



Additional Practice Questions for Chapter 2B: Vectors II – Equation of Straight Lines (Solutions)

- 1** Referred to the origin O , the position vector of the point A is $2\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - 6\mathbf{k}$ and the cartesian equation of the line l is $x - 1 = 2 - y = z + 6$. Find
- (i) the position vector of the foot of the perpendicular from A to l , [3]
(ii) the perpendicular distance from A to l , [2]

TPJC Prelim 9740/2013/01/Q10 (modified)

(i) $l: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Let B be the foot of perpendicular from A to l .

$$\overrightarrow{OB} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \lambda \\ 2 - \lambda \\ -6 + \lambda \end{pmatrix} \therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 + \lambda \\ -\lambda \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{3} \therefore \overrightarrow{OB} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ -17 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) Perpendicular distance from A to l is $|\overrightarrow{AB}| = \left| \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{6}$

- 2 The line l_1 has equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+2\lambda \\ 1-2\lambda \\ -3\lambda \end{pmatrix}$, where λ is a parameter.

- (i) Find the exact shortest distance between the origin O and l_1 . [3]

Another line l_2 has equation $\frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{3-y}{2} = -\frac{z}{9}$.

- (ii) Write down a vector equation of l_2 . [1]

- (iii) Show that l_1 and l_2 are skew lines. [3]

- (iv) Find a vector that is perpendicular to both l_1 and l_2 . [1]

The points P and Q lie on l_1 and l_2 respectively, such that the line PQ is perpendicular to both l_1 and l_2 .

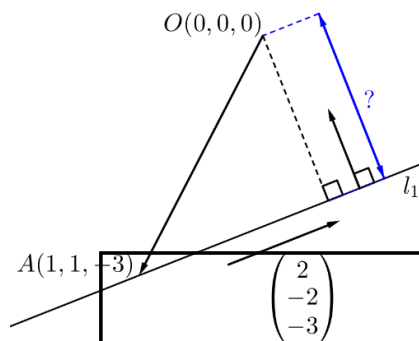
- (v) Find a vector equation of the line PQ . [3]

ASRJC Promo 9758/2021/Q8

(i)

Shortest distance from O to l_1

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\left| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{4+4+9}} \\ &= \frac{\left| \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{4+4+9}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{34}}{\sqrt{17}} \\ &= \sqrt{2} \text{ units} \end{aligned}$$



(ii)

$$l_2: \frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{3-y}{2} = -\frac{z}{9} \Rightarrow \frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{y-3}{-2} = \frac{z-0}{-9}$$

$$l_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

(iii)

$$l_1 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$l_2 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

Clearly, $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$ are not scalar multiples of each other, hence both lines are not parallel.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 + 2\lambda = 1 + 2\mu & \text{--- (1)} \\ 1 - 2\lambda = 3 - 2\mu & \text{--- (2)} \\ -3\lambda = -9\mu & \text{--- (3)} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{From (3), we have } \lambda = 3\mu \text{ --- (4)}$$

Substituting (4) into (2), we get

$$1 - 2(3\mu) = 3 - 2\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - 6\mu = 3 - 2\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow 4\mu = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Hence } \lambda = 3\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{3}{2}.$$

Substituting $\mu = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $\lambda = -\frac{3}{2}$ into (1),

$$\text{LHS of (1)} = 1 + 2\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right) = -2$$

$$\text{RHS of (1)} = 1 + 2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0 \neq \text{LHS of (1)}$$

Hence both lines do not intersect.

Therefore, both lines are skew. (shown)

(iv)	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$ $= \begin{pmatrix} 18-6 \\ -(-18+6) \\ -4+4 \end{pmatrix}$ $= \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ 12 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 12 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ Thus, $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is a vector that is perpendicular to both l_1 and l_2.
(v)	Since $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is parallel to $\overrightarrow{PQ}$, $\overrightarrow{PQ} = k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $k \in \mathbb{R}$ Since P lies on l_1, $\overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ Since Q lies on l_2, $\overrightarrow{OQ} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$. Thus, $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \overrightarrow{OQ} - \overrightarrow{OP}$ $= \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix} \right] - \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \right]$ $= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ $= \begin{pmatrix} 2\mu - 2\lambda \\ 2 - 2\mu + 2\lambda \\ -9\mu + 3\lambda \end{pmatrix}$

