

NCERT Solutions for Class 12 Maths

Chapter 11 – Three Dimensional Geometry

Exercise 11.1

1.

If a line makes angles 90° , 135° , 45° with the x, y and z-axes respectively, find its direction cosines.

$$\text{Ans - } l = \cos 90^\circ = 0$$

$$m = \cos 135^\circ = \cos(180^\circ - 45^\circ) = -\cos 45^\circ = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$n = \cos 45^\circ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Hence direction cosines are 0 , $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$.

2.

Find the direction cosines of a line which makes equal angles with the coordinate axes.

Ans – Let α be the angle. Since line makes equal angles with the coordinate axes,

$$l = m = n = \cos \alpha$$

We know, $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

$$3\cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

$$\cos^2 \alpha = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\cos \alpha = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

\therefore Direction cosines will be $\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ and $\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$

3.

If a line has the direction ratios $-18, 12, -4$, then what are its direction cosines ?

Ans - Given direction ratios $a = -18, b = 12$ and $c = -4$

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$l = \frac{-18}{\sqrt{(-18)^2 + (12)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$l = -\frac{18}{22}$$

$$m = \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$m = \frac{12}{\sqrt{(-18)^2 + (12)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$m = \frac{12}{22}$$

$$n = \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{(-18)^2 + (12)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$n = -\frac{2}{22}$$

Therefore the direction cosines are $-\frac{18}{22}, \frac{12}{22}$ and $-\frac{2}{22}$

4.

Show that the points (2, 3, 4), (-1, -2, 1), (5, 8, 7) are collinear.

Ans - Given points are A(2,3,4), B(-1,-2,1) and C(5,8,7).

Direction ratio of line joining the two coordinates

(x_1, y_1, z_1) and (x_2, y_2, z_2) is given as $(x_2 - x_1), (y_2 - y_1)$ and $(z_2 - z_1)$

⇒ Direction ratio of line AB is given as $(-1-2), (-2-3)$ and $(1-4)$.

⇒ Direction ratio of line AB is $-3, -5$ and -3 .

Similarly direction ratio of line BC is given as

$(5-(-1)), (8-(-2))$ and $(7-1)$.

⇒ Direction ratio of line BC is 6, 10 and 6.

On comparing the direction ratio of AB and BC, it can be seen that the direction ratio of BC is -2 times of AB i.e. they are proportional.

$$AB = \lambda(BC)$$

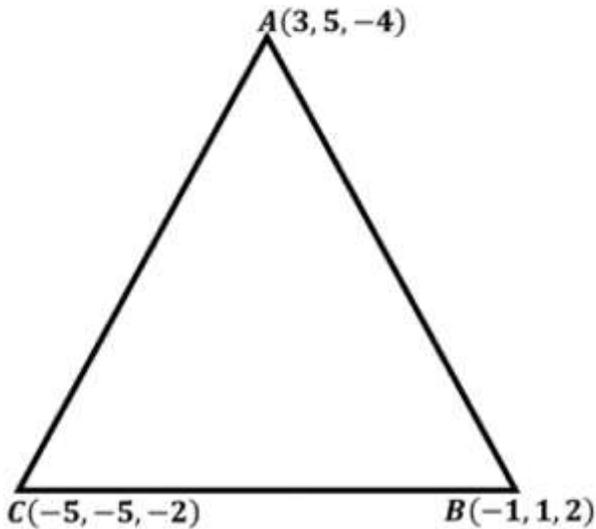
Hence $AB \parallel BC$. As point B is common to both AB and BC.

∴ Given points A(2,3,4), B(-1,-2,1) and C(5,8,7) are collinear.

5.

Find the direction cosines of the sides of the triangle whose vertices are (3, 5, -4), (-1, 1, 2) and (-5, -5, -2).

Ans - Given vertices of ΔABC are $A(3,5,-4)$, $B(-1,1,2)$ and $C(-5,-5,-2)$.



