

CX1104: Linear Algebra for Computing

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & a_{m3} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix}}_{A \quad m \times n} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}}_{x \quad n \times 1} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_m \end{bmatrix}}_{b \quad m \times 1}$$

Chap. No : **6.2.1**

Lecture : **Orthogonality**

Topic : **Orthogonality**

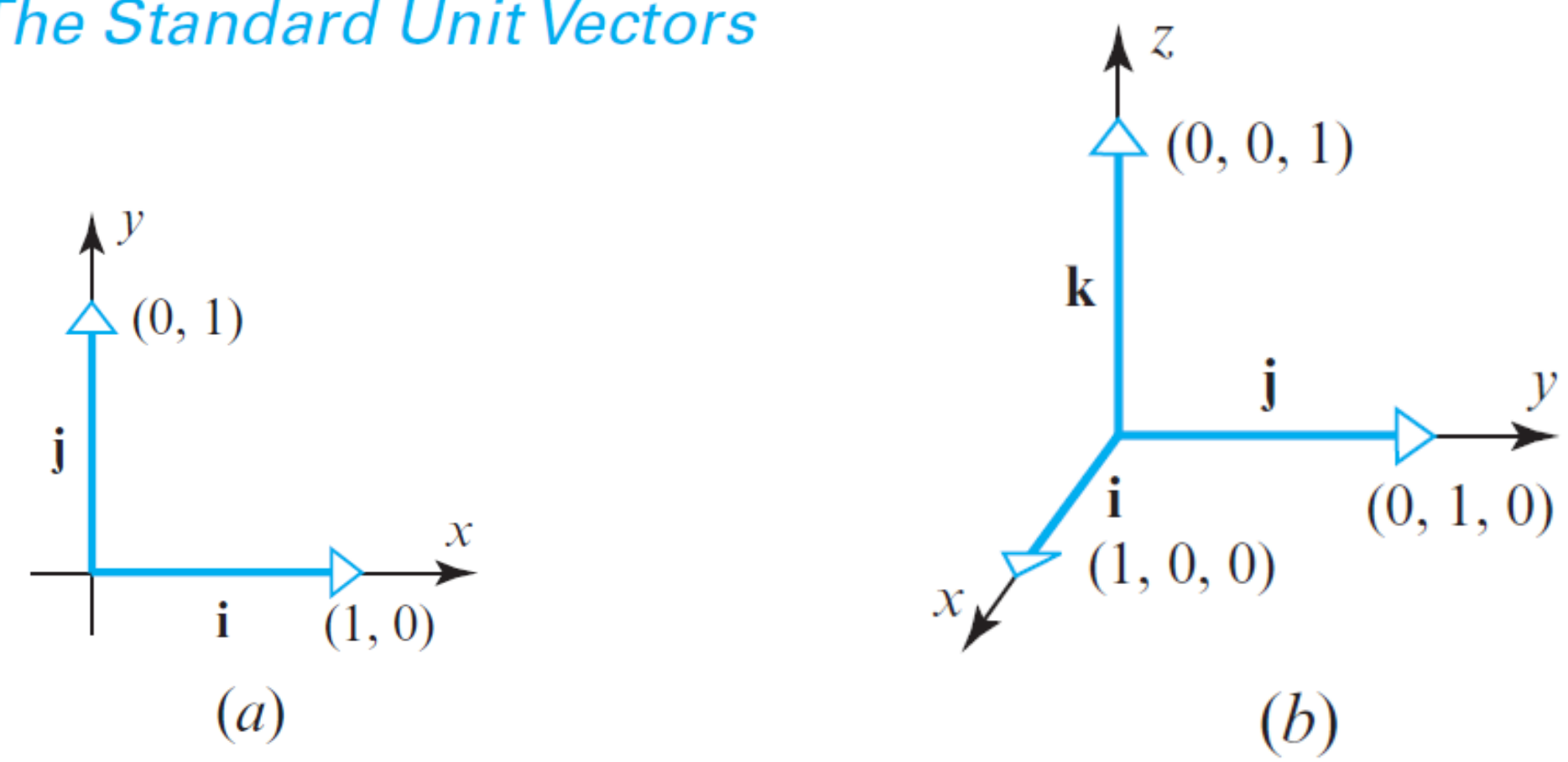
Concept : **Definition of Orthogonality and
Orthogonal Complements**