Comparing,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2\mu - 2\lambda \\ 2 - 2\mu + 2\lambda \\ -9\mu + 3\lambda \end{pmatrix} = k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2\mu - 2\lambda - k = 0 \\ -2\mu + 2\lambda - k = -2 \\ -9\mu + 3\lambda = 0 \end{cases}$$

Using GC, we obtain $\mu = -\frac{1}{4}$, $\lambda = -\frac{3}{4}$, $k = 1$

$$\text{Therefore, } \overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{3}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.25 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence an equation of the desired line is

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.25 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

- 3 The line l_1 has equation $\frac{x-5}{3} = \frac{z-5}{m}$, $y = 2$ and the line l_2 has equation $\frac{x}{-5} = y$, $z = 0$, where m is a constant. It is given that l_1 and l_2 intersect at point A .

(i) Find the value of m , and the coordinates of A . [4]

(ii) Find the position vector of the point P on l_1 such that OP is perpendicular to l_1 , where O is the origin. [3]

(iii) Find a vector equation of the line which is a reflection of l_2 in l_1 . [3]

PJC JC2CT2 9740/2014/02/Q5

(i) Since $y = 2$, from $\frac{x}{-5} = y$ we have $x = -10$ and substituting into

$$\frac{x-5}{3} = \frac{z-5}{m} \text{ (together with } z = 0) \text{ we have } \frac{-15}{3} = \frac{-5}{m} \text{ and thus } m = 1.$$

We also have therefore $A(-10, 2, 0)$.

Alternatively,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i) Let } \lambda &= \frac{x-5}{3} = \frac{z-5}{m} \\ x &= 5 + 3\lambda \\ z &= 5 + m\lambda \\ l_1: \mathbf{r} &= \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ m \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } \mu = \frac{x}{-5} = y$$

$$x = -5\mu$$

$$y = \mu$$

$$z = 0$$

$$l_2: \mathbf{r} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

Given that l_1 and l_2 intersect,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ m \end{pmatrix} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mu = 2$$

$$5 + 3\lambda = -5\mu \Rightarrow \lambda = -5$$

$$5 + m\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow m = 1$$

Coordinates of A is $(-10, 2, 0)$

$$(ii) \quad \overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\left[\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$15 + 9\lambda + 5 + \lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda = -2$$

$$\overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

(iii) Observe that O is on l_2 . Let P' be the point of reflection of O in l_1 . Then the line of reflection of l_2 in l_1 passes through A and P' .

$$\overrightarrow{OP'} = 2\overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{AP'} = \overrightarrow{OP'} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Line of reflection: } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \gamma \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$$

- 4 The points A and B have position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ respectively.

(i) Show that $AB = 2\sqrt{26}$. [1]

(ii) Find the cartesian equation for the line AB . [2]

(iii) The line l has equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$.

Find the length of the projection of AB onto l . [2]

(iv) Calculate the acute angle between AB and l , giving your answer correct to the nearest degree. [2]

(v) Find the position vector of the foot N of the perpendicular from A to l . Hence find the position vector of the image of A in the line l . [4]

CJC Prelim 9233/2006/01/Q14

(i) $\vec{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{OB} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\vec{AB} = \vec{OB} - \vec{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore AB = \sqrt{(-10)^2 + 0^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{104} = 2\sqrt{26} \quad (\text{shown})$$

(ii) $l_{AB} : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Cartesian equation is $\frac{x-8}{-10} = \frac{z-2}{2}, y=3$, i.e. $\frac{8-x}{10} = \frac{z-2}{2}, y=3$

(iii) $l : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{Length of projection of } AB \text{ onto } l = \frac{\left| \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{2^2 + 6^2 + 5^2}} = \frac{|-20 + 0 + 10|}{\sqrt{65}} = \frac{10}{\sqrt{65}}$$

(iv) Let θ be the angle between AB and l .

