

# 4.11.7

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**Question** Find the equation of the planes passing through the intersection of the planes  $\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\hat{i} + 6\hat{j}) + 12 = 0$  and  $\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}) = 0$  are at a unit distance from the origin.

**Solution** Given details

Plane 1:

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\hat{i} + 6\hat{j}) + 12 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$(3 \quad 6 \quad 0)\mathbf{r} + 12 = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{dividing the equation with 3:} \quad (3)$$

$$(1 \quad 2 \quad 0)\mathbf{r} + 4 = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{n}_1^\top \mathbf{r} + d_1 = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Therefore :} \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{n}_1^\top = (1 \quad 2 \quad 0) \text{ and } d_1 = 4 \quad (7)$$

Plane 2:

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}) = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$(3 \quad -1 \quad 4)\mathbf{r} + 0 = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\text{similarly:} \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{n}_2^\top = (3 \quad -1 \quad 4) \text{ and } d_2 = 0 \quad (11)$$

plane passing through the intersection of the two given planes can be represented as a linear combination of their equations.

$$(\mathbf{n}_1^\top + d_1) + \lambda(\mathbf{n}_2^\top + d_2) = 0 \quad (12)$$

Rearranging them:

$$(\mathbf{n}_1^\top + \lambda\mathbf{n}_2^\top) + (d_1 + \lambda d_2) = 0 \quad (13)$$

Substituting the values we get:

$$((1 \quad 2 \quad 0) + \lambda(3 \quad -1 \quad 4)) + (4 + \lambda \cdot 0) = 0 \quad (14)$$

$$(1 + 3\lambda \quad 2 - \lambda \quad 4\lambda)\mathbf{r} + 4 = 0 \quad (15)$$

This is the general equation for any plane passing through the line of intersection. Let's call the new normal vector  $\mathbf{n}^\top = (1 + 3\lambda \quad 2 - \lambda \quad 4\lambda)$  and the constant  $d = 4$

Since the plane is at a unit distance from the origin

$$1 = \frac{|d|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|} \quad (16)$$

$$1 = \frac{4}{\sqrt{(1 + 3\lambda)^2 + (2 - \lambda)^2 + (4\lambda)^2}} \quad (17)$$

$$26\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 11 = 0 \quad (18)$$

On solving the equation we get:

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{287}}{52} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{287}}{26} \quad (19)$$

This gives us two possible values for  $\lambda$ , which means there are two planes that satisfy the given conditions.

The final plane equations are:

$$\mathbf{r}((23 + 3\sqrt{287})\hat{i} + (53 - \sqrt{287})\hat{j} + (4\sqrt{287} - 4)\hat{k}) + 104 = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$\mathbf{r}((23 - 3\sqrt{287})\hat{i} + (53 + \sqrt{287})\hat{j} - (4 + 4\sqrt{287})\hat{k}) + 104 = 0 \quad (21)$$

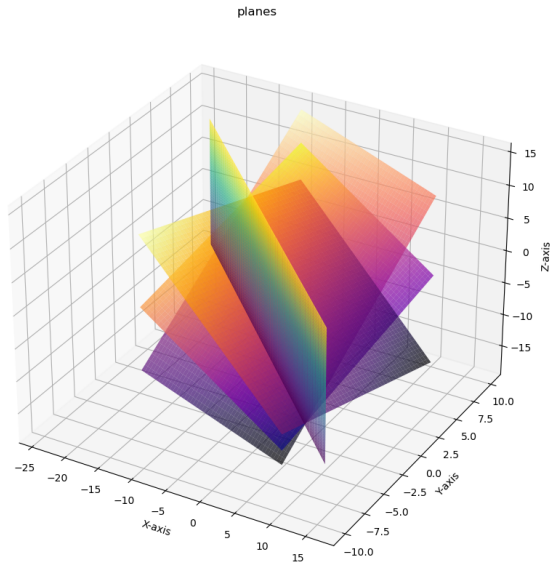


Fig. 0. plane