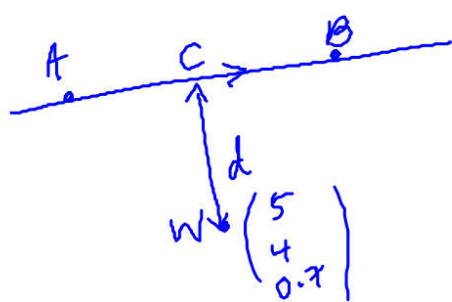


9 A birdwatcher is located on a hilltop. Relative to a fixed origin  $O$ , the position vector of the birdwatcher is  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 0.7 \end{pmatrix}$  km. The birdwatcher is able to spot any bird that flies within 0.5 km of her position. A kestrel flies from point  $A$  to point  $B$ , where points  $A$  and  $B$  have position vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  km and  $\begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ 0 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix}$  km respectively. The kestrel is modelled as flying in a straight line.

a Use the model to determine whether the birdwatcher is able to spot the kestrel. (7 marks)

b Give one criticism of the model. (1 mark)



$$\vec{AB} = \underline{b} - \underline{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ 0 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -5 \\ 1.2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\underline{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 + 9\lambda \\ 0 - 5\lambda \\ 1.2 + 1.2\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{WC} = \underline{c} - \underline{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 + 9\lambda \\ -4 - 5\lambda \\ 0.5 + 1.2\lambda \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{WC} \cdot \vec{AB} = 0$$

$$63 + 81\lambda + 20 + 25\lambda + 0.6 + 1.44\lambda = 0$$

$$107.44\lambda = -83.6$$

$$\lambda = -\frac{1045}{1343}$$

$$\vec{WC} = \begin{pmatrix} -2.978 \times 10^{-3} \\ -\frac{147}{1343} \\ -\frac{1165}{2686} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$WC = 0.447 \text{ km}$$

$$\text{Yes } WC < 0.5 \text{ km}$$

## Shortest distance between a point and a plane

The perpendicular distance of  $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  from  $n_1x + n_2y + n_3z + d = 0$  is  $\frac{|n_1\alpha + n_2\beta + n_3\gamma + d|}{\sqrt{n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2}}$ .

Find the perpendicular distance from the point with coordinates  $(3, 2, -1)$  to the plane with equation  $2x - 3y + z = 5$ .

$$\begin{array}{l} (3, 2, -1) \quad 2x - 3y + z - 5 = 0 \\ \alpha \quad \beta \quad \gamma \quad n_1=2 \quad n_2=-3 \quad n_3=1 \quad d=-5 \end{array}$$

$$d = \frac{|2 \times 3 - 3 \times 2 + 1 \times -1 - 5|}{\sqrt{2^2 + 3^2 + 1^2}}$$

$$d = \frac{6}{\sqrt{14}} = \frac{3\sqrt{14}}{7}$$

[June 2013 Q8(R)] The plane  $\Pi_1$  has vector equation

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}) = 5$$

(a) Find the perpendicular distance from the point  $(6, 2, 12)$  to the plane  $\Pi_1$ .

(3)

Distance between

$(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$  and  $n_1x + n_2y + n_3z + d = 0$

$$\frac{|n_1\alpha + n_2\beta + n_3\gamma + d|}{\sqrt{n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2}}$$

## Shortest distance between two parallel planes

- find *any* point on the plane
- use the formula for shortest distance between point and plane

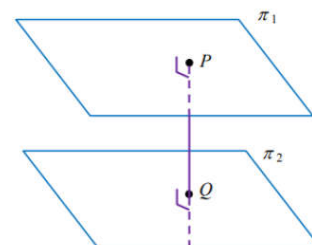
*Example:* Find the distance between the parallel planes

$$\pi_1: \boxed{2x - 6y + 3z = 9} \text{ and } \pi_2: \overset{n_1}{2}x - \overset{n_2}{6}y + \overset{n_3}{3}z = 5 \quad d = -5$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 0 \\ y &= 0 \\ z &= 3 \end{aligned} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0, 0, 3 \\ \alpha, \beta, \gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

← shortest dist

$$\text{shortest dist} = \frac{|3 \times 3 - 5|}{\sqrt{2^2 + 6^2 + 3^2}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{49}} = \frac{4}{7}$$



$$\frac{|n_1\alpha + n_2\beta + n_3\gamma + d|}{\sqrt{n_1^2 + n_2^2 + n_3^2}}$$

Ex 9F Q5, 6, 10

5 Find the shortest distance between the parallel planes.

a  $r \cdot (6i + 6j - 7k) = 55$  and  $r \cdot (6i + 6j - 7k) = 22$

b  $r = 3i + 4j + k + \lambda(4i + k) + \mu(8i + 3j + 3k)$  and  $r = \overset{\alpha}{14i} + \overset{\beta}{2j} + \overset{\gamma}{2k} + \lambda(3j + k) + \mu(8i - 9j - k)$

Find a vector perp to both  $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  Let  $n = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 8x + 3y + 3z = 0$$

and  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 4x + z = 0$

Let  $z = -4$   $8 + 3y - 12 = 0$   $n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4/3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -12 \end{pmatrix}$   
 $x = 1$   $3y = 4$   
 $y = \frac{4}{3}$

$$\underline{r} \cdot \underline{n} = \underline{a} \cdot \underline{n}$$

$$\underline{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -12 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -12 \end{pmatrix} = 9 + 16 - 12 = 13$$