Instructor: **A/P Chng Eng Siong**

TAs: **Zhang Su, Vishal Choudhari**

Orthogonality Definition

The Standard Unit Vectors



▲ Figure 3.2.2

When a rectangular coordinate system is introduced in R^2 or R^3 , the unit vectors in the positive directions of the coordinate axes are called the **standard unit vectors**. In R^2 these vectors are denoted by

$$\mathbf{i} = (1, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{j} = (0, 1)$$

and in R^3 by

$$\mathbf{i} = (1, 0, 0), \quad \mathbf{j} = (0, 1, 0), \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{k} = (0, 0, 1)$$

(Figure 3.2.2). Every vector $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2)$ in R^2 and every vector $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$ in R^3 can be expressed as a linear combination of standard unit vectors by writing

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} &= (v_1, v_2) = v_1(1, 0) + v_2(0, 1) = v_1\mathbf{i} + v_2\mathbf{j} \\ \mathbf{v} &= (v_1, v_2, v_3) = v_1(1, 0, 0) + v_2(0, 1, 0) + v_3(0, 0, 1) = v_1\mathbf{i} + v_2\mathbf{j} + v_3\mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

DEFINITION 1 Two nonzero vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in R^n are said to be **orthogonal** (or **perpendicular**) if $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$. We will also agree that the zero vector in R^n is orthogonal to every vector in R^n .

Recall from Formula (20) in the previous section that the angle θ between two *nonzero* vectors \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} in R^n is defined by the formula

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\|} \right)$$

It follows from this that $\theta = \pi/2$ if and only if $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$. Thus, we make the following definition.

► **EXAMPLE 1 Orthogonal Vectors**

- (a) Show that $\mathbf{u} = (-2, 3, 1, 4)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (1, 2, 0, -1)$ are orthogonal vectors in R^4 .
- (b) Let $S = \{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}\}$ be the set of standard unit vectors in R^3 . Show that each ordered pair of vectors in S is orthogonal.

Solution (a) The vectors are orthogonal since

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} = (-2)(1) + (3)(2) + (1)(0) + (4)(-1) = 0$$

Solution (b) It suffices to show that

$$\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0$$

because it will follow automatically from the symmetry property of the dot product that

$$\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{i} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{i} = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0$$

Although the orthogonality of the vectors in S is evident geometrically from Figure 3.2.2, it is confirmed algebraically by the computations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{j} &= (1, 0, 0) \cdot (0, 1, 0) = 0 \\ \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{k} &= (1, 0, 0) \cdot (0, 0, 1) = 0 \\ \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{k} &= (0, 1, 0) \cdot (0, 0, 1) = 0 \quad \blacktriangleleft \end{aligned}$$

Lines and Planes Determined by Points and Normals

One learns in analytic geometry that a line in R^2 is determined uniquely by its slope and one of its points, and that a plane in R^3 is determined uniquely by its “inclination” and one of its points. One way of specifying slope and inclination is to use a *nonzero* vector \mathbf{n} , called a **normal**, that is orthogonal to the line or plane in question. For example, Figure 3.3.1 shows the line through the point $P_0(x_0, y_0)$ that has normal $\mathbf{n} = (a, b)$ and the plane through the point $P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0)$ that has normal $\mathbf{n} = (a, b, c)$. Both the line and the plane are represented by the vector equation

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0P} = 0 \tag{1}$$

where P is either an arbitrary point (x, y) on the line or an arbitrary point (x, y, z) in the plane. The vector $\overrightarrow{P_0P}$ can be expressed in terms of components as

$$\overrightarrow{P_0P} = (x - x_0, y - y_0) \quad \text{[line]}$$

$$\overrightarrow{P_0P} = (x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0) \quad \text{[plane]}$$

