

ASSIGNMENT: Vector Intersection

DIRECTIONS: To find the intersection of two vectors, set them equal to one another. Then use elimination to eliminate one of the parameters, t or s .

After solving for a parameter, input it into the appropriate vector and add the separate dimensions to find your intersecting x , y , and z . See reverse for example.

5.) The line L_1 is represented by the vector equation $r = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -1 \\ -25 \end{pmatrix} + p \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$.

A second line L_2 is parallel to L_1 and passes through the point $B(-8, -5, 25)$.

(a) Write down a vector equation for L_2 in the form $r = a + tb$.

(2)

A third line L_3 is perpendicular to L_1 and is represented by $r = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + q \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ -2 \\ k \end{pmatrix}$.

(b) Show that $k = -2$.

(5)

The lines L_1 and L_3 intersect at the point A .

(c) Find the coordinates of A .

(6)

The lines L_2 and L_3 intersect at point C where $\overrightarrow{BC} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ -24 \end{pmatrix}$.

(d) (i) Find \overrightarrow{AB} .

(ii) Hence, find $|\overrightarrow{AC}|$.

(5)

(Total 18 marks)

- 13.) Two lines with equations $r_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $r_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ intersect at the point P. Find the coordinates of P.

(Total 6 marks)

Step 1: For any value of s and t , let's find three true equations if the vectors intersect.

$$\begin{aligned} 2 + 5s &= 9 - 3t \\ 3 - 3s &= 2 + 5t \\ -1 + 2s &= 2 - t \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Find the "lowest hanging fruit" for elimination of a variable. In other words, choose the two equations that yield the fastest path to eliminating "s" or "t." I think equations 2 and 3 are the best because the "t" looks easy to eliminate.

$$\begin{array}{l} 3 - 3s = 2 + 5t \\ -1 + 2s = 2 - t \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} 3 - 3s = 2 + 5t \\ 5(-1 + 2s) = 5(2 - t) \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} 3 - 3s = 2 + 5t \\ -5 + 10s = 10 - 5t \end{array}$$

Step 3: Eliminate one variable and solve for the other.

$$\begin{array}{l} 3 - 3s = 2 + 5t \\ -5 + 10s = 10 - 5t \end{array}$$

$$-2 + 7s = 12$$

$$7s = 14; \quad s = 2$$

Step 4: Input your value of "s" into the appropriate vector (the one with the "s" parameter).

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{input 2 as "s"} \quad \begin{array}{l} 2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 5 \\ (2) -3 \\ 2 \end{array}$$

Step 5: Calculate your intersection position vector, Point P.

$$\begin{array}{l} 2 + 10 \\ 3 - 6 \\ -1 + 4 \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} 12 \\ -3 \\ 3 \end{array}$$