

# Problem 2.2.28

Sujal Rajani

September 12, 2025

**Question:** Find the angle between the two planes  $2x+y-2z=5$  and  $3x-6y-2z=7$  using vector method.

# Solution

## Solution:

the normal vector of plane  $2x + y - 2z = 5$  is :  $\mathbf{n}_1$

$$\mathbf{n}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

the normal vector of plane  $3x - 6y - 2z = 7$  is :  $\mathbf{n}_2$

$$\mathbf{n}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -6 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The value of  $\|\mathbf{n}_1\|$ :

$$(\mathbf{n}_1)^T(\mathbf{n}_1) = \|\mathbf{n}_1\|^2 = 9$$

# SOLUTION

The value of  $\|\mathbf{n}_2\|$ :

$$(\mathbf{n}_2)^T(\mathbf{n}_2) = \|\mathbf{n}_2\|^2 = 49$$

The angle between two plane is same as the angle between their normal vectors , which is  $\theta$  .

the angle between  $\mathbf{n}_1$  and  $\mathbf{n}_2$  is :

$$\cos \theta = \frac{(\mathbf{n}_1)^T(\mathbf{n}_2)}{\|\mathbf{n}_1\| \|\mathbf{n}_2\|} = \frac{4}{21}$$
$$\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{4}{21}$$

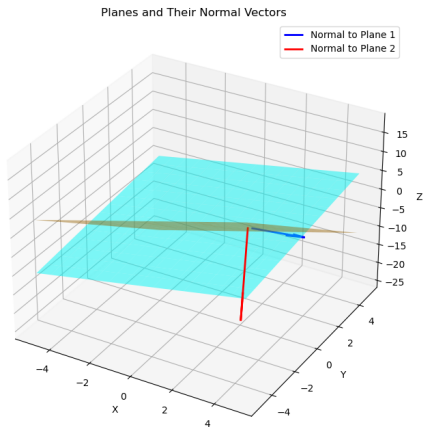


Figure: \*

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>

// Function to compute dot product
double dot(double a[3], double b[3]) {
    return a[0]*b[0] + a[1]*b[1] + a[2]*b[2];
}

// Function to compute magnitude of a vector
double magnitude(double v[3]) {
    return sqrt(v[0]*v[0] + v[1]*v[1] + v[2]*v[2]);
}

int main() {
    // Normal vectors of the two planes
    double n1[3] = {2, 1, -2}; // for plane  $2x + y - 2z = 5$ 
    double n2[3] = {3, -6, -2}; // for plane  $3x - 6y - 2z = 7$ 
```

```
// Dot product
double dot_val = dot(n1, n2);
// Magnitudes
double mag1 = magnitude(n1);
double mag2 = magnitude(n2);

// Cos(theta)
double cos_theta = dot_val / (mag1 * mag2);

// Angle in radians and degrees
double theta_rad = acos(cos_theta);
double theta_deg = theta_rad * 180.0 / M_PI;
```

// Output

```
printf("Dot product = %.2f\n", dot_val);  
printf("|n1| = %.2f, |n2| = %.2f\n", mag1, mag2);  
printf("cos(theta) = %.4f\n", cos_theta);  
printf("Angle between planes = %.4f radians = %.2f degrees\n"  
      , theta_rad, theta_deg);  
  
return 0;  
}
```



# Python Code for Plotting

```
import sympy as sp
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib as mp
mp.use("TkAgg")

# -----
# Step 1: Define planes
# -----
n1, d1 = sp.Matrix([2, 1, -2]), 5 #  $2x + y - 2z = 5$ 
n2, d2 = sp.Matrix([3, -6, -2]), 7 #  $3x - 6y - 2z = 7$ 

# -----
# Step 2: Function to plot a plane
# -----
def plot_plane(ax, n, d, color, alpha=0.4):
    xx, yy = np.meshgrid(np.linspace(-5,5,15), np.linspace(-5,5,15))
    zz = (d - n[0]*xx - n[1]*yy) / n[2]
```

# Python Code for Plotting

```
# -----  
# Step 3: Get points on planes for plotting normals  
# -----  
x, y, z = sp.symbols('x y z')  
plane1_eq = n1[0]*x + n1[1]*y + n1[2]*z - d1  
plane2_eq = n2[0]*x + n2[1]*y + n2[2]*z - d2  
  
p1 = sp.solve(plane1_eq.subs({y:0, z:0}), x)  
p2 = sp.solve(plane2_eq.subs({y:0, z:0}), x)  
  
a1 = np.array([float(p1[0]), 0, 0]) if p1 else np.zeros(3)  
a2 = np.array([float(p2[0]), 0, 0]) if p2 else np.zeros(3)  
  
# -----  
# Step 4: Plot planes + normals  
# -----  
fig = plt.figure(figsize=(8,8))  
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')
```

# Python Code for Plotting

```
plot_plane(ax, n1f, d1f, "cyan", 0.5)
plot_plane(ax, n2f, d2f, "orange", 0.5)

# Plot normal vectors
ax.quiver(a1[0], a1[1], a1[2], n1f[0], n1f[1], n1f[2],
          length=3, color="blue", linewidth=2, label="Normal to
          Plane 1")
ax.quiver(a2[0], a2[1], a2[2], n2f[0], n2f[1], n2f[2],
          length=3, color="red", linewidth=2, label="Normal to
          Plane 2")

# Labels
ax.set_xlabel("X")
ax.set_ylabel("Y")
ax.set_zlabel("Z")
ax.set_title("Planes and Their Normal Vectors")
ax.legend()
```