Thus, Equation (1) can be written as

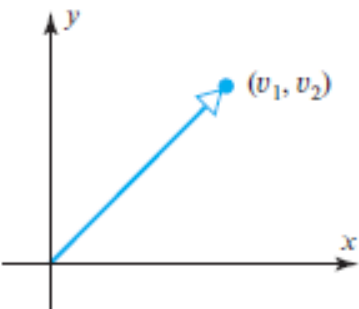
$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) = 0 \quad \text{[line]}$

$$\tag{2}$$

$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0 \quad \text{[plane]}$

$$\tag{3}$$

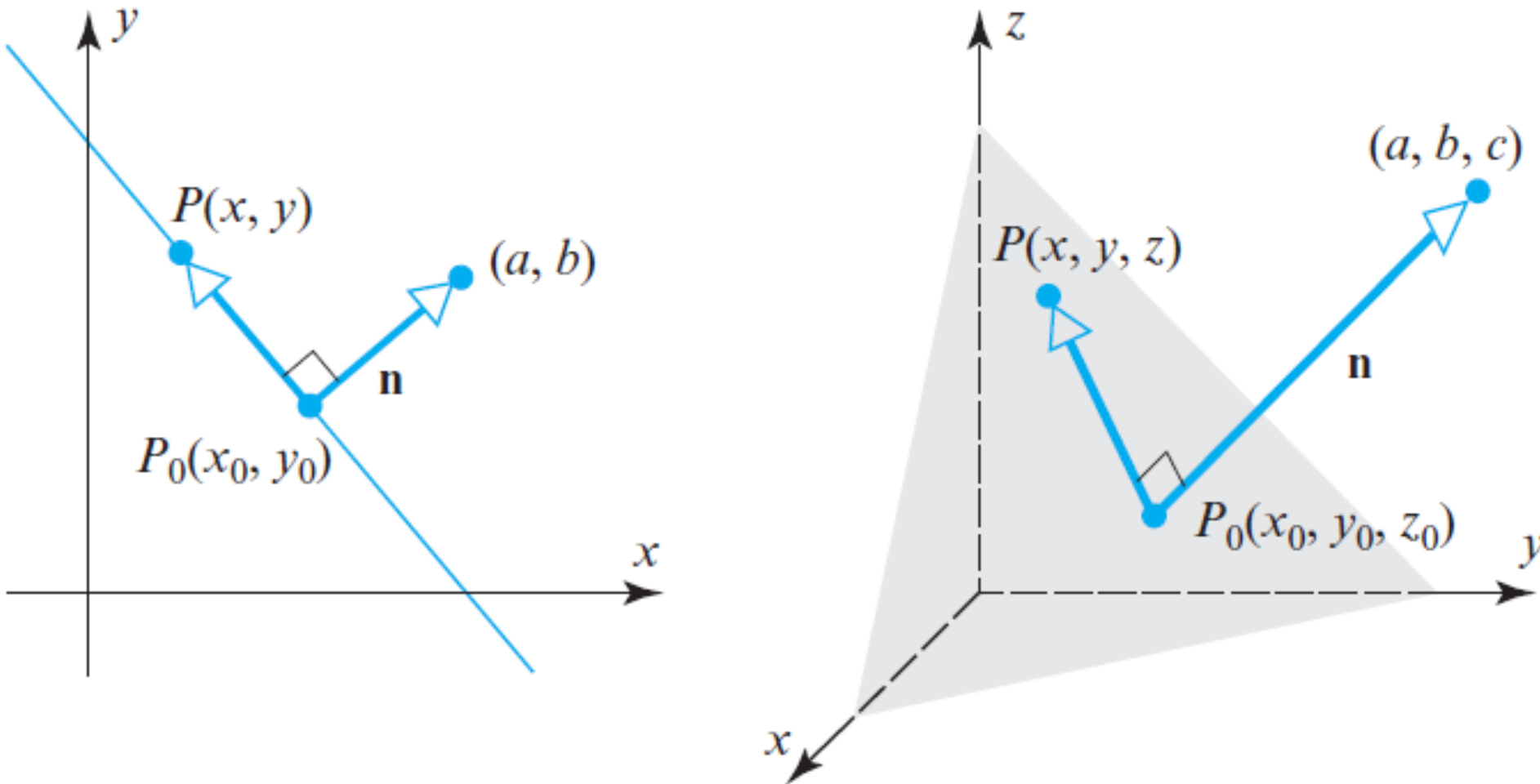
These are called the **point-normal** equations of the line and plane.



▲ Figure 3.1.11 The ordered pair (v_1, v_2) can represent a point or a vector.

Note, \mathbf{n} above represents components of the normal vector and not coordinates.

Remark It may have occurred to you that an ordered pair (v_1, v_2) can represent either a vector with *components* v_1 and v_2 or a point with *coordinates* v_1 and v_2 (and similarly for ordered triples). Both are valid geometric interpretations, so the appropriate choice will depend on the geometric viewpoint that we want to emphasize (Figure 3.1.11).