$$\text{Then } \cos \theta = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{100+4}\sqrt{4+36+25}} = \frac{-20+0+10}{\sqrt{104}\sqrt{65}} = \frac{-10}{\sqrt{104}\sqrt{65}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = 96.99^\circ \text{ (2dp) (obtuse)}$$

$$\text{Hence required acute angle} = 180^\circ - 96.99^\circ = 83^\circ \text{ (nearest degree)}$$

$$(v) \quad N \text{ lies on } l \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overrightarrow{ON} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for some } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AN} = \overrightarrow{ON} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Since } \overrightarrow{AN} \perp l \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overrightarrow{AN} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = -10 + 65t = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{2}{13}$$

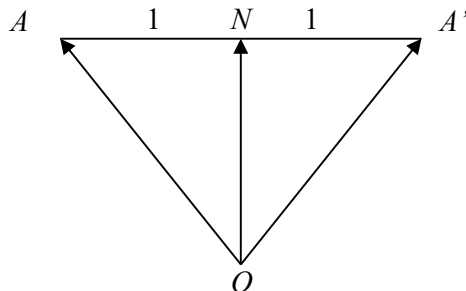
$$\text{Hence } \overrightarrow{ON} = \frac{1}{13} \begin{pmatrix} -22 \\ 51 \\ 62 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let A' be the image of A in l .

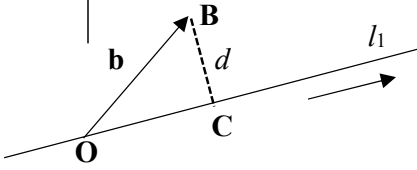
By Ratio Theorem,

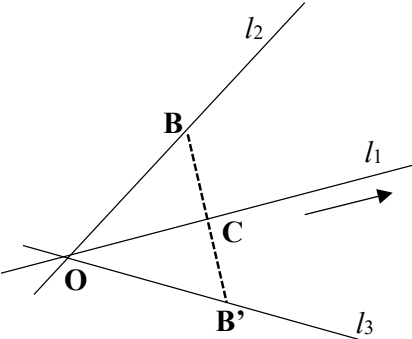
$$\overrightarrow{ON} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OA} + \overrightarrow{OA'}}{2}$$

$$\overrightarrow{OA'} = 2\overrightarrow{ON} - \overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{pmatrix} -44/13 \\ 102/13 \\ 124/13 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -148/13 \\ 63/13 \\ 98/13 \end{pmatrix}$$



- 5 With reference to the origin O , the points A and B have position vectors $\mathbf{a} = -\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = 2\mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k}$ respectively.
- Find a vector equation of the line l_1 that passes through point A and is parallel to the vector $\mathbf{a}$. [1]
 - Find the exact length of projection of $\mathbf{b}$ on l_1 . Hence find d , the exact perpendicular distance from the point B to l_1 . [4]
 - Using the value of d found in part (ii), find the position vector of the point C , the foot of perpendicular from the point B to l_1 . [3]
 - The line l_2 passes through point B and is parallel to vector $\mathbf{b}$. Find a cartesian equation of l_3 which is the reflection of l_2 in l_1 . [3]

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4(i)	$l_1 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$
(ii)	length of projection of $\mathbf{b}$ on l_1 $= \left \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{(-1)^2 + (1)^2 + (2)^2}} \right $ $= \frac{12}{\sqrt{6}} = 2\sqrt{6}$  $ \mathbf{b} = \left \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \right = \sqrt{29}$ By Pythagoras' Theorem, $d = \sqrt{ \mathbf{b} ^2 - (2\sqrt{6})^2} = \sqrt{29 - 4(6)} = \sqrt{5}$
(iii)	Since C lies on l_1, $\mathbf{c} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ $\overrightarrow{BC} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda \\ \lambda - 2 \\ 2\lambda - 5 \end{pmatrix}$

	$ \overrightarrow{BC} = \left \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda \\ \lambda - 2 \\ 2\lambda - 5 \end{pmatrix} \right = \sqrt{5}$ $\sqrt{(-\lambda)^2 + (\lambda - 2)^2 + (2\lambda - 5)^2} = \sqrt{5}$ $6\lambda^2 - 24\lambda + 24 = 0$ $\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4 = 0$ $(\lambda - 2)^2 = 0$ $\lambda = 2$ $\mathbf{c} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
(iv)	Let B' be the point of reflection of B about the line l_1. By mid-point theorem, $\overrightarrow{OC} = \frac{\overrightarrow{OB} + \overrightarrow{OB'}}{2}$ $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \overrightarrow{OB'} \right]$ $\overrightarrow{OB'} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ Since l_3 parallel to $\overrightarrow{OB'}$ and the origin O lies on l_3, so $l_3 : \mathbf{r} = \gamma \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ So Cartesian equation of l_3 is : $-\frac{x}{4} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3}$ 

