

[(Exercise 8.6)]

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Q1 Show that the shortest distance b/w the lines $x+a = 2y = -12z$ & $x = y+2a = 6(z-a)$ is $2a$.

Sol. Given lines are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x+a &= 2y = -12z \\ x &= y+2a = 6(z-a) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\text{or } \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{x+a}{1} &= \frac{y}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{z}{-12} \\ x &= y+2a, \quad x = 6z-6a \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{x+a}{12} = \frac{y}{6} = \frac{z}{-1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$x-y-2a = 0 = x-6z+6a \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Eq. of a plane through line (2) is

$$(x-y-2a) + k(x-6z+6a) = 0$$

$$(1+k)x - y - 6kz - 2a + 6ka = 0$$

Now d.s. of normal to this plane are $1+k, -1, -6k$

If this plane is \parallel to line (1)

$$\text{Then } 12(1+k) + 6(-1) - 1(-6k) = 0$$

$$12 + 12k - 6 + 6k = 0$$

$$18k + 6 = 0$$

$$3k + 1 = 0$$

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

Put in eq. of plane

$$(x-y-2a) - \frac{1}{3}(x-6z+6a) = 0$$

$$3x-3y-6a - x+6z-6a = 0$$

$$\boxed{2x - 3y + 6z - 12a = 0} \text{ is eq. of plane}$$

through line (2) & || to line (1).

let d be req. shortest distance then

$d =$ Distance of pt. $(-a, 0, 0)$ from plane $2x-3y+6z-12a=0$

$$= \frac{|2(-a) - 0 + 0 - 12a|}{\sqrt{4+9+36}}$$

$$= \frac{|-14a|}{7}$$

$$= \frac{14a}{7}$$

$$d = 2a$$

Q2 Find the shortest distance b/w the axis of x & the st. line $ax+by+cz+d=0 = a'x+b'y+c'z+d'$

Sol. We know that eq. of x -axis in symmetric form is

$$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{0} = \frac{z}{0} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Now given line is

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0 = a'x + b'y + c'z + d' \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now eq. of a plane containing this line is

$$(ax + by + cz + d) + k(a'x + b'y + c'z + d') = 0$$

$$\text{or } (a + k a')x + (b + k b')y + (c + k c')z + d + k d' = 0$$

If this plane is \parallel to x -axis then

$$1(a + k a') = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{k = -\frac{a}{a'}}$$

Put in eq. of plane

$$(ax + by + cz + d) - \frac{a}{a'}(a'x + b'y + c'z + d') = 0$$

$$a\cancel{a'}x + aby + acz + a'd - a\cancel{a'}x - ab'y - ac'z - ad' = 0$$

$$\boxed{(a'b - ab')y + (a'c - ac')z + (a'd - ad') = 0}$$

is eq. of plane containing line (2)

let d' be req. shortest distance then

d' = Distance of pt. $(0, 0, 0)$ from plane

$$= \frac{(a'b - ab')(0) + (a'c - ac')(0) + (a'd - ad')}{\sqrt{(a'b - ab')^2 + (a'c - ac')^2}}$$

$$d' = \frac{a'd - ad'}{\sqrt{(a'b - ab')^2 + (a'c - ac')^2}} \quad \text{--- as.}$$

Q3 Show that the shortest distance b/w the st. lines $\frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{y-2}{3} = \frac{z-3}{4}$ & $\frac{x-2}{3} = \frac{y-4}{4} = \frac{z-5}{5}$ is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$. & eqs. of the st. line perpendicular to both are $11x + 2y - 7z + 6 = 0 = 7x + y - 5z + 7$

Sol: Given lines are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{x-1}{2} = \frac{y-2}{3} = \frac{z-3}{4} & \text{--- (1)} \\ \frac{x-2}{3} = \frac{y-4}{4} = \frac{z-5}{5} & \text{--- (2)} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

A pt. on line (1) is A(1, 2, 3)

A pt. on line (2) is B(2, 4, 5)

$$\vec{AB} = (2-1)\hat{i} + (4-2)\hat{j} + (5-3)\hat{k}$$

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

Here d.r.s. of (1) are 2, 3, 4

d.r.s. of (2) are 3, 4, 5

Let \vec{U} be a vector \perp to both given lines

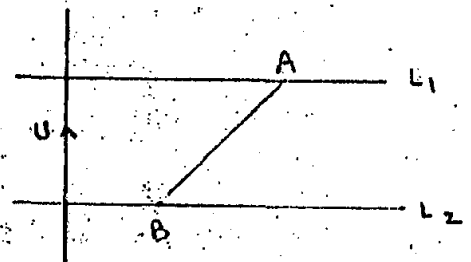
then

$$\vec{U} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (15-16)\hat{i} - (10-12)\hat{j} + (8-9)\hat{k}$$