Direction ratio of line joining the two coordinates (x_1, y_1, z_1) and (x_2, y_2, z_2) is given as $(x_2 - x_1)$, $(y_2 - y_1)$ and $(z_2 - z_1)$

\Rightarrow Direction ratio of line AB is given as $(-1 - 3)$, $(1 - 5)$ and $(2 - (-4))$.

\Rightarrow Direction ratio of line AB is $-4, -4$ and 6 .

Direction cosines of side AB using direction ratio are,

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$l = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-4)^2 + (6)^2}}$$

$$l = -\frac{4}{2\sqrt{17}}$$

$$l = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$$

$$m = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$m = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-4)^2 + (6)^2}}$$

$$m = -\frac{4}{2\sqrt{17}} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$$

$$n = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{6}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-4)^2 + (6)^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{6}{2\sqrt{17}}$$

$$n = \frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$$

∴ Direction cosines of AB are $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$, $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$ and $\frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$

Calculating the direction cosines of side BC

Direction ratio of BC is given as $(-5 - (-1))$, $(-5 - 1)$ and $(-2 - 2)$

⇒ Direction ratio of BC is -4 , -6 and -4 .

Direction cosines of side BC using direction ratio are

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$l = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-6)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$l = -\frac{4}{2\sqrt{17}}$$

$$l = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$$

$$m = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$m = \frac{-6}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-6)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$m = -\frac{6}{2\sqrt{17}} = -\frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$$

$$n = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{(-4)^2 + (-6)^2 + (-4)^2}}$$

$$n = -\frac{4}{2\sqrt{17}}$$

∴ Direction cosines of BC is $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$, $-\frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$ and $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$.

Calculating the direction cosines of side AC

Direction ratio of AC is given as $(-5 - 3)$, $(-5 - 5)$ and $(-2 - (-4))$

⇒ Direction ratio of AC is -8 , -10 and 2

Direction cosines of side AC using direction ratio is given as

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$l = \frac{-8}{\sqrt{(-8)^2 + (-10)^2 + (2)^2}}$$

$$l = -\frac{8}{2\sqrt{42}}$$

$$l = -\frac{4}{\sqrt{42}}$$

$$m = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$m = \frac{-10}{\sqrt{(-8)^2 + (-10)^2 + (2)^2}}$$

$$m = -\frac{10}{2\sqrt{42}} = -\frac{5}{\sqrt{42}}$$

$$n = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{2}{\sqrt{(-8)^2 + (-10)^2 + (2)^2}}$$

$$n = \frac{2}{2\sqrt{42}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{42}}$$

∴ Direction cosines of AC is $-\frac{4}{\sqrt{42}}, -\frac{5}{\sqrt{42}}$ and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{42}}$

Therefore,

Direction cosines of AB is $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$ and $\frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$

Direction cosines of BC is $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}, -\frac{3}{\sqrt{17}}$ and $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{17}}$

Direction cosines of AC is $-\frac{4}{\sqrt{42}}, -\frac{5}{\sqrt{42}}$ and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{42}}$.

Exercise 11.2

1.

Show that the three lines with direction cosines

$$\frac{12}{13}, \frac{-3}{13}, \frac{-4}{13}; \frac{4}{13}, \frac{12}{13}, \frac{3}{13}; \frac{3}{13}, \frac{-4}{13}, \frac{12}{13}$$

are mutually perpendicular.

Ans - Two lines with direction cosines (l_1, m_1, n_1) and (l_2, m_2, n_2) are perpendicular to each other if

$$l_1l_2 + m_1m_2 + n_1n_2 = 0$$

(i) For the lines with direction cosines

$$\frac{12}{13}, \frac{-3}{13}, \frac{-4}{13} \text{ and } \frac{4}{13}, \frac{12}{13}, \frac{3}{13}, \text{ we obtain}$$

$$l_1l_2 + m_1m_2 + n_1n_2 = \frac{12}{13} \times \frac{4}{13} + \frac{-3}{13} \times \frac{12}{13} + \frac{-4}{13} \times \frac{3}{13}$$

$$= \frac{48}{169} - \frac{36}{169} - \frac{12}{169}$$

$$= 0$$

Therefore, the lines are perpendicular.

