
$$u \wedge v = 6e_1e_2$$
, $u \times v = 6e_3$, $u \wedge v \wedge w = 30 e_1e_2e_3$, $(u \times v) \cdot w = 30$.

• 1b.
$$u \wedge v = 4e_1e_2$$
, $u \times v = 4e_3$, $u \wedge v \wedge w = 20e_1e_2e_3$, $(u \times v) \cdot w = 20$.

• 1c.
$$u \wedge v = 4e_1e_2$$
, $u \times v = 4e_3$, $u \wedge v \wedge w = 20e_1e_2e_3$, $(u \times v) \cdot w = 20$.

• 2a.
$$x + y + z = 10$$
, $d = \frac{10}{\sqrt{3}}$

• 2b.
$$x + z = 4$$
, $d = 2\sqrt{2}$