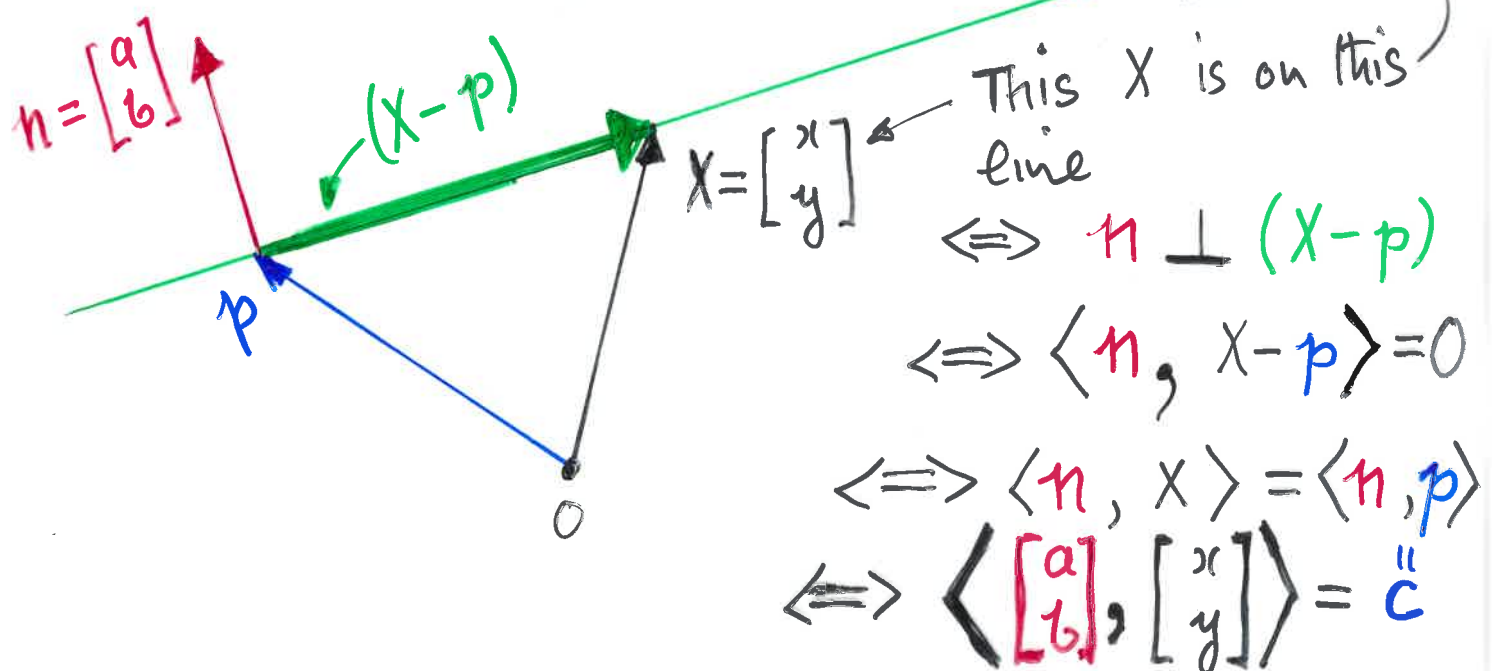


REMARK: In the case of the line, we could have worked as we did in the case of the plane and SHOW that the line passing through  $p \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and having  $n = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$  as normal has equation

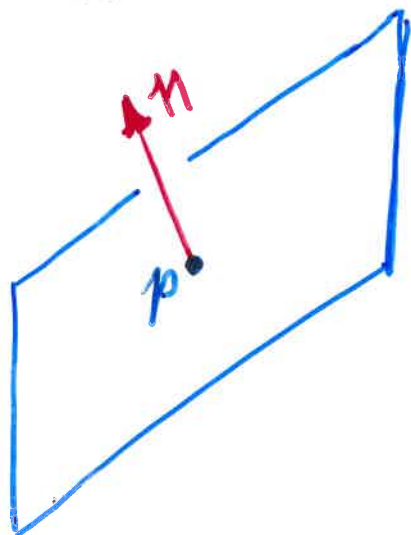
$$ax + by = c$$



As we have seen, the equation

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

has as solution set a plane in space



with  $n = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  as NORMAL

vector. Two such planes (unless they are parallel) intersect in a line.