(ii) For the lines with direction cosines

$\frac{4}{13}, \frac{12}{13}, \frac{3}{13}$ and $\frac{3}{13}, \frac{-4}{13}, \frac{12}{13}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2 &= \frac{4}{13} \times \frac{-3}{13} + \frac{12}{13} \times \frac{-4}{13} + \frac{3}{13} \times \frac{12}{13} \\&= \frac{12}{169} - \frac{48}{169} + \frac{36}{169} \\&= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the lines are perpendicular.

(iii) For the lines with direction cosines

$\frac{3}{12}, \frac{-4}{12}, \frac{12}{12}$ and $\frac{12}{12}, \frac{-3}{12}, \frac{-4}{12}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}l_1 l_2 + m_1 m_2 + n_1 n_2 &= \frac{3}{13} \times \frac{12}{13} + \frac{-4}{13} \times \frac{-3}{13} + \frac{12}{13} \times \frac{-4}{13} \\&= \frac{36}{169} + \frac{12}{169} - \frac{48}{169} \\&= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the lines are perpendicular.

2.

Show that the line through the points (1, -1, 2) and (3, 4, -2) is perpendicular to the line through the points (0, 3, 2) and (3, 5, 6).

Ans - Let AB be the line joining points, $(1, -1, 2)$ and $(3, 4, -2)$ and CD be the line through points $(0, 3, 2)$ and $(3, 5, 6)$.

The direction ratios a_1, b_1, c_1 of AB are

$$(3 - 1), (4 - (-1)), (-2 - 2)$$

i.e. $2, 5, -4$

The direction ratios a_2, b_2, c_2 of CD are

$$(3 - 0), (5 - 3), (6 - 2)$$

i.e. $3, 2, 4$

AB and CD will be perpendicular to each other if

$$a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2 = 0$$

$$(2 \times 3) + (5 \times 2) + (-4 \times 4)$$

$$= 6 + 10 - 16$$

$$= 0$$

Therefore, AB and CD are perpendicular to each other.

3.

Show that the line through the points $(4, 7, 8)$, $(2, 3, 4)$ is parallel to the line through the points $(-1, -2, 1)$, $(1, 2, 5)$

Ans - Let AB be the line through points $(4, 7, 8)$ and $(2, 3, 4)$

CD be the line through points, $(-1, -2, 1)$ and $(1, 2, 5)$.

Direction ratios a_1, b_1, c_1 of AB are

$$(2 - 4), (3 - 7), (4 - 8)$$

i.e. $2, -4, -4$

Direction ratios a_2, b_2, c_2 of CD are

$$(1 - (-1)), (2 - (-2)), (5 - 1)$$

i.e. $2, 4, 4$

AB will be parallel to CD, if

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{-2}{2} = -1 \dots (1)$$

$$\frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{-4}{4} = -1 \dots (2)$$

$$\frac{c_1}{c_2} = \frac{-4}{4} = -1 \dots (3)$$

From Equations (1), (2) and (3), we get

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = -1$$

Thus, AB is parallel to CD.

4.

Find the equation of the line which passes through point (1, 2, 3) and is parallel to the vector $3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$.

Ans - Given that line passes through the point A (1, 2, 3).
Therefore, the position vector through A is

$$\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}$$

$$\text{Also, } \vec{b} = 3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$$

It is known that the line which passes through point A and parallel to \vec{b} is given by $\vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda\vec{b}$ where λ is a constant

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} + \lambda(3\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$$

5.