6 The lines l_1 and l_2 have equations

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ respectively, where } \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}.$$

(i) Find the acute angle between l_1 and l_2 . [2]

(ii) The points P and R lie on l_1 and l_2 respectively such that P is the reflection of the point R in the line l . The 3 lines intersect at the point $Q(0, 3, -6)$.

Find a possible pair of vectors $\overrightarrow{QP}$ and $\overrightarrow{QR}$ such that $\angle PQR$ is acute and $|\overrightarrow{QP}| = 5$.

Hence, or otherwise, find the vector equation of the line l . [4]

DHS JC2CT2 9740/2012/01/Q8

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Acute angle between } l_1 \text{ and } l_2 &= \cos^{-1} \frac{\left| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{27}} \\ &= \cos^{-1} \frac{|1-1-5|}{\sqrt{3^4}} \\ &= \cos^{-1} \frac{|-5|}{9} = 56.3^\circ \text{ (1dp)} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) From (i), since $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} < 0$, angle between $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $-\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ or $-\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ is acute.

Since $|\overrightarrow{QP}| = |\overrightarrow{QR}| = 5$ and $\angle PQR$ is acute, i.e. $\overrightarrow{QP} \cdot \overrightarrow{QR} > 0$

Either

$$\overrightarrow{QP} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{QR} = \frac{-5}{\sqrt{27}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Or } \overrightarrow{QP} = -\frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{QR} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{27}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

A direction vector of l is $\mathbf{d} = \overrightarrow{QP} + \overrightarrow{QR}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{5}{3\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{5}{3\sqrt{3}} \left[3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \frac{5}{3\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{10}{3\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Since $Q(0, 3, -6)$ lies on line l ,

$$\text{thus, } l: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad s \in \mathbb{R}$$

- 7 Relative to the origin O , the points A , B and C have position vectors $\mathbf{i}+2\mathbf{j}+5\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{i}-\mathbf{k}$ and $2\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}$ respectively.

The line l_1 passes through A and is parallel to the vector $3\mathbf{i}+2\mathbf{j}$. The line l_2 passes through the points B and C .

- (i) Find a vector equation of the line l_1 . [1]
 (ii) Show that the lines l_1 and l_2 intersect and that the position vector $\overrightarrow{OX}$ of the point of intersection is $7\mathbf{i}+6\mathbf{j}+5\mathbf{k}$. [3]

The vector $a\mathbf{i}+b\mathbf{j}+\mathbf{k}$ is perpendicular to both l_1 and l_2 . Find the values of a and b .

Hence give an equation of the line l_3 that is concurrent with l_1 and l_2 and is perpendicular to both l_1 and l_2 .

If V is a point on l_3 such that $VABX$ is a tetrahedron with base ABX and height $5\sqrt{14}$ units, find the coordinates of V . [7]

AJC Prelim 9233/2006/01/Q13

(i) Equation of line l_1 is $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$

(ii) $\overrightarrow{BC} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Equation of line l_2 is $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$

Consider

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 + 3\lambda = 1 + \beta \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

$$2 + 2\lambda = \beta \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

$$5 = -1 + \beta \quad \text{----- (3)}$$

From (3), $\beta = 6$

Subst into (2), $\lambda = 2$

Check using (1): LHS = $1 + 3(2) = 7$

$$\text{RHS} = 1 + 6 = 7 = \text{LHS}$$

Since there is unique solution for λ and β , therefore the lines intersect and

$$\overrightarrow{OX} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + 6 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ (shown)}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow 3a + 2b = 0 \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow a + b + 1 = 0 \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

Solving, $a = 2$, $b = -3$

Equation of line l_3 is $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

Since V lies on l_3 , $\overrightarrow{OV} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $s \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$|\overrightarrow{VX}| = 5\sqrt{14}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right| = 5\sqrt{14}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right| = 5\sqrt{14}$$

$$\Rightarrow |s| \sqrt{14} = 5\sqrt{14}$$

$$\Rightarrow |s| = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow s = \pm 5$$

