

Assignment 2

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Abstract—This document explains the concept of finding if two different lines are perpendicular to each other.

Download all python codes from

<https://github.com/harshachinta/EE5609-Matrix-Theory/tree/master/Assignments/Assignment2/code>

and latex-tikz codes from

<https://github.com/harshachinta/EE5609-Matrix-Theory/tree/master/Assignments/Assignment2>

1 PROBLEM

Show that the lines

$$\frac{x-5}{7} = \frac{y+2}{-5} = \frac{z}{1}, \quad (1.0.1)$$

$$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3} \quad (1.0.2)$$

are perpendicular to each other.

2 EXPLANATION

Let us consider a parameter t .
Considering the first equation:

$$\frac{x-5}{7} = \frac{y+2}{-5} = \frac{z}{1} = t \quad (2.0.1)$$

Line equation of (2.0.1) can be written as,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7t+5 \\ 5t-2 \\ t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.2)$$

From (2.0.2), the direction vector is given by

$$\mathbf{d}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.3)$$

Similarly, let us consider second equation:

$$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3} = t \quad (2.0.4)$$

Line equation of (2.0.4) can be written as,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.5)$$

From (2.0.5), the direction vector is given by

$$\mathbf{d}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.6)$$

Two lines are perpendicular to each other when the dot product of their direction vectors is 0.

Dot product of direction vectors \mathbf{d}_1 and \mathbf{d}_2 (from equation (2.0.3) and (2.0.6)) is given by:

$$\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{d}_2 = (7 \times 1) + (-5 \times 2) + (1 \times 3) = 0 \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{d}_2 = 0} \quad (2.0.8)$$

3 SOLUTION

From (2.0.8), as the dot product of direction vectors of the lines is 0 ($\mathbf{d}_1^T \mathbf{d}_2 = 0$), we can say that the lines are perpendicular to each other.

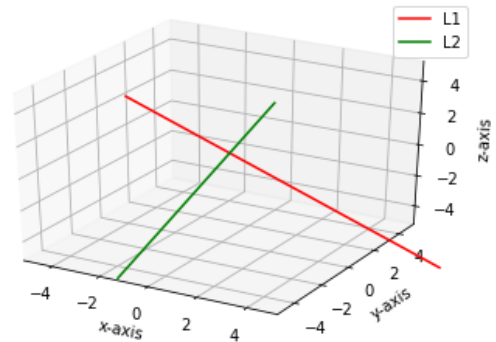


Fig. 1: Lines perpendicular to each other