Find the equation of the line in vector and in Cartesian form that passes through the point with position vector $2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ and is in the direction

Ans - Given that line passes through the point with positive vector

$$\vec{a} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{b} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k}$$

It is known that the line which passes through point A and parallel to \vec{b} is given by

$$\vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda\vec{b}$$

$$\vec{r} = 2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 4\hat{k} + \lambda(\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k})$$

This is the required equation in the vector form

$$\vec{r} = (2 + \lambda)\hat{i} + (2\lambda - 1)\hat{j} + (4 - \lambda)\hat{k}$$

Eliminating λ , we obtain the Cartesian form of equation as.

$$\frac{x - 2}{1} = \frac{y + 1}{2} = \frac{z - 4}{-1}$$

This is the required equation of line in the cartesian form.

6.

Find the Cartesian equation of the line which passes through the point (-2, 4, -5) and parallel to the line given by

$$\frac{x+3}{3} = \frac{y-4}{5} = \frac{z+8}{6}$$

Ans - Given that line passes through the point $(-2, 4, -5)$ and is parallel to

$$\frac{x+3}{3} = \frac{y-4}{5} = \frac{z+8}{6}$$

Direction ratios of the line $\frac{x+3}{3} = \frac{y-4}{5} = \frac{z+8}{6}$ are 3, 5, 6

Required line is parallel $\frac{x+3}{3} = \frac{y-4}{5} = \frac{z+8}{6}$

Therefore, its direction ratios are $3k, 5k, 6k$ when $k \neq 0$

It is known that the equation of the line through the point (x_1, y_1, z_1) and with direction ratios (a, b, c) , is given by

$$\frac{x-x_1}{a} = \frac{y-y_1}{b} = \frac{z-z_1}{c}$$

Therefore, the equation of the required line is.

$$\frac{x+2}{3k} = \frac{y-4}{5k} = \frac{z+5}{6k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x+2}{3} = \frac{y-4}{5} = \frac{z+5}{6} = k$$

7.

The Cartesian equation of line is $\frac{x-5}{3} = \frac{y+4}{7} = \frac{z-6}{2}$. Write its vector form.

Ans - Cartesian equation of the line is $\frac{x-5}{3} = \frac{y+4}{7} = \frac{z-6}{2}$

Given line passes through the point (5, -4, 6). Position vector of this point is

$$\vec{a} = 5\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$$

Also, the direction ratios of the given line are 3, 7, 2

This means that the line is in the direction of the vector $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} + 7\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$

It is known that the line which passes through point A and is parallel to \vec{b} is given by

$$\vec{r} = \vec{a} + \lambda\vec{b} \Rightarrow \vec{r} = (5\hat{i} - 4\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}) + \lambda(3\hat{i} + 7\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}).$$

This is the required equation of the given line in vector form.

8.

Find the angle between the following pairs of lines

(i) $\vec{r} = (2\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} + 1\hat{k}) + \lambda(3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k})$ and
 $\vec{r} = (7\hat{i} - 6\hat{k}) + \mu(\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$

(ii) $\vec{r} = (3\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}) + \lambda(\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$ and
 $\vec{r} = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 5\hat{k}) + \mu(3\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 4\hat{k})$

Ans - (i) Let Q be the angle between the given lines.

Angle between the given pairs of lines is given by,

$$\cos Q = \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| \cdot |\vec{b}_2|}$$

Given lines are parallel to the vectors, $\vec{b}_1 = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$
and $\vec{b}_2 = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$, respectively

$$|b_1| = \sqrt{3^2 + 2^2 + 6^2} = 7$$

$$|b_2| = \sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + 2^2} = 3$$

$$b_1 \cdot b_2 = (3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}) \cdot (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$$

$$= 3 \times 1 + 2 \times 2 + 6 \times 2$$

$$= 3 + 4 + 12$$

$$= 19$$

$$\cos Q = \frac{19}{7 \times 3}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{19}{21}\right)$$

(ii) Let Q be the angle between the given lines.

