

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
MATH2010C/D Advanced Calculus 2019-2020  
Solution to Assignment 1

1. In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AB} = 4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AC} = -12\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}$  and points  $P, Q$  lie on  $BC$  such that  $BP : PQ : QC = 1 : 2 : 1$ .

Find  $\angle PAQ$ .

**Ans:**  $\overrightarrow{AP} = \frac{3}{4}\overrightarrow{AB} + \frac{1}{4}\overrightarrow{AC} = \frac{3}{4}(4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) + \frac{1}{4}(-12\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}) = 5\mathbf{j}$ .

Similarly,  $\overrightarrow{AQ} = \frac{1}{4}\overrightarrow{AB} + \frac{3}{4}\overrightarrow{AC} = \frac{1}{4}(4\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j}) + \frac{3}{4}(-12\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j}) = -8\mathbf{i} + 7\mathbf{j}$ .

Therefore,  $\cos \angle PAQ = \frac{\overrightarrow{AP} \cdot \overrightarrow{AQ}}{|\overrightarrow{AP}||\overrightarrow{AQ}|} = \frac{35}{5\sqrt{113}}$  and  $\angle PAQ = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{7}{\sqrt{113}}\right)$ .

2. Let  $A = (4, 3, 6)$ ,  $B = (-2, 0, 8)$  and  $C = (1, 5, 0)$  be points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Show that  $\triangle ABC$  is a right-angled triangle.

**Ans:**  $\overrightarrow{AB} = (-2, 0, 8) - (4, 3, 6) = (-6, -3, 2)$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC} = (1, 5, 0) - (4, 3, 6) = (-3, 2, -6)$ .

Then,  $\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = (-6)(-3) + (-3)(2) + (2)(-6) = 0$  and so  $AB \perp AC$ .

Therefore,  $\triangle ABC$  is a right-angled triangle.

3. Suppose that  $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , where  $|\mathbf{m}| = 2$ ,  $|\mathbf{n}| = 1$  and the angle between  $\mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  is  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ .

If  $\mathbf{p} = 3\mathbf{m} + 4\mathbf{n}$  and  $\mathbf{q} = 2\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n}$ , find

- (a)  $\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{n}$ ,
- (b)  $|\mathbf{p}|$  and  $|\mathbf{q}|$ ,
- (c) the area of the parallelogram spanned by  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$ .

**Ans:**

(a)  $\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{n} = |\mathbf{m}||\mathbf{n}| \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = -1$

(b)  $|\mathbf{p}|^2 = \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p} = (3\mathbf{m} + 4\mathbf{n}) \cdot (3\mathbf{m} + 4\mathbf{n}) = 9|\mathbf{m}|^2 + 24\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{n} + 16|\mathbf{n}|^2 = 28$ . Therefore,  $|\mathbf{p}| = 2\sqrt{7}$ .

Similarly,  $|\mathbf{q}|^2 = \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{q} = (2\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n}) \cdot (2\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n}) = 4|\mathbf{m}|^2 - 4\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{n} + |\mathbf{n}|^2 = 21$ . Therefore,  $|\mathbf{q}| = \sqrt{21}$ .

(c) We have  $\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q} = (3\mathbf{m} + 4\mathbf{n}) \cdot (2\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{n}) = 15$ .

Let the angle between  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  be  $\theta$ . Then  $\cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{q}}{|\mathbf{p}||\mathbf{q}|} = \frac{15}{14\sqrt{3}}$ . Therefore,  $\sin \theta = \frac{11}{14}$ .

The area of the parallelogram spanned by  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  is  $|\mathbf{p}||\mathbf{q}| \sin \theta = 11\sqrt{3}$ .

4. Suppose that  $A, B$  and  $C$  are points on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $OABC$  is a kite with  $OA = OC$  and  $AB = CB$ . Let  $\overrightarrow{OA}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OC}$  be  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  respectively.

- (a) Express  $\overrightarrow{AB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{CB}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ .
- (b) By considering  $AB = CB$ , show that  $\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}$ .
- (c) Hence, show that  $OB \perp AC$ .