Hence  $\Pi_1$  is  
 $3x + 4y - 12z = 13$   
 $3x + 4y - 12z - 13 = 0$

$d = 14$   $\beta = 2$   $\gamma = 2$   
 $n_1 = 3$   $n_2 = 4$   $n_3 = -12$   $d = -13$  So  $\text{dist} = \frac{|14 \times 3 + 2 \times 4 + 2 \times -12 - 13|}{\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2 + 12^2}} = \frac{13}{13} = 1$

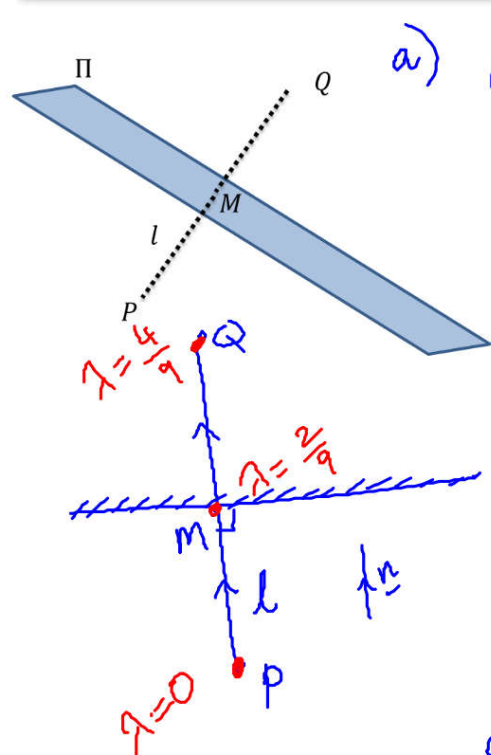
## Reflecting a point in a plane

The plane  $\Pi$  has equation  $r \cdot (i + 2j + 2k) = 5$ . The point  $P$  has coordinates  $(1, 3, -2)$ .

(a) Find the shortest distance between  $P$  and  $\Pi$ .

The point  $Q$  is the reflection of the point  $P$  in  $\Pi$ .

(b) Find the coordinates of point  $Q$ .



$$a) \text{ dist} = \frac{|1 \times 1 + 3 \times 2 - 2 \times 2 - 5|}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 2^2}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{9}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Reflection  $\rightarrow$  intersection of a line and plane.

$$l: r = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda \\ 3 + 2\lambda \\ -2 + 2\lambda \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi: r \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 5$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda \\ 3 + 2\lambda \\ -2 + 2\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 5$$

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

$$9\lambda = 2$$

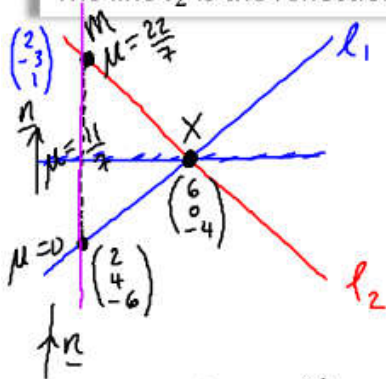
$$\lambda = \frac{2}{9}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{4}{9} \quad r = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{4}{9} \\ 3 + \frac{8}{9} \\ -2 + \frac{8}{9} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{13}{9} \\ \frac{35}{9} \\ -\frac{10}{9} \end{pmatrix} \quad Q \left( \frac{13}{9}, \frac{35}{9}, -\frac{10}{9} \right)$$



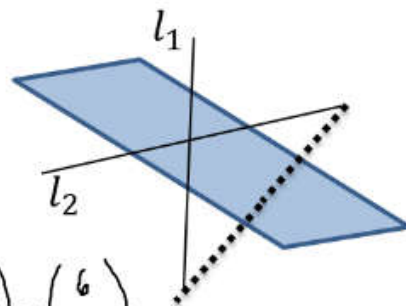
## Reflecting a line in a plane

The line  $l_1$  has equation  $\frac{x-2}{2} = \frac{y-4}{-2} = \frac{z+6}{1}$ . The plane  $\Pi$  has equation  $2x - 3y + z = 8$ .  
The line  $l_2$  is the reflection of line  $l_1$  in the plane  $\Pi$ . Find a vector equation of the line  $l_2$ .



- find the intersection
- reflect a point on  $l_1$  to  $l_2$
- find the equation through these 2 points.

The key here is that we need to reflect two points on the line through the plane, then find the equation of the line through these new points.



$$l_1: r = \begin{pmatrix} 2+2\lambda \\ 4-2\lambda \\ -6+\lambda \end{pmatrix} \quad \Pi: r \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 8$$

$$4+4\lambda-12+6\lambda-6+\lambda=8$$

$$11\lambda=22$$

$$\lambda=2$$

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} 2+2 \times 2 \\ 4-2 \times 2 \\ -6+2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Equation of line perp to plane through a point on  $l_1$  (the pink line).

$$r = \begin{pmatrix} 2+2\mu \\ 4-3\mu \\ -6+\mu \end{pmatrix} \quad r \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 8$$

$$4+4\mu-12+9\mu-6+\mu=8$$

$$14\mu=22$$

$$\mu = \frac{11}{7}$$

$$m = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + \frac{44}{7} \\ 4 - \frac{66}{7} \\ -6 + \frac{22}{7} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{58}{7} \\ -\frac{38}{7} \\ -\frac{20}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

Our  $l_2$  passes through  $M$  and  $X$

$$\vec{MX} = x - m = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{58}{7} \\ -\frac{38}{7} \\ -\frac{20}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{MX} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{16}{7} \\ \frac{38}{7} \\ -\frac{8}{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

because  $\vec{MX}$  is direction, I can simplify, so direction is  $\begin{pmatrix} -16 \\ 38 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$  or  $\begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 19 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{So } l_2: r = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 19 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Ex 9F Q7, 8, 12