Angle the given pairs is given by,

$$\cos Q = \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| \cdot |\vec{b}_2|}$$

The given lines are parallel to the vectors, $\vec{b}_1 = \hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$ and $\vec{b}_2 = 3\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 4\hat{k}$ respectively.

$$|b_1| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-1)^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{6}$$

$$|b_2| = \sqrt{3^2 + (-5)^2 + (-4)^2} = \sqrt{50} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$b_1 \cdot b_2 = (\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}) \cdot (3\hat{i} - 5\hat{j} - 4\hat{k})$$

$$= 1 \times 3 + (-1) \times (-5) + (-2) \times (-4)$$

$$= 3 + 5 + 8$$

$$= 16$$

$$\cos Q = \frac{16}{\sqrt{6} \times 5\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{8}{5\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

9.

Find the angle between following pairs of lines.

$$(i) \frac{x-2}{2} = \frac{y-1}{5} = \frac{z+3}{-3} \text{ and } \frac{x+2}{-1} = \frac{y-4}{8} = \frac{z-5}{4}$$

$$(ii) \frac{x}{2} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{1} \text{ and } \frac{x-5}{-4} = \frac{y-2}{1} = \frac{z-3}{8}$$

Ans - (i) Let Q be the angle between the given lines.

The angle between the given pairs of lines is given by,

$$\cos Q = \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| |\vec{b}_2|}$$

The given lines are parallel to the vectors, $\vec{b}_1 = 2\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}$
and $\vec{b}_2 = -\hat{i} + 8\hat{j} + 4\hat{k}$ respectively.

$$|b_1| = \sqrt{2^2 + 5^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{38}$$

$$|b_2| = \sqrt{(-1)^2 + 8^2 + 4^2} = 9$$

$$b_1 \cdot b_2 = (2\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} - 3\hat{k}) \cdot (-\hat{i} + 8\hat{j} + 4\hat{k})$$

$$= 2 \times (-1) + 5 \times 8 + (-3) \times 4$$

$$= -2 + 40 - 12$$

$$= 26$$

$$\cos Q = \frac{26}{9\sqrt{38}}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{26}{9\sqrt{38}} \right)$$

(ii) Let Q be the angle between the given lines.

The angle between the given pairs of lines is given by,

$$\cos Q = \frac{|\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2|}{|\vec{b}_1| |\vec{b}_2|}$$

The given lines are parallel to the vectors, $\vec{b}_1 = 2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$ and $\vec{b}_2 = 4\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 8\hat{k}$ respectively.

$$|\vec{b}_1| = \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2 + 1^2} = 3$$

$$|\vec{b}_2| = \sqrt{4^2 + 1^2 + 8^2} = 9$$

$$\vec{b}_1 \cdot \vec{b}_2 = (2\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}) \cdot (4\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 8\hat{k})$$

$$= 2 \times 4 + 2 \times 1 + 1 \times 8$$

$$= 8 + 2 + 8 = 18$$

$$\cos Q = \frac{18}{3 \times 9}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)$$

10.

Find the values of p so that the lines

$$\frac{1-x}{3} = \frac{7y-14}{2p} = \frac{z-3}{2} \text{ and } \frac{7-7x}{3p} = \frac{y-5}{1} = \frac{6-z}{5}$$

are at right angles.

Ans - Given equations can be written in standard form as

$$\frac{x-1}{-3} = \frac{y-2}{2p} = \frac{z-3}{2} \text{ and } \frac{x-1}{3p} = \frac{y-5}{1} = \frac{z-6}{-5}$$

Direction ratios of the lines are

$$-3, \frac{2p}{7}, 2 \text{ and}$$

$$-\frac{3p}{7}, 1, -5$$

Two lines will be perpendicular to each other if.

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 0$$

$$\left(-3 \times \frac{-3p}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{2p}{7} \times 1\right) + (2 \times (-5)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{9p}{7} + \frac{2p}{7} - 10 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 9p + 2p - 70 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 11p - 70 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 11p = 70$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{70}{11}$$

11.

