## MATH101 ASSIGNMENT 10

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(1) (a) 
$$\vec{PQ} = [1 - (-1), 0 - 0, 0 - 0] = [2, 0, 0] = 2\mathbf{i}$$
  

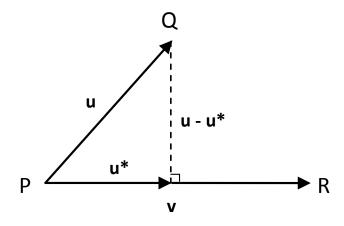
$$\vec{PR} = [1 - (-1), 1 - 0, 1 - 0] = [2, 1, 1] = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$$

(b) Let  $\mathbf{u} = \vec{PQ}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \vec{PR}$ . Then the orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{u}$  onto  $\mathbf{v}$  is

$$\mathbf{u}^* = \operatorname{proj}_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{u} = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|^2} \mathbf{v} = \frac{4+0+0}{\left(\sqrt{4+1+1}\right)^2} \mathbf{v} = \frac{2}{3} [2, 1, 1]$$
$$= \left[ \frac{4}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3} \right] = \frac{4}{3} \mathbf{i} + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{j} + \frac{2}{3} \mathbf{k}$$

Moreover the component of  ${\bf u}$  orthogonal to  ${\bf v}$  is given by

$$\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^* = \left[2 - \frac{4}{3}, 0 - \frac{2}{3}, 0 - \frac{2}{3}\right]$$
$$= \left[\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{2}{3}\right] = \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{i} - \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{j} - \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{k}$$

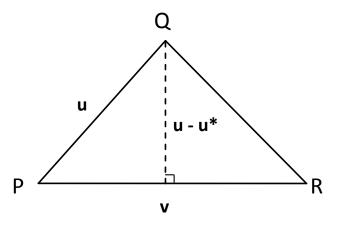


(c) The triangle with vertices P, Q and R has the following dimensions,

$$b = \|\vec{PR}\| = \|\mathbf{v}\| = \sqrt{6}$$
$$h = \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^*\| = \sqrt{\frac{4}{9} + \frac{4}{9} + \frac{4}{9}} = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

where b is the base and h is the (perpendicular) height. Its area is therefore

$$A = \frac{1}{2} bh = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sqrt{6} \right) \left( \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} \right) = \sqrt{2}$$



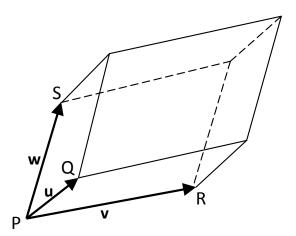
(d) Let  $\mathbf{w} = \vec{PS} = [2 - (-1), 1 - 0, 2 - 0] = [3, 1, 2] = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ . The volume of the parallelepiped with sides given by the vectors  $\vec{PQ}$ ,  $\vec{PR}$  and  $\vec{PS}$  is given by the absolute value of the scalar triple product below.

$$V = |\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})| \text{ where } \mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

Expanding by the first row, where  $c_{ij}$  are the cofactors of  $\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})$ :

$$c_{11} = (-1)^{1+1} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1(1 \times 2 - 1 \times 1) = 1$$

Hence  $\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}) = c_{11} \times 2 + c_{12} \times 0 + c_{13} \times 0 = 1 \times 2 = 2$  and V = |2| = 2



(2) If  $\mathbf{u} = u_1 \mathbf{i} + u_2 \mathbf{j} + u_3 \mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = v_1 \mathbf{i} + v_2 \mathbf{j} + v_3 \mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{w} = w_1 \mathbf{i} + w_2 \mathbf{j} + w_3 \mathbf{k}$  are three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  then,

$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \end{vmatrix} = (v_2 w_3 - v_3 w_2) \mathbf{i} - (v_1 w_3 - v_3 w_1) \mathbf{j} + (v_1 w_2 - v_2 w_1) \mathbf{k}$$

Furthermore the vector triple product is given by

$$\mathbf{u} \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}) = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_2 w_3 - v_3 w_2 & -(v_1 w_3 - v_3 w_1) & v_1 w_2 - v_2 w_1 \end{vmatrix}$$

