

Assignment-1

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October 2, 2020

1 Problem

Find the coordinates of the point where the line through $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ crosses the plane $(2 \ 1 \ 1)x=7$

2 Explanation

We know that vector equation of line passing through two points, say A and B is

$$\mathbf{x} = \vec{A} + \lambda (\vec{B} - \vec{A}) \quad (2.1)$$

We also know that equation of a plane is

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = c \quad (2.2)$$

Substituting 2.1 in 2.2 as line passes through the plane we can get the point of contact.

3 Solution

Step 1

Let us first find out the equation of line passing through two given points using 2.1

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2-3 \\ -3+4 \\ 1+5 \end{pmatrix} \\ \mathbf{x} &= \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda+3 \\ \lambda-4 \\ 6\lambda-5 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Step 2

Now let us construct the equation of plane from the given data.

Using the values we can construct

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.2)$$

Step 3

Now using 3.1 3.2 in 2.2

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = c \quad (3.3)$$

solving 3.3 we get

$$-2\lambda + 6 + \lambda - 4 + 6\lambda - 5 = 7$$

$$5\lambda = 10$$

$$\lambda = 2 \quad (3.4)$$

Now substituting the value of λ in 2.1 we get

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2+3 \\ 2-4 \\ 12-5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore the point of contact of line on plane is

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{The figure illustrates the}$$