Show that the lines $\frac{x-5}{7} = \frac{y+2}{-5} = \frac{z}{1}$ and $\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3}$ are perpendicular to each other.

Ans - We are given the equations of lines as

$$\frac{x-5}{7} = \frac{y+2}{-5} = \frac{z}{1} \text{ and } \frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3}$$

The direction ratios of the given lines are

$$7, -5, 1 \text{ and } 1, 2, 3$$

Two lines will be perpendicular to each other if

$$a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2 = 0$$

$$7 \times 1 + (-5) \times 2 + 1 \times 3$$

$$= 7 - 10 + 3$$

$$= 0$$

12.

Find the shortest distance between the lines

$$\vec{r} = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}) + \lambda(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \text{ and}$$

$$\vec{r} = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}) + \mu(2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}).$$

Ans - Equation of given lines are,

$$\vec{r} = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}) + \lambda(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k}) \text{ and } \vec{r} = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}) + \mu(2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$$

Shortest distance between the lines $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda\vec{b}_1$ and $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu\vec{b}_2$ is given by

$$d = \left| \frac{(\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1)}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|} \right| \dots (1)$$

On comparing the equations, we get

$$\vec{a}_1 = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b}_1 = (\hat{i} - \hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b}_2 = (2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1 = (2\hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k}) - (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

$$= (\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2 &= \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= (-2 - 1)\hat{i} - (2 - 2)\hat{j} + (1 + 2)\hat{k} \\
&= -3\hat{i} + 3\hat{k} \\
\Rightarrow |\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2| &= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 3^2} \\
&= \sqrt{9 + 9} = \sqrt{18} \\
&= 3\sqrt{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Substituting all values obtained in equation (1)

$$\begin{aligned}
d &= \left| \frac{(-3\hat{i} + 3\hat{k}) \cdot (\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{k})}{3\sqrt{2}} \right| \\
&= \left| \frac{(-3)1 + 3(-2)}{3\sqrt{2}} \right| \\
&= \left| \frac{-9}{3\sqrt{2}} \right| \\
&= \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

13.

Find the shortest distance between the lines

$$\frac{x+1}{7} = \frac{y+1}{-6} = \frac{z+1}{1} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-5}{-2} = \frac{z-7}{1}$$

Ans – Shortest distance between the lines is given by,

$$d = \frac{\left| \begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)^2 + (c_1a_2 - c_2a_1)^2 + (a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)^2}} \quad \dots (1)$$

Comparing the equations, we obtain,

$$x_1 = -1, y_1 = -1, z_1 = -1$$

$$a_1 = 7, b_1 = -6, c_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 3, y_2 = 5, z_2 = 7$$

$$a_2 = 1, b_2 = -2, c_2 = 1$$

$$\text{Then, } \begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 6 & 8 \\ 7 & -6 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -16 - 36 - 64$$

$$= -116$$

Also

$$\sqrt{(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)^2 + (c_1a_2 - c_2a_1)^2 + (a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(-6 + 2)^2 + (1 + 7)^2 + (-14 + 6)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{116} = 2\sqrt{29}$$

Substituting all the values in equation(1)

$$d = \frac{|-116|}{2\sqrt{29}}$$

$$= \frac{|-58|}{\sqrt{29}} = |-2\sqrt{29}|$$

$$= 2\sqrt{29}$$

14.