To "find the line of intersection" of such planes, for example,

$$\begin{aligned} 1x + 2y + 4z &= 2 \\ 2x + 3y - 1z &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

we must "solve these equations". To

do this THERE IS A STANDARD

PROCEDURE which YOU are expected

to follow VERBATIM.

We illustrate this standard procedure by the example just given:

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$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} 1x & + & 2y & + & 4z & = & 2 \\ 2x & + & 3y & - & 1z & = & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ R_1 \longrightarrow R_1 \\ R_2 \longrightarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} 1x & + & 2y & + & 4z & = & 2 \\ & & -1y & - & 9z & = & -3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ R_1 \longrightarrow R_1 \\ R_2 \longrightarrow -R_2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} 1x & + & 2y & + & 4z & = & 2 \\ & & 1y & + & 9z & = & 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \downarrow \\ R_1 \longrightarrow R_1 - 2R_2 \\ R_2 \longrightarrow R_2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} 1x & & & - & 14z & = & -4 \\ & & 1y & + & 9z & = & 3 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{rclcrcl} 1x & = & -4 & + & 14z \\ 1y & = & 3 & - & 9z \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= -4 + 14z \\ y &= 3 - 9z \\ z &= 0 + 1z \end{aligned}$$

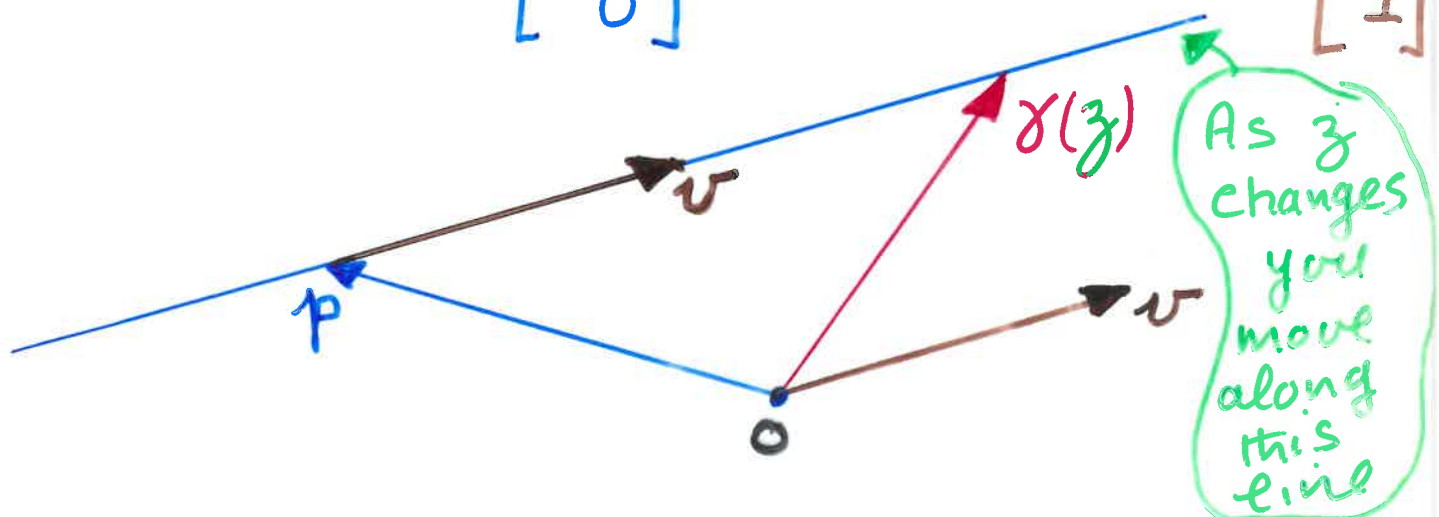
The silly equation

Thus we have represented our line (that is, the **SOLUTION SET** of the simultaneous equations) by a map

