

Initial Analogies:  
Line in Plane, Plane in Space, Line in Space

#33 of Gottschalk's Gestalts

A Series Illustrating Innovative Forms  
of the Organization & Exposition  
of Mathematics  
by Walter Gottschalk

Infinite Vistas Press  
PVD RI  
2001

GG33-1 (32)

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GG33-2

□ given a straight line  
in the plane  
which is provided with  
a rectangular  $xy$  - coordinate system

△ standard notation  
for the line:  
real variables & real constants,  
real 2 - vector variable & real 2 - vector constants

- $x, y, t$  = real variables
- $x$  =  $x$  - coordinate = abscissa
- $y$  =  $y$  - coordinate = ordinate
- $t$  = parameter  
(wh  $t$  is suggestive of 'time' )

- running point on line

$$= P(x, y)$$

- particular points on line

$$P_0(x_0, y_0),$$

$$P_1(x_1, y_1),$$

$$P_2(x_2, y_2)$$

- coordinate vector variable

$$= \mathbf{r} = (x, y)$$

- particular points on line

$$\mathbf{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = (x_1, y_1),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_2 = (x_2, y_2)$$

- $a = x$  - intercept
- $b = y$  - intercept
- $m =$  slope
- $p =$  normal distance from origin
- $A, B, C =$  coefficients
- $\alpha =$  inclination
- $\omega =$  normal angle

- $\alpha'$ ,  $\beta'$  = line direction angles
- $\cos \alpha'$ ,  $\cos \beta'$  = line direction cosines
- $l'$ ,  $m'$  = line direction numbers
- $\alpha^*$ ,  $\beta^*$  = normal direction angles
- $\cos \alpha^*$ ,  $\cos \beta^*$  = normal direction cosines
- $l^*$ ,  $m^*$  = normal direction numbers

• **l** = line direction vector

= any nonzero vector parallel to the line

eg

$(\cos \alpha', \cos \beta')$  or  $(l', m')$

• **n** = normal direction vector

= any nonzero vector normal to the line

eg

$(\cos \alpha^*, \cos \beta^*)$  or  $(l^*, m^*)$

• **A** =  $(A, B)$  = coordinate coefficient vector



△ standard scalar forms  
of the canonical rectangular equations of the line

- general form

$$Ax + By + C = 0$$

- slope - intercept form

$$y = mx + b$$

- intercept form

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$$

- first point - slope form

$$\frac{y - y_0}{x - x_0} = m$$

- second point - slope form

$$y - y_0 = m(x - x_0)$$

- first two - point form

$$\frac{y - y_1}{x - x_1} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

- second two - point form

$$\frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1}$$

- two - point determinant form

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & y & 1 \\ x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

- first normal form

$$x \cos \omega + y \sin \omega - p = 0$$

- second normal form

$$x \cos \alpha^* + y \cos \beta^* \pm p = 0$$

- point - normal - direction - cosines form

$$(x - x_0) \cos \alpha^* + (y - y_0) \cos \beta^* = 0$$

- point - normal - direction - numbers form

$$(x - x_0)l^* + (y - y_0)m^* = 0$$

- point - line - direction - cosines form

$$\frac{x - x_0}{\cos \alpha'} = \frac{y - y_0}{\cos \beta'}$$

- point - line - direction - numbers form

$$\frac{x - x_0}{l'} = \frac{y - y_0}{m'}$$

- parametric form

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + l' t \\ y = y_0 + m' t \end{cases}$$

Δ standard vector forms

of the canonical rectangular equations of the line

- general form

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r} + C = 0$$

- two - point form

$$|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1| = 0$$

- point - normal - direction form

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$$

- point - line - direction form

$$|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{l}| = 0$$

- parametric form

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{l}t$$

□ given a plane  
in 3- space  
which is provided with  
a rectangular xyz - coordinate system

△ standard notation  
for the plane:  
real variables & real constants,  
real 3 - vector variable & real 3 - vector constants

- $x, y, z, t, s =$  real variables
- $x =$   $x$  - coordinate = abscissa
- $y =$   $y$  - coordinate = ordinate
- $z =$   $z$  - coordinate = altitude
- $t, s =$  parameters

(wh  $t$  is suggestive of 'time'

& the alphabetic predecessor  $s$  of 'space' )

- running point on plane

$$= \mathbf{P}(x, y, z)$$

- particular points on plane

$$\mathbf{P}_0(x_0, y_0, z_0),$$

$$\mathbf{P}_1(x_1, y_1, z_1),$$

$$\mathbf{P}_2(x_2, y_2, z_2),$$

$$\mathbf{P}_3(x_3, y_3, z_3)$$

- coordinate vector variable

$$= \mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)$$

- particular points on plane

$$\mathbf{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_3 = (x_3, y_3, z_3)$$