$\therefore$ Coordinates of $V = (17, -9, 10)$ or $(-3, 21, 0)$

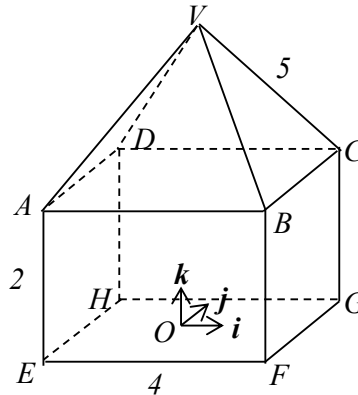
Alternatively,

Since $|\overrightarrow{XV}| = 5\sqrt{14}$ and unit vector along l_3 is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\overrightarrow{XV} = \pm \frac{5\sqrt{14}}{\sqrt{14}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OV} = \overrightarrow{OX} \pm 5 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \pm \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\therefore$ Coordinates of $V = (17, -9, 10)$ or $(-3, 21, 0)$

- 8 The figure shows a right pyramid $VABCD$ with a square base $ABCD$, standing horizontally on a cuboid $ABCDEFGH$. It is given that $VA = VB = VC = VD = 5$ cm, $EF = FG = 4$ cm and $AE = 2$ cm, as shown in the diagram. O is the centre of the square base $EFGH$. Perpendicular unit vectors $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$ are parallel to EF, FG, EA respectively.



- (i) Show that the height of the figure, OV is $2 + \sqrt{17}$. [2]
- (ii) State the geometrical meaning of $\frac{|\vec{VA} \times \vec{OV}|}{2 + \sqrt{17}}$. [1]
- (iii) Find the equation of the line passing through B and V . [2]

SAJC Prelim 9740/2013/01/Q5 (modified)

(i) $OE = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{4^2 + 4^2} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{32} = \sqrt{8}$

Drop a perpendicular line from V to plane $ABCD$, and call the foot of perpendicular M . Consider the triangle AVM .

$$VM = \sqrt{5^2 - 8} = \sqrt{17}$$

Thus, height of figure OM is $2 + \sqrt{17}$

Alternative

If we drop a perpendicular line down from V to BC , call the foot of the perpendicular X .

$$VX = \sqrt{5^2 - 2^2} = \sqrt{21}$$

The height of the cone portion $= \sqrt{21 - 2^2} = \sqrt{17}$.

Thus the height of the figure is $2 + \sqrt{17}$. G

(ii) $\frac{|\vec{VA} \times \vec{OV}|}{2 + \sqrt{17}} = \frac{|\vec{VA} \times \vec{OV}|}{|\vec{OV}|}$. Thus it represents the length OE .

Alternative answer: It represents the shortest distance of A to OV .

$$\text{(iii)} \quad \overrightarrow{OV} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 + \sqrt{17} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{OB} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overrightarrow{VB} = \overrightarrow{OB} - \overrightarrow{OV} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -\sqrt{17} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Thus equation of line } VB: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 + \sqrt{17} \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ -\sqrt{17} \end{pmatrix}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

- 9 Relative to an origin O , points A and B have position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ respectively.

The line l has vector equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ a \end{pmatrix}$, where t is a real parameter and a is a constant. The line m passes through the point A and is parallel to the line OB .

- (i) Find the position vector of the point P on m such that OP is perpendicular to m . [4]
 (ii) Show that the two lines l and m have no common point. [3]
 (ii) If the acute angle between the line l and the z -axis is 60° , find the exact values of the constant a . [3]

MJC Prelim 9233/2006/02/Q5

(i) P lies on $m \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for some $s \in \mathbb{R}$

Since OP is perpendicular to m , $\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 + 5s = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow s = -1$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii) Let $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ a \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -s - t = 3 & \text{--- (1)} \\ 2s - 3t = a - 4 & \text{--- (2)} \\ at = 1 & \text{--- (3)} \end{cases}$

From (1), $s = -3 - t$

Subst into (2), we get $2(-3 - t) - 3t = a - 4 \Rightarrow 5t = -2 - a$

Subst (3), we get

$$\Rightarrow a(-2 - a) = 5 \Rightarrow a^2 + 2a + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow (a + 1)^2 + 4 = 0$$

Since, there are no real solutions for the equation $(a + 1)^2 + 4 = 0$, there does not exist $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that the l and m intersect.