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: z \longmapsto \gamma(z) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_p + z \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ -9 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_v$$

This is the line

through  $p = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  in the DIRECTION  $v = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ -9 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

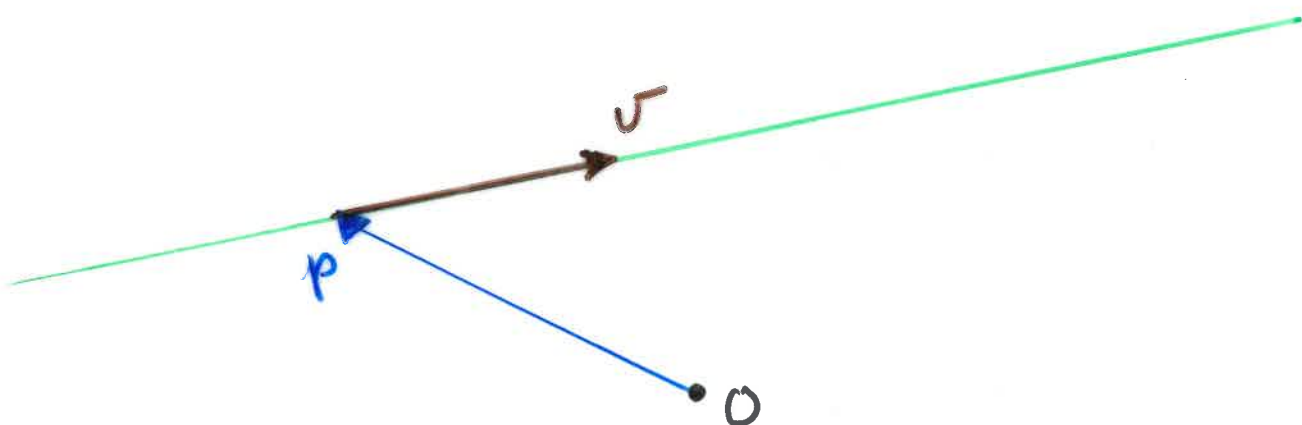


# THE PARAMETRIZATION OF PLANES

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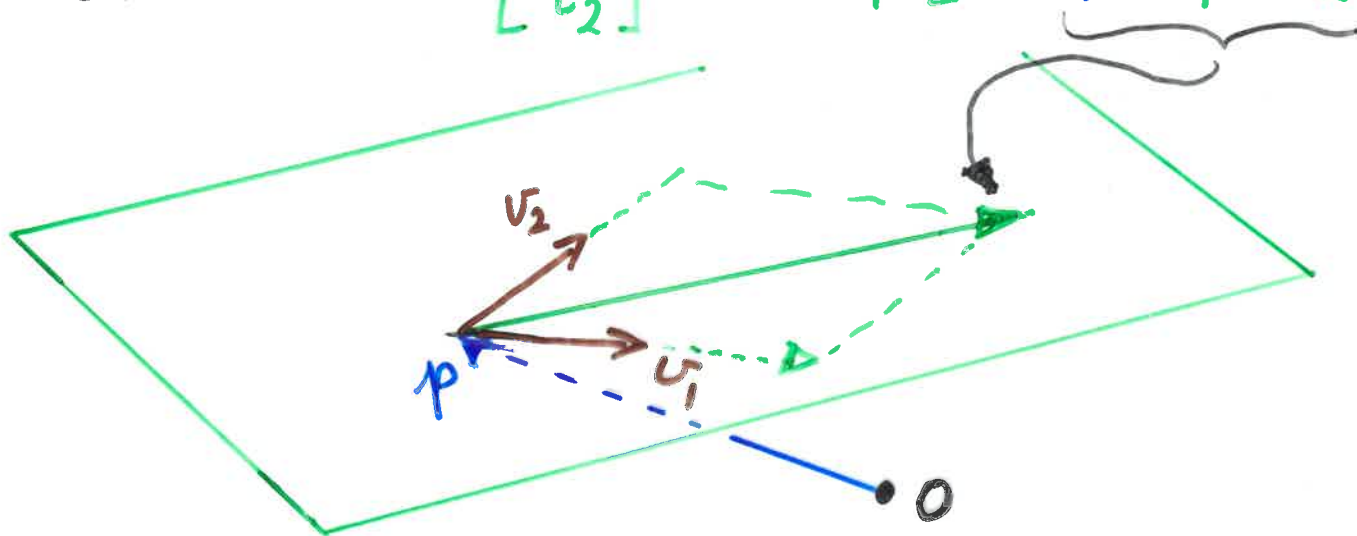
Just as a line through  $p$  in the direction  $v$  is parametrized by