- $a = x$  - intercept
- $b = y$  - intercept
- $c = z$  - intercept
- $p =$  normal distance from origin
- $A, B, C, D =$  coefficients

- $\alpha, \beta, \gamma =$  normal direction angles
- $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma =$  normal direction cosines
- $l, m, n =$  normal direction numbers

•  $\mathbf{n}$  = normal vector

= any nonzero vector normal to the plane

eg

$(\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma)$  or  $(l, m, n)$

•  $\mathbf{A} = (A, B, C)$  = coordinate coefficient vector

Δ standard scalar forms

of the canonical rectangular equations of the plane

- general form

$$Ax + By + Cz + D = 0$$

- intercept form

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$$

- three - point determinant form

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & y & z & 1 \\ x_1 & y_1 & z_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & z_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & z_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

- normal form

$$x \cos \alpha + y \cos \beta + z \cos \gamma - p = 0$$

- point - normal - direction - cosines form

$$(x - x_0) \cos \alpha + (y - y_0) \cos \beta + (z - z_0) \cos \gamma = 0$$

- point - normal - direction - numbers form

$$(x - x_0)l + (y - y_0)m + (z - z_0)n = 0$$

- parametric form

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + l' t + l'' s \\ y = y_0 + m' t + m'' s \\ z = z_0 + n' t + n'' s \end{cases}$$

wh  $(l', m', n')$  &  $(l'', m'', n'')$

are linearly independent vectors

that are parallel to the plane

or equivalently

normal to the normal vector

$\Delta$  standard vector forms  
of the canonical rectangular equations of the plane

- general form

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{r} + D = 0$$

- first three - point form

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1) \cdot (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) \times (\mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}_1) = 0$$

- second three - point form

$$|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_3 - \mathbf{r}_1| = 0$$

- point - normal form

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0) = 0$$

- parametric form

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{l}'t + \mathbf{l}''s$$

wh  $\mathbf{l}'$  &  $\mathbf{l}''$

are linearly independent vectors

that are parallel to the plane

or equivalently

normal to the normal vector

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△ standard notation  
for the line:  
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- $x, y, z, t$  = real variables
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- $z$  =  $z$  - coordinate = altitude
- $t$  = parameter  
(wh  $t$  is suggestive of 'time' )

- running point on line

$$= P(x, y, z)$$

- particular points on line

$$P_0(x_0, y_0, z_0),$$

$$P_1(x_1, y_1, z_1),$$

$$P_2(x_2, y_2, z_2)$$

- coordinate vector variable

$$= \mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)$$

- particular points on line

$$\mathbf{r}_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1),$$

$$\mathbf{r}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2)$$

• A, B, C, D, E, F,  
A<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, D<sub>1</sub>,  
A<sub>2</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>  
= coefficients

- $\alpha, \beta, \gamma =$  direction angles
- $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma =$  direction cosines
- $l, m, n =$  direction numbers

•  $\mathbf{l}$  = direction vector  
= any nonzero vector parallel to the line  
eg  
 $(\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma)$  or  $(1, m, n)$

•  $\mathbf{A}_1 = (A_1, B_1, C_1)$ ,  
 $\mathbf{A}_2 = (A_2, B_2, C_2)$   
= coordinate coefficient vectors

Δ standard scalar forms

of the canonical rectangular equations of the line

- two - plane form

$$\begin{cases} A_1x + B_1y + C_1z + D_1 = 0 \\ A_2x + B_2y + C_2z + D_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

- first projection - plane form

$$Ax + D = By + E = Cz + F$$

- second projection - plane form

$$\begin{cases} Ax - By + D - E = 0 \\ By - Cz + E - F = 0 \\ Cz - Ax + F - D = 0 \end{cases}$$

- two - point form

$$\frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{z_2 - z_1}$$

- point - direction - cosines form

$$\frac{x - x_0}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{y - y_0}{\cos \beta} = \frac{z - z_0}{\cos \gamma}$$

- point - direction - numbers form

$$\frac{x - x_0}{l} = \frac{y - y_0}{m} = \frac{z - z_0}{n}$$

- parametric form

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + l t \\ y = y_0 + m t \\ z = z_0 + n t \end{cases}$$

Δ standard vector forms  
of the canonical rectangular equations of the line

- two - plane form

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{A}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r} + D_1 = 0 \\ \mathbf{A}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} + D_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

- two - point form

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_1) \times (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1) = \mathbf{0}$$

- point - direction form

$$(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0) \times \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{0}$$

- parametric form

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{l}t$$