Hence, the 2 lines have no common point.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} \quad \cos 60^\circ &= \frac{\left| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ a \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right|}{\sqrt{1+9+a^2} \sqrt{1}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} &= \frac{|a|}{\sqrt{10+a^2}} \\ \Rightarrow 2|a| &= \sqrt{10+a^2} \\ \Rightarrow 4a^2 &= 10+a^2 \\ \Rightarrow 3a^2 &= 10 \\ \Rightarrow a &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{10}{3}} \end{aligned}$$

- 10** Referred to an origin O , the position vectors of two points A and B are $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$ respectively.

A line l has vector equation given by $\mathbf{r} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a} + \lambda(2\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a})$, where $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

The point N is the foot of perpendicular from A to l . It is given that $|\mathbf{a}| = 2$, $|\mathbf{b}| = 1$ and $\mathbf{a}$ is perpendicular to $\mathbf{b}$.

Find the position vector of N in terms of $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$.

[5]

JPJC Promo 9758/2021/Q6(b)(i)

(b)(i)
5m

Since N lies on l , $\overrightarrow{ON} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a} + \lambda(2\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a})$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Since AN is perpendicular to l , $\overrightarrow{AN} \bullet (2\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) = 0$

$$\left(\left(-\frac{2}{3} - \lambda \right) \mathbf{a} + 2\lambda \mathbf{b} \right) \bullet (2\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) = 0$$

$$\left(-\frac{2}{3} - \lambda \right) \mathbf{a} \bullet 2\mathbf{b} + \left(\frac{2}{3} + \lambda \right) \mathbf{a} \bullet \mathbf{a} + 4\lambda \mathbf{b} \bullet \mathbf{b} - 2\lambda \mathbf{a} \bullet \mathbf{b} = 0$$

Since $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$ are perpendicular, $\therefore \mathbf{a} \bullet \mathbf{b} = 0$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3} + \lambda \right) \mathbf{a} \bullet \mathbf{a} + 4\lambda \mathbf{b} \bullet \mathbf{b} = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3} + \lambda \right) |\mathbf{a}|^2 + 4\lambda |\mathbf{b}|^2 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3} + \lambda \right) (4) + 4\lambda (1) = 0$$

$$\lambda = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$\overrightarrow{ON} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{3}(2\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) = \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{a} - \frac{2}{3}\mathbf{b}$$

11 The four points A, B, C, D have position vectors $p\mathbf{i}$, $\mathbf{j}+q\mathbf{k}$, $\mathbf{k}$ and $\mathbf{i}+\mathbf{j}$ respectively, where p and q are positive real numbers. Find vector equations for the lines AB and CD .

(i) Given that the lines AB and CD intersect at a point R , express q in terms of p , and show that the two lines cannot be perpendicular. Show also that $\frac{AR}{AB} = \frac{CR}{CD}$.

(ii) Given that AB and CD are perpendicular, express q in terms of p , and show that the angle between AC and BD is equal to the angle between AD and BC .

$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OA} &= \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \overrightarrow{OB} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} & \overrightarrow{OC} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & \overrightarrow{OD} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \overrightarrow{AB} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix}, & \overrightarrow{CD} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \text{Line } AB: \mathbf{r} &= \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix}, t \in \mathbb{R} & \text{Line } CD: \mathbf{r} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, s \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{(i)} \quad \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} p - \lambda p = \mu \\ \lambda = \mu \\ \lambda q = 1 - \mu \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} p - \mu p = \mu \\ \mu q = 1 - \mu \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{1+p}{p} = \frac{q+1}{1} \Rightarrow \\ \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} &= -p+1-q = -p+1-\frac{1}{p} = -\frac{p^2-p+1}{p} = -\frac{(p-0.5)^2+0.75}{p} < 0 \quad \forall p > 0 \\ &\text{, so the lines are not perpendicular.} \\ \text{(Alternatively, since discriminant } &= (-1)^2 - 4(1)(1) < 0, \text{ then there is no } p \text{ such that} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{p} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} &= 0. \text{ Hence lines } AB \text{ and } CD \text{ cannot be perpendicular.)} \\ l_{AB}: \mathbf{r} &= \overrightarrow{OA} + \lambda \overrightarrow{AB} \\ \text{At point of intersection } R, \quad \overrightarrow{OR} &= \overrightarrow{OA} + \lambda \overrightarrow{AB} \text{ where } \lambda = \frac{p}{1+p} > 0 \\ \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{AR} &= \lambda \overrightarrow{AB} \Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{AR}| = \lambda |\overrightarrow{AB}| \Rightarrow \frac{AR}{AB} = \lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$l_{CD} : r = \overrightarrow{OC} + \mu \overrightarrow{CD}$$