► Figure 3.3.1

► **EXAMPLE 2 Point-Normal Equations**

It follows from (2) that in R^2 the equation

$$6(x - 3) + (y + 7) = 0$$

represents the line through the point $(3, -7)$ with normal $\mathbf{n} = (6, 1)$; and it follows from (3) that in R^3 the equation

$$4(x - 3) + 2y - 5(z - 7) = 0$$

represents the plane through the point $(3, 0, 7)$ with normal $\mathbf{n} = (4, 2, -5)$. ◀

Lines and Planes Determined by Points and Normals

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0 P} = 0 \quad (1)$$

Thus, Equation (1) can be written as

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) = 0 \quad \text{[line]} \quad (2)$$

$$a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0 \quad \text{[plane]} \quad (3)$$

These are called the **point-normal** equations of the line and plane.

THEOREM 3.3.1

(a) If a and b are constants that are not both zero, then an equation of the form

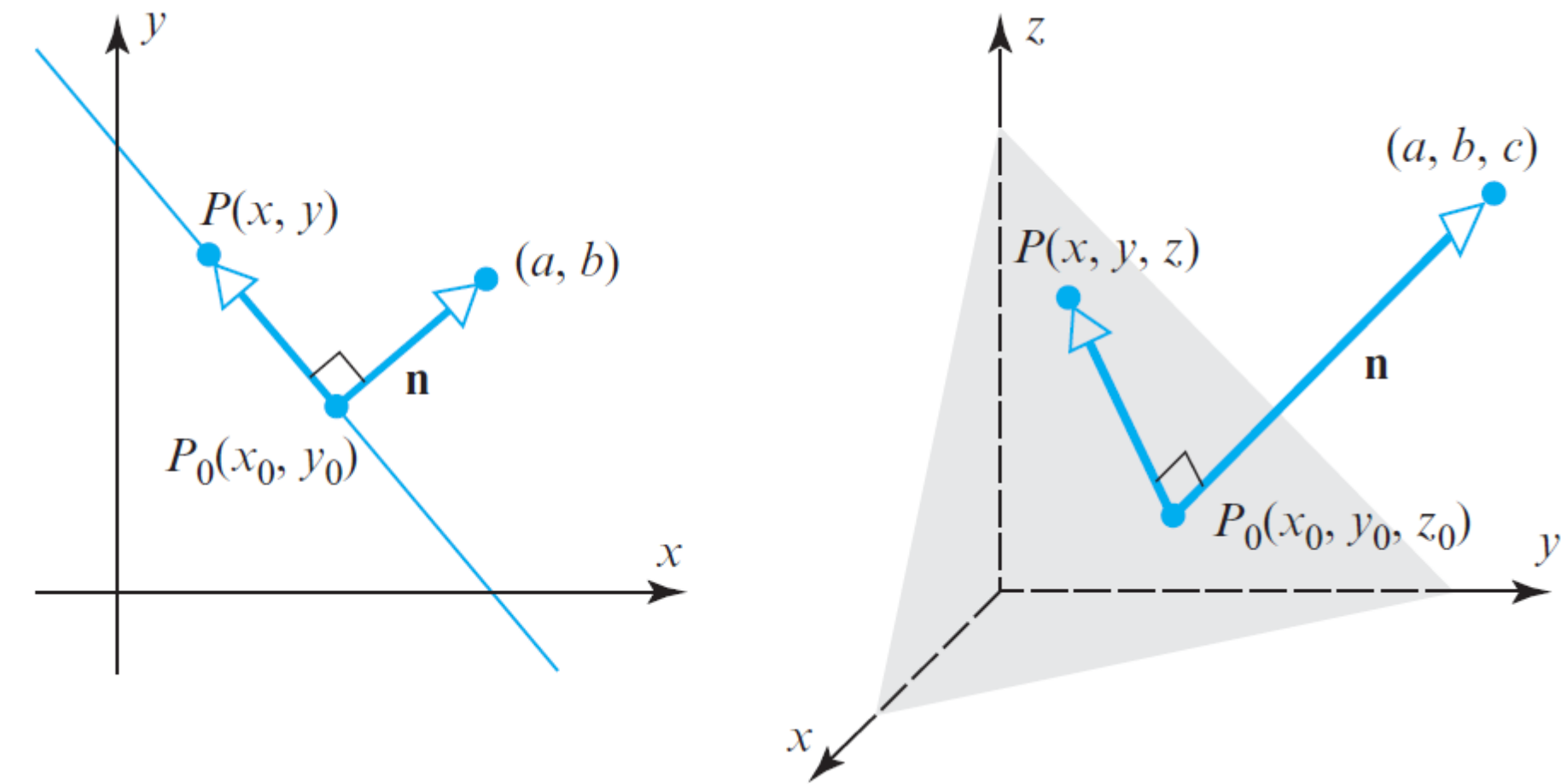