Thus the **i**-component of  $\mathbf{u} \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})$  is given by

$$= u_2(v_1w_2 - v_2w_1) - u_3(v_3w_1 - v_1w_3)$$

$$= u_2v_1w_2 - u_2v_2w_1 - u_3v_3w_1 + u_3v_1w_3$$

$$= v_1(u_2w_2 + u_3w_3) - w_1(u_2v_2 + u_3v_3)$$

$$= v_1(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w}) - w_1(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})$$

$$= (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w})v_1 - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})w_1$$

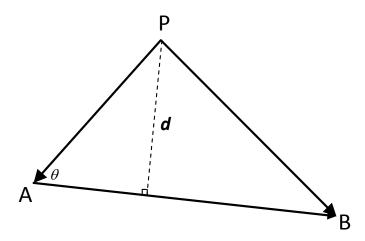
By symmetry,  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w})v_2 - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})w_2$  and  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w})v_3 - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})w_3$  are the **j**- and **k**-components of  $\mathbf{u} \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})$ . Combining all three components therefore gives

$$= (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w})(v_1 + v_2 + v_3) - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v})(w_1 + w_2 + w_3)$$
  
=  $(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{w}) \mathbf{v} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{w}$ 

(3) I was unable to answer this successfully so my first attempt is shown instead, which assumes a slight variation to the phrasing of the question.

Let  $\angle P\hat{A}B = \theta$ . Then,

$$\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{AB}\| = \|\vec{PA}\| \|\vec{AB}\| \sin \theta$$



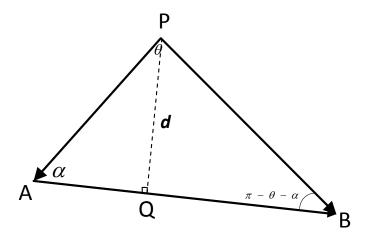
If d is the perpendicular distance from the point P to the line AB, then the right-angle  $\triangle AQP$  (where Q is a point on  $\vec{AB}$  and  $\angle A\hat{Q}P = 90^{\circ}$ ) implies

$$\sin \theta = \frac{d}{\|\vec{PA}\|}$$

It follows that  $d = \|\vec{PA}\| \sin \theta$  and thus  $\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{AB}\| = d \|\vec{AB}\|$ . Rearranging gives

$$d = \frac{\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{AB}\|}{\|\vec{AB}\|}$$

However, if we were to answer the original question we produce the following diagram and calculations.



Let  $\angle A\hat{P}B = \theta$ . Then,

$$\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{PB}\| = \|\vec{PA}\| \|\vec{PB}\| \sin \theta \Rightarrow \|\vec{PA}\| = \frac{\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{PB}\|}{\|\vec{PB}\| \sin \theta}$$

If  $\angle P\hat{A}B = \alpha$ , it follows that

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{d}{\|\vec{PA}\|} \implies d = \|\vec{PA}\| \sin \alpha$$

$$= \frac{\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{PB}\| \sin \alpha}{\|\vec{PB}\| \sin \theta}$$

In order to show that

$$d = \frac{\|\vec{PA} \times \vec{PB}\|}{\|\vec{AB}\|}$$

we must therefore show that

$$\frac{1}{\|\vec{AB}\|} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\|\vec{PB}\| \sin \theta}$$

which we fail to do due to some flaw in our reasoning.

(4) We solve the following systems of linear equations using Gauss-Jordan elimination.

Hence the second equation is simply a multiple of the first. It follows that the two planes coincide and that all points (x, y, z) on the plane satisfy the pair of equations.

Thus,

$$x = -10, \quad y = 1, \quad z = -6$$

(c)

$$\begin{array}{ccc|ccc}
0 & 1 & -4 & 8 \\
2 & -3 & 2 & 1 \\
5 & -8 & 7 & 1
\end{array}$$

The system is therefore inconsistent and there is no unique solution.

(5) A condition on the coefficients of  $a_{ij}$  that guarantees a consistent system is

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

This reduces the general system of linear equations in three unknowns to the following augmented matrix.

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & b_3 \end{array}$$

Thus we have a unique solution in

$$x_1 = b_1, \quad x_2 = b_2, \quad x_3 = b_3$$

which implies that the system is consistent.