**Ans:**

(a)  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}$  and  $\overrightarrow{CB} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}$

(b) Since  $AB = CB$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}|^2 &= |\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}|^2 \\ (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) &= (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}) \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{c}) \\ |\mathbf{b}|^2 - 2\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} + |\mathbf{a}|^2 &= |\mathbf{b}|^2 - 2\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} + |\mathbf{c}|^2 \\ \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} &= \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c} \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $OA = OC$ , and so  $|\mathbf{a}| = |\mathbf{c}|$ .

(c) From (b), we have  $\mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{c}$  and so  $\mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{a}) = 0$ , i.e.  $\overrightarrow{OB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AC} = 0$ .

Therefore,  $OB \perp AC$ .

5. Let  $\overrightarrow{OA} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OB} = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OC} = 5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ .

(a) Find  $\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}$ .

(b) Find the volume of tetrahedron  $OABC$ .

(Hint: Its volume equals to  $\frac{1}{6}$  × volume of parallelotope spanned by  $\overrightarrow{OA}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OC}$ .)

(c) By (a) and (b), find the distance from  $O$  to  $\triangle ABC$ .

**Ans:**

(a) Firstly, we have  $\overrightarrow{AB} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC} = 4\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ . Then,

$$\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = -\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{k}.$$

$$(b) \overrightarrow{OA} \times \overrightarrow{OB} \cdot \overrightarrow{OC} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 1.$$

Therefore, the volume of tetrahedron  $OABC = \frac{1}{6} \times |\overrightarrow{OA} \times \overrightarrow{OB} \cdot \overrightarrow{OC}| = \frac{1}{6}$ .

(c) From (a), the area of  $\triangle ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times |\overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC}| = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$ .

Let  $h$  be the distance from  $O$  to  $\triangle ABC$ .

Note that  $h$  is just the height of the tetrahedron  $OABC$  with base  $\triangle ABC$ .

Then,  $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} \times h = 1$  and so  $h = \frac{6}{\sqrt{5}}$ .

6. Given  $A = (3, -1, 3)$ ,  $B = (0, 7, -2)$  and  $C = (-9, 3, -3)$  be three points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(a) Find the coordinates of a point  $D$  if  $AC$ ,  $BD$  are perpendicular and  $AD$ ,  $BC$  are parallel.

(b) i. Find  $\angle DCB$ .

ii. Show that  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $D$  are coplanar (i.e. lying on a same plane) and find the equation of the plane which contains them.

iii. Show that  $ABCD$  is a square and find the area of it.

(c)  $VABCD$  is a pyramid with base  $ABCD$ . If  $V = (12, -14, -12)$ ,

i. find the volume of the pyramid;

ii. find the angle between the plane  $VAB$  and the base.

**Ans:**

- (a) Note that  $\overrightarrow{AC} = -12\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{BD} = \overrightarrow{OD} - (7\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k})$ ,  $\overrightarrow{AD} = \overrightarrow{OD} - (3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k})$  and  $\overrightarrow{BC} = -9\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ . Since  $AD$  and  $BC$  are parallel,  $\overrightarrow{AD} = \lambda\overrightarrow{BC}$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then,

$$\overrightarrow{OD} = (3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) + \lambda(-9\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}) = (3 - 9\lambda)\mathbf{i} - (1 + 4\lambda)\mathbf{j} + (3 - \lambda)\mathbf{k}.$$

Since  $AC$  and  $BD$  are perpendicular,  $\overrightarrow{AC} \cdot \overrightarrow{BD} = 0$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (-12\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k}) \cdot \overrightarrow{OD} - 40 &= 0 \\ -12(3 - 9\lambda) - 4(1 + 4\lambda) - 6(3 - \lambda) - 40 &= 0 \\ \lambda &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\overrightarrow{OD} = -6\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ , i.e.  $D = (-6, -5, 2)$ .