$$ax + by + c = 0 \quad (4)$$

represents a line in \mathbb{R}^2 with normal $\mathbf{n} = (a, b)$.

(b) If a , b , and c are constants that are not all zero, then an equation of the form

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0 \quad (5)$$

represents a plane in \mathbb{R}^3 with normal $\mathbf{n} = (a, b, c)$.



► Figure 3.3.1

Lines and Planes Determined by Points and Normals

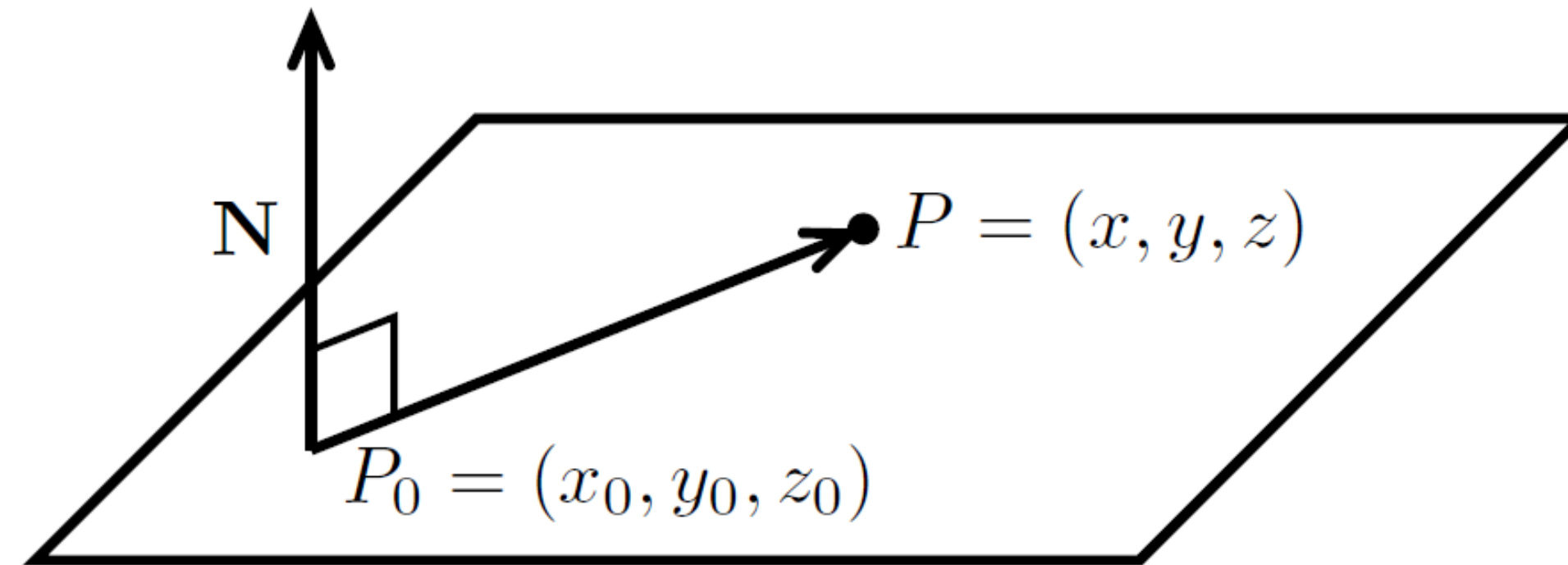
Let $P = (x, y, z)$ be an arbitrary point in the plane. Then the vector $\overrightarrow{P_0P}$ is in the plane and therefore orthogonal to \mathbf{N} . This means

$$\mathbf{N} \cdot \overrightarrow{P_0P} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle a, b, c \rangle \cdot \langle x - x_0, y - y_0, z - z_0 \rangle = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a(x - x_0) + b(y - y_0) + c(z - z_0) = 0$$

We call this last equation the point-normal form for the plane.