Find the shortest distance between the lines whose vector equations are

$$\vec{r} = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}) + \lambda(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \text{ and}$$

$$\vec{r} = (4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}) + \mu(2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}).$$

Ans - The equations of given lines are

$$\vec{r} = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k}) + \lambda(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \text{ and } \vec{r} \\ = (4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}) + \mu(2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + \hat{k}).$$

It is known that the shortest distance between the lines $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda\vec{b}_1$ and $\vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu\vec{b}_2$ is given by

$$d = \left| \frac{(\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1)}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|} \right| \dots (1)$$

On comparing the equations, we get

$$\vec{a}_1 = (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b}_1 = (\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = (4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 6\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b}_2 = (2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1 = (4\hat{i} + 5\hat{j} + 6\hat{k}) - (\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$$

$$= (3\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & -3 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-3 - 6)\hat{i} - (1 - 4)\hat{j} + (3 + 6)\hat{k}$$

$$= -9\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 9\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2| = \sqrt{(-9)^2 + 3^2 + 9^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{81 + 9 + 81} = \sqrt{171}$$

$$= 3\sqrt{19}$$

Substituting all values obtained in equation (1)

$$\begin{aligned}d &= \left| \frac{(-9\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 9\hat{k}) \cdot (3\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} + 3\hat{k})}{3\sqrt{19}} \right| \\&= \left| \frac{(-9)3 + 3 \times 3 + 9 \times 3}{3\sqrt{19}} \right| \\&= \left| \frac{9}{3\sqrt{19}} \right| \\&= \frac{3}{\sqrt{19}}\end{aligned}$$

15.

Find the shortest distance between the lines whose vector equations are

$$\vec{r} = (1 - t)\hat{i} + (t - 2)\hat{j} + (3 - 2t)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = (s + 1)\hat{i} + (2s - 1)\hat{j} - (2s + 1)\hat{k}$$

Ans - Firstly, let's consider the given equations

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r} = (1 - t)\hat{i} + (t - 2)\hat{j} + (3 - 2t)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} - t\hat{i} + t\hat{j} - 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} - 2t\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} + t(-\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{r} = (s + 1)\hat{i} + (2s - 1)\hat{j} - (2s + 1)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = (s + 1)\hat{i} + (2s - 1)\hat{j} - (2s + 1)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = s\hat{i} + \hat{i} + 2s\hat{j} - \hat{j} - 2s\hat{k} - \hat{k}$$

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k} + s(\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$$

So, now we need to find the shortest distance between

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} + t(-\hat{i} + \hat{j} - 2\hat{k}) \text{ and}$$

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} - \hat{j} - \hat{k} + s(\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k})$$

We know that shortest distance between two lines

$$\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{b}_1 \text{ and } \vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu \vec{b}_2$$

$$d = \left| \frac{(\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_2 \times \vec{a}_1)}{|\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2|} \right| \dots (1)$$

By comparing the equations, we get,

$$\vec{a}_1 = i - 2j + 3k, \vec{b}_1 = -i + j - 2k$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = i - j - k, \vec{b}_2 = i + 2j - 2k$$

$$\text{Since, } (X_1i + Y_1j + Z_1k) - (X_2i + Y_2j + Z_2k)$$

$$\Rightarrow (X_1 - X_2)i + (Y_1 - Y_2)j + (Z_1 - Z_2)k$$

$$\text{So, } \vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1 = (i - j - k) - (i - 2j + 3k) \\ = j - 4k \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{And, } \vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2 = (-i + j - 2k) \times (i + 2j - 2k)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ -1 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2 = 2i - 4j - 3k \quad \dots (3)$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-4)^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{4 + 16 + 9} = 29$$

Now multiplying (2) and (3) we get,

$$(a_1i + b_1j + c_1k) \cdot (a_2i + b_2j + c_2k) = a_1a_2 + b_1b_2 + c_1c_2$$

$$(\vec{b}_1 \times \vec{b}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_1 \times \vec{a}_2) = (2i - 4j - 3k) \cdot (j - 4k) \\ = -4 + 18 = 8 \quad \dots (5)$$

By substituting all the values in (1), we get

Shortest distance between the two lines,

$$d = \left| \frac{8}{\sqrt{29}} \right| = \frac{8}{\sqrt{29}}$$

$$\therefore \text{The shortest distance is } \frac{8}{\sqrt{29}}$$