- (b) i.  $\angle DCB = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\overrightarrow{CD} \cdot \overrightarrow{CB}}{|\overrightarrow{CD}| |\overrightarrow{CB}|} \right) = \cos^{-1}(0) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- ii. Direct computation shows that  $\overrightarrow{CA} \cdot (\overrightarrow{CD} \times \overrightarrow{CB}) = 0$  which implies  $A, B, C, D$  are coplanar. Also,  $\overrightarrow{CD} \times \overrightarrow{CB}$  gives a normal of the plane containing  $A, B, C, D$ . The equation of the plane is  $2x - 3y - 6z = -9$ .
- iii. Note that  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{DC} = -3\mathbf{i} + 8\mathbf{j} - 5\mathbf{k}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AD} = \overrightarrow{BC} = -9\mathbf{i} - 4\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ . Therefore,  $|\overrightarrow{AB}| = |\overrightarrow{DC}| = |\overrightarrow{AD}| = |\overrightarrow{BC}| = 7\sqrt{2}$ . Furthermore,  $\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \overrightarrow{AD} = 0$  which shows that  $\angle BAD = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Therefore,  $ABCD$  is a square with area  $= (7\sqrt{2})^2 = 98$ .
- (c) i. Let  $\hat{n}$  be the unit vector of  $\overrightarrow{CD} \times \overrightarrow{CB}$ . Then,  $\hat{n} = \frac{1}{7}(-2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k})$ . Then, the height of the pyramid is  $|\overrightarrow{BV} \cdot \hat{n}| = 21$ . Therefore, the volume of the pyramid is  $\frac{1}{3} \times 98 \times 21 = 686$ .
- ii. Let  $\hat{m} = \frac{\overrightarrow{BV} \times \overrightarrow{BA}}{|\overrightarrow{BV} \times \overrightarrow{BA}|} = -\frac{1}{7\sqrt{886}}(185\mathbf{i} + 90\mathbf{j} + 33\mathbf{k})$ . The angle between the plane  $VAB$  and the base  $ABCD$  is the angle between  $\hat{m}$  and  $\hat{n} = \cos^{-1}(-\sqrt{\frac{2}{443}})$

7. Suppose that  $L_1 : x + 1 = \frac{y - 2}{-2} = \frac{z + 3}{2}$  and  $L_2 : \frac{x - 1}{-1} = \frac{y + 2}{2} = \frac{z - 6}{3}$  are two straight lines.
- Show that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect each other at one point and find the point of intersection.
  - Find the acute angle between  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .
  - Find the equation of plane containing  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .

**Ans:**

- (a) Rewrite the equations of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in parametric forms:

$$L_1 : \quad x = -1 + s, y = 2 - 2s, z = -3 + 2s$$

$$L_2 : \quad x = 1 - t, y = -2 + 2t, z = 6 + 3t$$

where  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

By setting  $-1 + s = 1 - t$ ,  $2 - 2s = -2 + 2t$  and  $-3 + 2s = 6 + 3t$ , we have the solution  $s = 3$  and  $t = -1$ .

Therefore,  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersects at  $(2, -4, 3)$ .

- (b)  $\mathbf{d}_1 = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{d}_2 = -\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$  are direction vectors of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  respectively.

Therefore, the angle between  $L_1$  and  $L_2 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbf{d}_1 \cdot \mathbf{d}_2}{|\mathbf{d}_1||\mathbf{d}_2|} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{3\sqrt{14}} \right)$ .

- (c)  $\mathbf{d}_1 \times \mathbf{d}_2 = -10\mathbf{i} - 5\mathbf{j}$  is a normal of the required plane.

Since  $(2, -4, 3)$  is a point lying on the required plane, the required equation is  $2x + y = 0$ .

8. Let  $\Pi_1 : x - 2y + 2z = 0$  and  $\Pi_2 : 3x + y + 2z = 4$  be two planes and let  $P(1, 2, -1)$  be a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

- Find the angle between  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$ .
- Find the equation of the line passing through the point  $P$  which is parallel to the intersection line of the planes  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$ .

**Ans:**

- (a) Note that  $\mathbf{n}_1 = \mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{n}_2 = 3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$  are normals of  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  respectively.

The angle between  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2 =$  The angle between  $\mathbf{n}_1$  and  $\mathbf{n}_2 = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2}{|\mathbf{n}_1||\mathbf{n}_2|} \right) = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{5}{3\sqrt{14}} \right)$ .

- (b) Note that

$$\mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -6\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} + 7\mathbf{k}$$

gives a direction vector of the intersection line of  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$ , and hence gives a direction vector of the required line.

The required equation:  $\frac{x - 1}{-6} = \frac{y - 2}{4} = \frac{z + 1}{7}$ .