Example 1: Find the plane through the point $(1, 4, 9)$ with normal $\langle 2, 3, 4 \rangle$.

Answer: Point-normal form of the plane is $2(x - 1) + 3(y - 4) + 4(z - 9) = 0$. We can also write this as $2x + 3y + 4z = 50$.

Orthogonal Complements

If a vector \mathbf{z} is orthogonal to every vector in a subspace W of \mathbb{R}^n , then \mathbf{z} is said to be **orthogonal to W** . The set of all vectors \mathbf{z} that are orthogonal to W is called the **orthogonal complement** of W and is denoted by W^\perp (and read as “ W perpendicular” or simply “ W perp”).

1. A vector \mathbf{x} is in W^\perp if and only if \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to every vector in a set that spans W .
2. W^\perp is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^n .

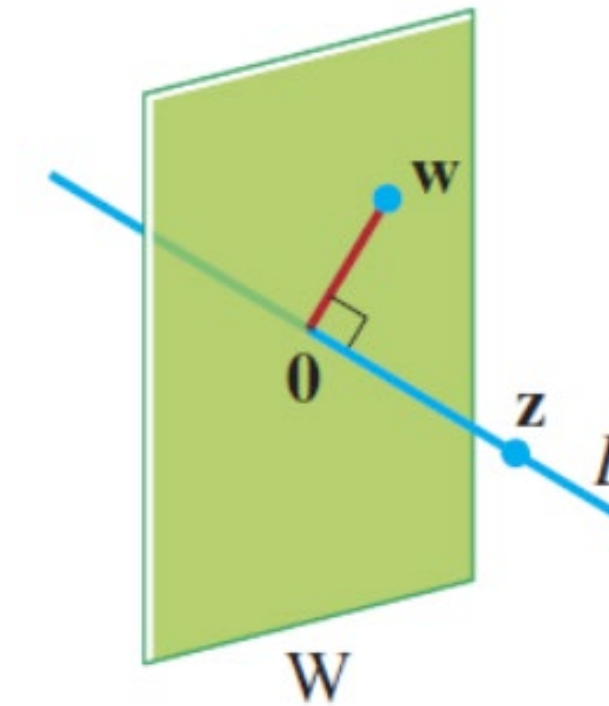


FIGURE 7

A plane and line through $\mathbf{0}$ as orthogonal complements.

EXAMPLE 6 Let W be a plane through the origin in \mathbb{R}^3 , and let L be the line through the origin and perpendicular to W . If \mathbf{z} and \mathbf{w} are nonzero, \mathbf{z} is on L , and \mathbf{w} is in W , then the line segment from $\mathbf{0}$ to \mathbf{z} is perpendicular to the line segment from $\mathbf{0}$ to \mathbf{w} ; that is, $\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w} = 0$. See Figure 7. So each vector on L is orthogonal to every \mathbf{w} in W . In fact, L consists of *all* vectors that are orthogonal to the \mathbf{w} 's in W , and W consists of all vectors orthogonal to the \mathbf{z} 's in L . That is,

