

4.3.36

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Question

The line $\mathbf{r} = (2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}) + \lambda (\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$ lies in the plane $\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\hat{i} + \hat{j} - \hat{k}) + 2 = 0$.

Theoretical Solution

Let the line L be $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{a} + \lambda \mathbf{b}$ and the plane P be $\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{x} = c$ where

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, c = -2$$

$$\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$= (1)(3) + (-1)(1) + (2)(-1) \quad (2)$$

$$= 3 - 1 - 2 \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{b} = 0 \quad (4)$$

$\therefore \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{b} = 0$, the line L is parallel to plane P.

Theoretical Solution

$$\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$= (2)(3) + (-3)(1) + (-1)(-1) \quad (6)$$

$$= 6 - 3 + 1 \quad (7)$$

$$= 4 \neq c \quad (8)$$

$\therefore \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{a} \neq c$, the point \mathbf{a} doesn't lie in the plane P . Hence, the line L containing \mathbf{a} also doesn't lie in the plane.

The given statement is **false**.

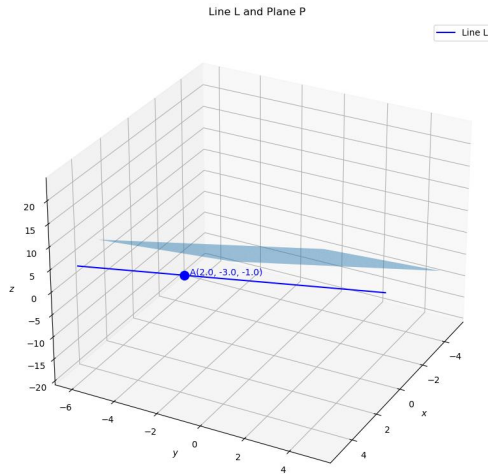


Figure: Plot