At point of intersection R , $\overrightarrow{OR} = \overrightarrow{OC} + \mu \overrightarrow{CD}$ where $\mu = \frac{p}{1+p} > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \overrightarrow{CR} = \mu \overrightarrow{CD} \Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{CR}| = \mu |\overrightarrow{CD}| \Rightarrow \frac{CR}{CD} = \mu$$

Since $\lambda = \mu$, $\frac{AR}{AB} = \frac{CR}{CD}$.

(Alternatively,

$$\overrightarrow{OR} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{p}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{p}{p+1} \\ \frac{p}{p+1} \\ \frac{1}{p+1} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ p \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\overrightarrow{AR} = \frac{1}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} p-p^2-p \\ p \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} -p^2 \\ p \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{CR} = \frac{1}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ p \\ -p \end{pmatrix} = \frac{p}{p+1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{p} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{p} \begin{pmatrix} -p^2 \\ p \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{CD} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Clearly, $\frac{AR}{AB} = \frac{p}{p+1}$ and $\frac{CR}{CD} = \frac{p}{p+1}$ (shown))

(ii)

$$\begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow -p+1-q=0.$$

$$\therefore q = 1-p$$

Let θ be the angle between $\overrightarrow{AC}$ and $\overrightarrow{BD}$.

$$\overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{BD} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ p-1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -p \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ p-1 \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{(-p)^2 + 1^2} \cdot \sqrt{1^2 + (p-1)^2}} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{(1+p^2)(1+(p-1)^2)}}.$$

Let ϕ be the angle between $\overrightarrow{AD}$ and $\overrightarrow{BC}$.

$$\overrightarrow{AD} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1-p \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{BC} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1-p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ p \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\cos \phi = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1-p \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ p \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{(1-p)^2 + 1^2} \cdot \sqrt{(-1)^2 + (p)^2}} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{(p^2 + 1)(1 + (p-1)^2)}}.$$

$$\cos \theta = \cos \phi$$

Since $0^\circ \leq \theta, \phi \leq 180^\circ$, then $\theta = \phi$ (shown)

Alternative (finding acute angle between the lines):

Since $\cos(180^\circ - \theta) = -\cos \theta$, numerical values of $\cos(180^\circ - \theta)$ and $\cos \theta$ are the same.

If we define θ to be the **acute** angle between $\overrightarrow{AC}$ and $\overrightarrow{BD}$, and

ϕ to be the **acute** angle between $\overrightarrow{AD}$ and $\overrightarrow{BC}$, then

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -p \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ p-1 \end{vmatrix}}{\sqrt{(-p)^2 + 1^2} \cdot \sqrt{1^2 + (p-1)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1+p^2)(1+(p-1)^2)}} \text{ and}$$

$$\cos \phi = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1-p \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ p \end{vmatrix}}{\sqrt{(1-p)^2 + 1^2} \cdot \sqrt{(-1)^2 + (p)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(p^2 + 1)(1 + (p-1)^2)}}.$$

Since $\cos \theta = \cos \phi$ and both θ and ϕ are acute, $\theta = \phi$ (shown).

Comment: Part (i) says that

AB and CD intersect at one point. $\Rightarrow AB$ and CD cannot be perpendicular.

Hence the contrapositive is also true, that is

AB and CD are perpendicular $\Rightarrow AB$ and CD do not intersect at any point (they are skew).

THE END