

Step-1

Consider the plane $\mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{y} + 3\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$ in \mathbf{R}^3 .

The plane is the null space of the following matrix:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find the null space of matrix A , solve the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{y} + 3\mathbf{z} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

This system has infinitely many solutions.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= 2\mathbf{y} - 3\mathbf{z} \\ \mathbf{y} &= s \\ \mathbf{z} &= t \end{aligned}$$

Here s and t are any real numbers.

Step-2

The solutions can be written in vector form as follows:

$$\mathbf{c}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{c}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step-3

Therefore, a basis for the null space of matrix A or the plane $\mathbf{x} - 2\mathbf{y} + 3\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$ is

$$\boxed{\mathbf{c}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}} \text{ and } \boxed{\mathbf{c}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}$$

Step-4

The intersection of the plane $x - 2y + 3z = 0$ with the xy -plane contains \mathbf{e}_1 but it does not contain \mathbf{e}_2 , so we get the intersection as a line.

We know that, \mathbf{e}_1 lies in the xy -plane. Hence, \mathbf{e}_1 lies on the line.

Therefore, the basis for the intersection of the plane with the xy -plane is

Step-5

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step-6

By using cross product we will find the vector \mathbf{e}_3 , which is perpendicular to the vectors \mathbf{e}_1 and \mathbf{e}_2 .

$$\begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{i}(1-0) - \mathbf{j}(2-0) + \mathbf{k}(0-(-3)) \\ = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$$

Or

$$\mathbf{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

So, vector \mathbf{e}_3 is perpendicular to the plane.

Therefore, a basis for all vectors perpendicular to the plane is

$$\mathbf{e}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$