9. Let  $A = (1, 1, 0)$ ,  $B = (0, 1, 1)$  and  $C = (1, -1, 1)$  be three points in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and let  $\Pi$  be the plane containing  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ .

- Find the equation of the plane  $\Pi$ .
- Suppose that

$$L : \frac{x - 1}{5} = \frac{y - 1}{6} = z$$

is a straight line passing through the point  $A$  and  $L'$  is the projection of  $L$  on  $\Pi$ .

Find the equation of  $L'$ .

**Ans:**

- (a)  $\overrightarrow{AB} = -\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}$  and  $\overrightarrow{AC} = -2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ . Then,

$$\mathbf{n} = \overrightarrow{AB} \times \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$$

gives a normal vector of the plane  $\Pi$ .

Let the equation of  $\Pi$  be  $2x + y + 2z + D = 0$ .

Note that  $A = (1, 1, 0)$  is lying on  $\Pi$ , so  $3 + D = 0$  and  $D = -3$ .

The equation of  $\Pi$  is  $2x + y + 2z - 3 = 0$ .

- (b)  $\mathbf{a} = 5\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$  is a direction vector of  $L$ . Then,

$$\mathbf{a} - \text{proj}_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{a}) = (5\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) - \frac{(5\mathbf{i} + 6\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot (2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k})}{|2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}|^2} (2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 3\mathbf{k}$$

gives a direction vector of  $L'$ . Therefore, the equation of  $L'$  is

$$L : x - 1 = \frac{y - 1}{4} = -\frac{z}{3}.$$

10. (a) Let  $\Pi$  be a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  given by the equation  $Ax + By + Cz + D = 0$  and let  $P(x_0, y_0, z_0)$  be a fixed point.

Show that the perpendicular distance between  $\Pi$  and  $P$  is  $\left| \frac{Ax_0 + By_0 + Cz_0 + D}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}} \right|$ .

- (b) Let  $\Pi_1 : 2x - 2y + z - 4 = 0$  and  $\Pi_2 : x + 2y - 2z = 0$  be two planes in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Find the equation of plane(s) passing through the intersection lines of plane bisecting the planes  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$ .

(Hint: Suppose that  $\mathbf{p}$  is a point lying on the required plane, then the distance between  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\Pi_1$  equals to the distance between  $\mathbf{p}$  and  $\Pi_2$ . Draw a picture to see why there are two such planes.)

**Ans:**

- (a) Note that  $\vec{n} = A\mathbf{i} + B\mathbf{j} + C\mathbf{k}$  is normal to  $\Pi$ . Let  $Q = (x_1, y_1, z_1)$  be a fixed point on  $\Pi$ .

Since  $Q$  lies on  $\Pi$ , we have  $Ax_1 + By_1 + Cz_1 = -D$ .

Let  $\theta$  be the angle between  $\vec{n}$  and  $\overrightarrow{PQ}$ . Then, the perpendicular distance between  $\Pi$  and  $P$

$$= \left| |\overrightarrow{PQ}| \cos \theta \right| = \left| \frac{|\overrightarrow{PQ}| |\vec{n}| \cos \theta}{|\vec{n}|} \right| = \left| \frac{\overrightarrow{PQ} \cdot \vec{n}}{|\vec{n}|} \right| = \left| \frac{A(x_1 - x_0) + B(y_1 - y_0) + C(z_1 - z_0)}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}} \right| = \left| \frac{Ax_0 + By_0 + Cz_0 + D}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}} \right|$$

(Note:  $-(Ax_0 + By_0 + Cz_0 + D) = |Ax_0 + By_0 + Cz_0 + D|$ .)

- (b) Let  $P = (x, y, z)$  be a point on the required plane.

Then, the distance between  $P$  and  $\Pi_1$  equals to the distance between  $P$  and  $\Pi_2$ .

$$\left| \frac{2x - 2y + z - 4}{\sqrt{2^2 + (-2)^2 + 1^2}} \right| = \left| \frac{x + 2y - 2z}{\sqrt{1^2 + 2^2 + (-2)^2}} \right|$$

$$2x - 2y + z - 4 = \pm(x + 2y - 2z)$$

$x - 4y + 3z - 4 = 0$  and  $3x - z - 4 = 0$  are two possible planes passing through the intersection lines of plane bisecting the planes  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$ .