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: t \longmapsto \gamma(t) = p + tv$$



so also is a plane (in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) through  $p$  in the directions of  $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$  parametrized by a map

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix} \longmapsto \gamma(t_1, t_2) = p + t_1 v_1 + t_2 v_2$$





EXAMPLE: Parametrize the plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which is determined by the equation

$$1x + 4y - 5z = 2.$$

SOLUTION:

$$1x + 4y - 5z = 2$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$x = 2 - 4y + 5z$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$x = 2 - 4y + 5z$$

$$y = 0 + 1y + 0z$$

$$z = 0 + 0y + 1z$$

FOR ALL  $y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

The  
silly  
equations

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + y \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + z \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{39}$$

For all  $y, z \in \mathbb{R}$

That is, the plane is parametrized by

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: \begin{bmatrix} y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \gamma(y, z) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_p + y \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{v_1} + z \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{v_2}$$

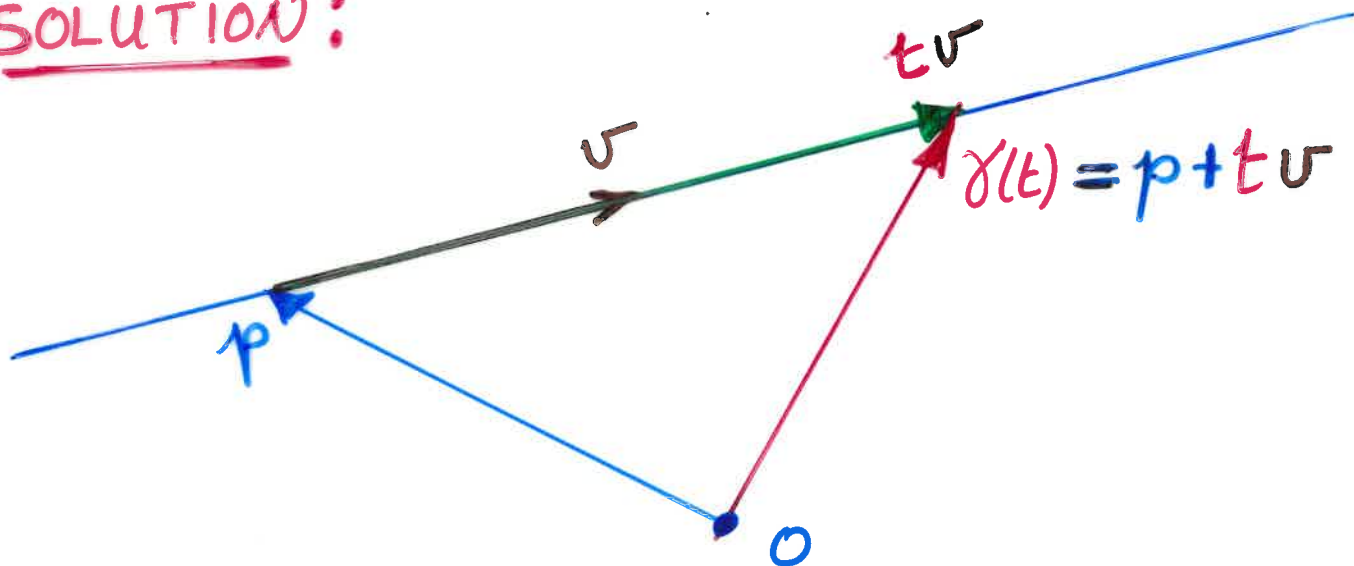
EXAMPLE 1: Parametrize the

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line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which passes

through the point  $p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  in the direction  $v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$

SOLUTION:



a parametrization is given by

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: t \longmapsto \gamma(t) = p + tv$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 2t \\ 2 - t \\ 3 - 3t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix}$$



EXAMPLE 2: Parametrize the line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which passes through the points

$$p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad q = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

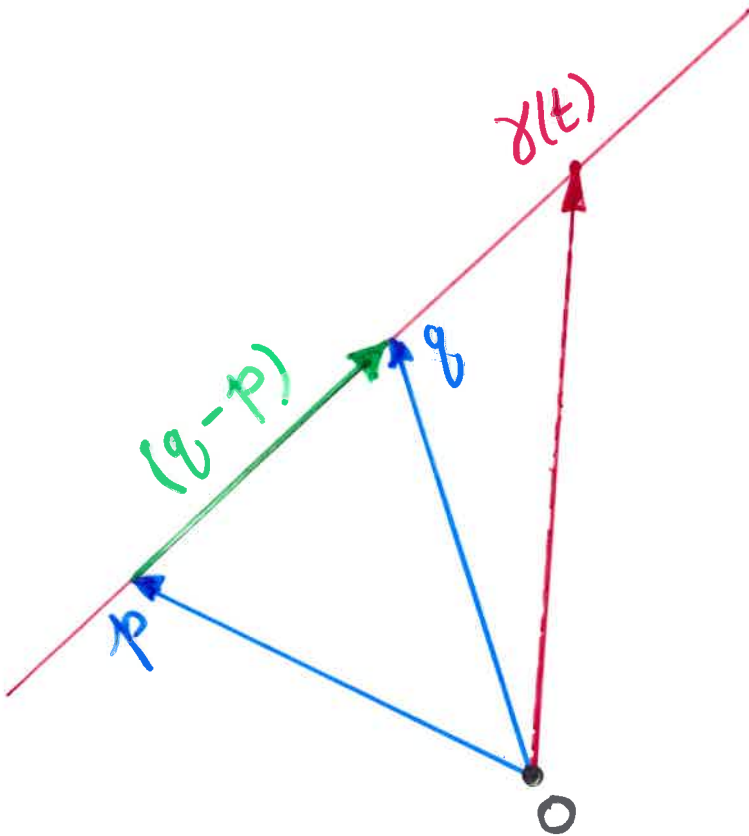
SOLUTION: A parametrization is given by

$$\gamma: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3: t \mapsto \gamma(t) = p + t(q - p)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + t \left( \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

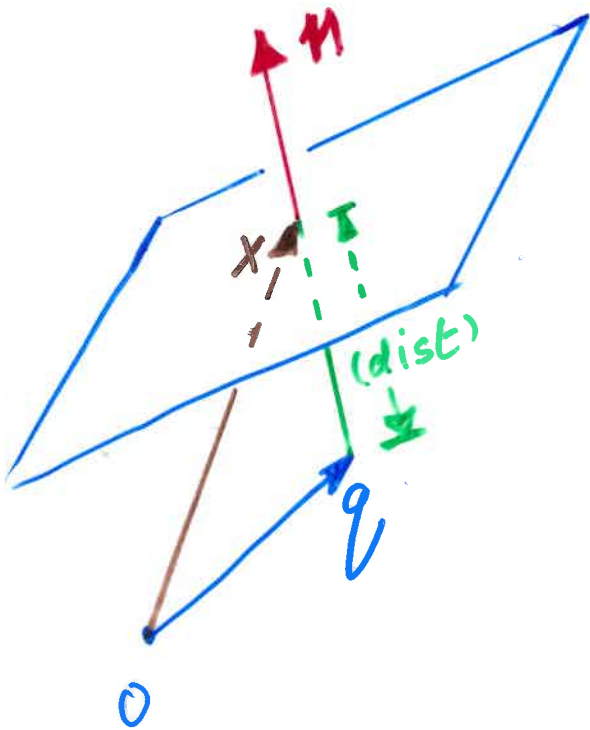
$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 3t \\ 2 - 3t \\ 3 - t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix}$$