$$L = W^\perp \quad \text{and} \quad W = L^\perp$$

Orthogonal Complements

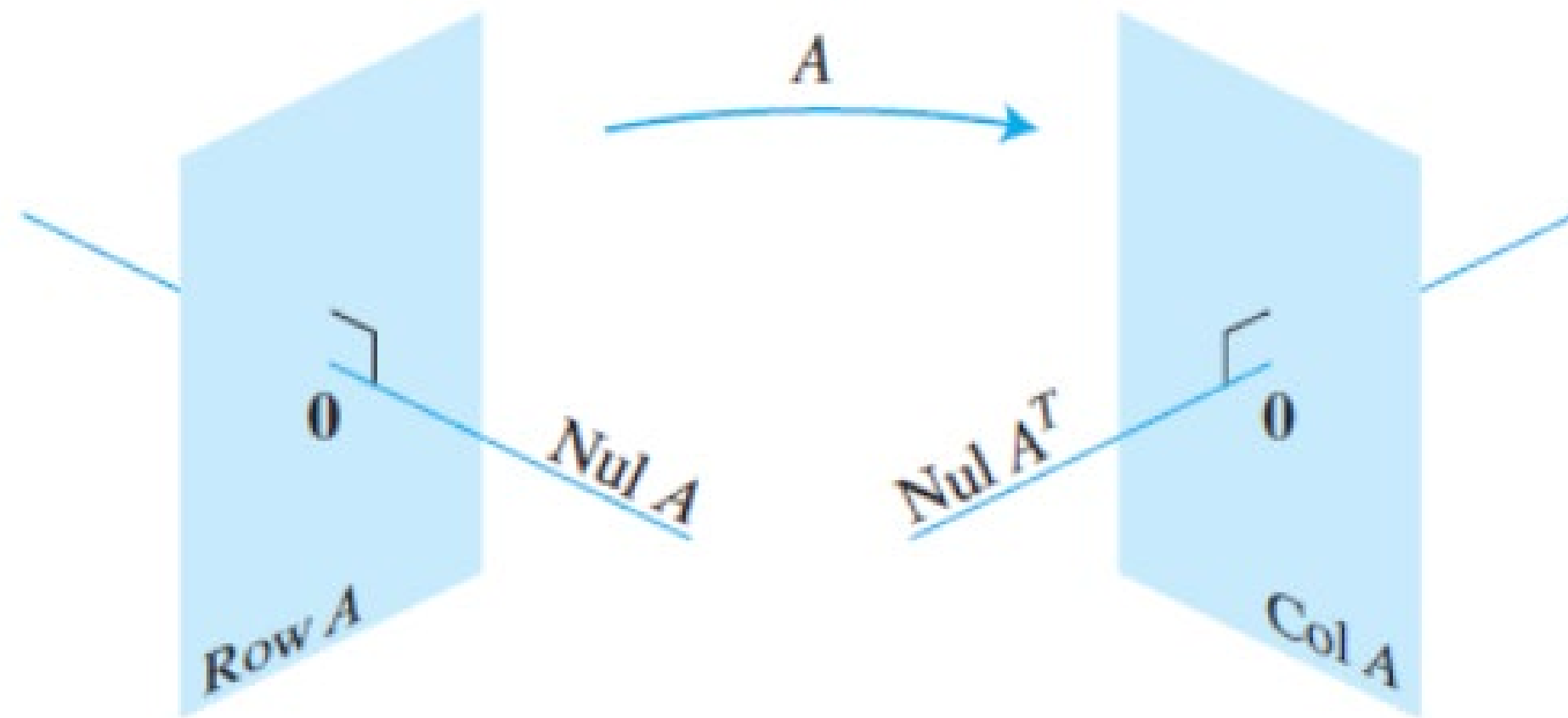


FIGURE 8 The fundamental subspaces determined by an $m \times n$ matrix A .

THEOREM 3

Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix. The orthogonal complement of the row space of A is the null space of A , and the orthogonal complement of the column space of A is the null space of A^T :

$$(\text{Row } A)^\perp = \text{Nul } A \quad \text{and} \quad (\text{Col } A)^\perp = \text{Nul } A^T$$

PROOF The row–column rule for computing $A\mathbf{x}$ shows that if \mathbf{x} is in $\text{Nul } A$, then \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to each row of A (with the rows treated as vectors in \mathbb{R}^n). Since the rows of A span the row space, \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to $\text{Row } A$. Conversely, if \mathbf{x} is orthogonal to $\text{Row } A$, then \mathbf{x} is certainly orthogonal to each row of A , and hence $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$. This proves the first statement of the theorem. Since this statement is true for any matrix, it is true for A^T . That is, the orthogonal complement of the row space of A^T is the null space of A^T . This proves the second statement, because $\text{Row } A^T = \text{Col } A$. ■

Remark: A common way to prove that two sets, say S and T , are equal is to show that S is a subset of T and T is a subset of S . The proof of the next theorem that $\text{Nul } A = (\text{Row } A)^\perp$ is established by showing that $\text{Nul } A$ is a subset of $(\text{Row } A)^\perp$ and $(\text{Row } A)^\perp$ is a subset of $\text{Nul } A$. That is, an arbitrary element \mathbf{x} in $\text{Nul } A$ is shown to be in $(\text{Row } A)^\perp$, and then an arbitrary element \mathbf{x} in $(\text{Row } A)^\perp$ is shown to be in $\text{Nul } A$.