

**Department of Mathematics**  
**National University of Singapore**

**(2022/23) Semester I      MA1521 Calculus for Computing      Tutorial 7**

1. Write the vector  $3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$  as a sum of two vectors  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  such that  $\mathbf{u}$  is parallel to  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  is perpendicular to  $\mathbf{w}$ . (Hint: Use projection)

**Ans.**  $\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}) + \frac{1}{2}(5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k})$ .

2. Find the equation of a line through  $P(1, -2, 3)$  and perpendicular to two lines  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$  given by:

$$\ell_1 : x = 3t + 2, y = -4t - 1, z = 4t - 9.$$

$$\ell_2 : x = 3t - 4, y = -t + 6, z = 5t.$$

**Ans.**  $x = 1 - 16t, y = -2 - 3t, z = 3 + 9t$ .

3. Consider the two lines:

$$\ell_1 : x = 2t - 1, y = -3t + 2, z = 4t - 3.$$

$$\ell_2 : x = 4t + 7, y = 2t - 2, z = -3t + 2.$$

Show that  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$  intersect. Find the point of intersection and an equation of the plane containing  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ .

**Ans.**  $(3, -4, 5), x + 22y + 16z = -5$ .

4. (a) Find an equation of the plane  $\Pi$  passing through the points  $A(3, 3, 0), B(3, 0, 1)$  and  $C(0, 2, 1)$ .  
(b) Find the shortest distance from  $O(0, 0, 0)$  to  $\Pi$ .  
(c) Let  $D = (4, 2, 1)$ . Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of the plane  $\Pi$  in part (a) and the line segment  $OD$ .

**Ans.** (a)  $2x + 3y + 9z = 15$ , (b)  $15/\sqrt{94}$ , (c)  $\frac{15}{23}(4, 2, 1)$ .

5. Find the shortest distance between the two planes:

$$\Pi_1 : 2x + 2y - z = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi_2 : 4x + 4y - 2z = 5.$$

**Ans.**  $1/2$ .

6. Two particles travel along the space curves which, at time  $t$ , are given by:

$$\mathbf{r}_1(t) = t\mathbf{i} + t^2\mathbf{j} + t^3\mathbf{k}, \quad \mathbf{r}_2(t) = (1 + 2t)\mathbf{i} + (1 + 6t)\mathbf{j} + (1 + 14t)\mathbf{k}.$$

Do the particles collide? Do their paths intersect?

7. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  be two non-zero constant vectors such that  $\|\mathbf{B}\| = 1$ . If the angle between them is equal to  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ , find the value of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\|\mathbf{A} + x\mathbf{B}\| - \|\mathbf{A}\|}{x}$ .

**Ans.**  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ .

### Further Exercises (Not to be discussed during tutorial)

1. Find parametric equations of the line through the point  $(0, 1, 2)$  that is parallel to the plane  $x + y + z = 2$  and perpendicular to the line  $x = 1 + t, y = 1 - t, z = 2t$ .

**Ans.**  $x = 3t, y = 1 - t, z = 2 - 2t$ .

2. Show that the lines  $x = t, y = t, z = t$  and  $x = s - 1, y = 2s, z = 3s$  are skew. Find the distance between these two lines.

**Ans.**  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$ .

3. Find the equation of the surface obtained by rotating the line  $x = 3y$  about the  $x$ -axis.

**Ans.**  $x^2 - 9y^2 - 9z^2 = 0$ .