# THE PERPENDICULAR DISTANCE FROM A POINT TO A PLANE

Let (dist) = { The PERPENDICULAR DISTANCE  
from the point  $q = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{bmatrix}$   
to the plane  
 $ax + by + cz = d$

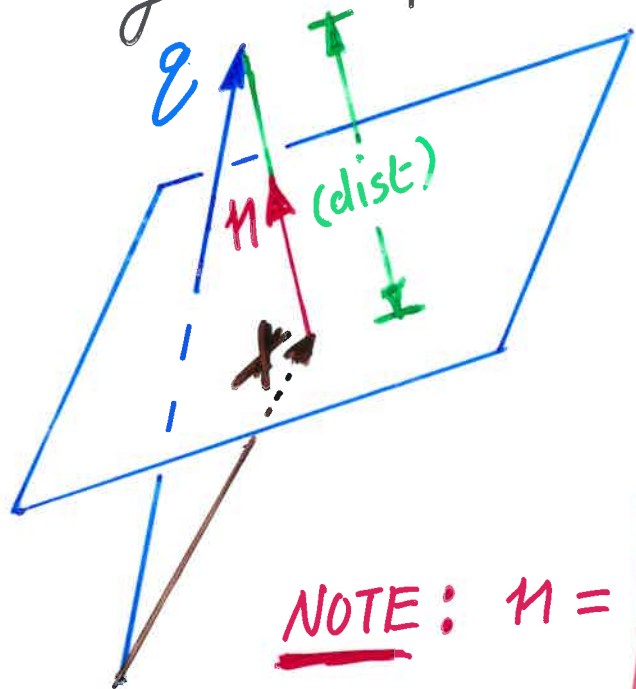
One of the following two pictures hold:



Here

$$x = q + (\text{dist}) \frac{n}{\|n\|}$$

is on the plane



NOTE:  $n = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$

Here

$$x = q + (\text{dist}) \left( -\frac{n}{\|n\|} \right)$$

is on the plane

In either case,

$$X = q + \lambda \frac{n}{\|n\|} \quad \text{where (dist)} = |\lambda|$$

is on the plane

$$ax + by + cz = d$$

That is,

$$\langle n, X \rangle = d$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle n, q + \lambda \frac{n}{\|n\|} \rangle = d$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle n, q \rangle + \lambda \|n\| = d$$

$$\Rightarrow (\text{dist}) = |\lambda| = \frac{|\langle n, q \rangle - d|}{\|n\|}$$

This formula should look familiar

$$= \frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 - d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

In particular

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The distance  
from the ORIGIN  
to the plane  
 $ax + by + cz = d$

$$= \frac{|d|}{\|n\|}$$

since in this case  
 $x_1 = y_1 = z_1 = 0$

EXAMPLE: Find the distance from  
the point  $q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  to the plane  $2x - 4y + 3z = 5$ .

SOLUTION: With  $n = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  we have

$$\text{distance} = \frac{|\langle n, q \rangle - 5|}{\|n\|}$$

$$= \frac{|(2)1 + (-4)2 + (3)3 - 5|}{\sqrt{2^2 + (-4)^2 + (3)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{|-2|}{\sqrt{29}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{29}} \text{ (units)}$$