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

Let d be req. shortest distance b/w lines then



$$\begin{aligned}
 d &= \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{U}}{|\vec{U}|} \\
 &= \frac{(\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \cdot (-\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - \hat{k})}{\sqrt{1+4+1}} \\
 &= \frac{(1)(-1) + (2)(2) + (2)(-1)}{\sqrt{6}} \\
 &= \frac{-1 + 4 - 2}{\sqrt{6}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$d = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \text{ is req. distance.}$$

Now eq. of line \perp to both given lines is

$$\begin{vmatrix} x-1 & y-2 & z-3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 0 = \begin{vmatrix} x-2 & y-4 & z-5 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$(x-1)(-3-8) - (y-2)(-2+4) + (z-3)(4+3) = 0 = (x-2)(-4-10) - (y-4)(-3+5) + (z-5)(6+4)$$

$$(x-1)(-11) - (y-2)(2) + (z-3)(7) = 0 = (x-2)(-14) - (y-4)(2) + (z-5)(10)$$

$$-11x - 2y + 7z + 11 + 4 - 21 = 0 = -14x - 2y + 10z + 28 + 8 - 50$$

$$-11x - 2y + 7z - 6 = 0 = -14x - 2y + 10z - 14$$

$$\underline{+2y - 7z + 6 = 0 = 7x + y - 5z + 7}$$

is req. eq.

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$$= (-2+6)\hat{i} - (1-7)\hat{j} + (-6+14)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{U} = 4\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} + 8\hat{k}$$

let d be req. shortest distance b/w lines then

$$d = \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{U}}{|\vec{U}|}$$

$$= \frac{(-4\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} - 8\hat{k}) \cdot (4\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} + 8\hat{k})}{\sqrt{16+36+64}}$$

$$= \frac{-16 - 36 - 64}{\sqrt{116}}$$

$$= \frac{-116}{\sqrt{116}}$$

$$= -\sqrt{116}$$

$$= -\sqrt{4 \times 29}$$

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

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

$$d = 2\sqrt{29} \quad (\text{In magnitude})$$

Now given lines are

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-5}{-2} = \frac{z-7}{1} = t \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{x+1}{7} = \frac{y+1}{-6} = \frac{z+1}{1} = s \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Parametric eq. of given lines are

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x = 3+t \\ y = 5-2t \\ z = 7+t \end{array} \right\} \text{--- (1)} \quad \& \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} x = -1+7s \\ y = -1-6s \\ z = -1+s \end{array} \right\} \text{--- (2)}$$

Q4 Find the shortest distance b/w the lines (24)

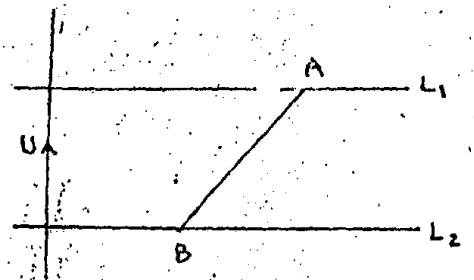
$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-5}{-2} = \frac{z-7}{1} \quad \& \quad \frac{x+1}{7} = \frac{y+1}{-6} = \frac{z+1}{1}$$

Find eq. of the st. line \perp to both the given st. lines & also its pt. of intersection with the given st. lines.

Sol. Given lines are

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-5}{-2} = \frac{z-7}{1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{x+1}{7} = \frac{y+1}{-6} = \frac{z+1}{1} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$



A pt. on line (1) is A (3, 5, 7)

A pt. on line (2) is B (-1, -1, -1)

$$\vec{AB} = (-1-3)\hat{i} + (-1-5)\hat{j} + (-1-7)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{AB} = -4\hat{i} - 6\hat{j} - 8\hat{k}$$

Here d.r.s. of line (1) are 1, -2, 1

& d.r.s. of line (2) are 7, -6, 1

Let \vec{U} be a vector perpendicular to both lines then

$$\vec{U} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 7 & -6 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

Expanding from R_1

Any pt. on ① is $P(3+t, 5-2t, 7+t)$ 125

Any pt. on ② is $Q(-1+7s, -1-6s, -1+s)$

D.irs. of line PQ are $3+t+1-7s, 5-2t+1+6s, 7+t+1-s$

$$= t-7s+4, -2t+6s+6, t-s+8$$

If PQ is the line of shortest distance then
then PQ is perp. to both the lines, so

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 1(t-7s+4) - 2(-2t+6s+6) + 1(t-s+8) &= 0 \\ 7(t-7s+4) - 6(-2t+6s+6) + 1(t-s+8) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} t-7s+4+4t-12s-12+t-s+8 &= 0 \\ 7t-49s+28+12t-36s-36+t-s+8 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6t - 20s &= 0 \\ 20t - 86s &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{t=0} \text{ \& \ } \boxed{s=0}$$

Hence Co-ords. of pts. P & Q are

$$P(3, 5, 7) \text{ \& \ } Q(-1, -1, -1)$$

Now eq. of line of shortest distance is

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

$$\frac{x-3}{4} = \frac{y-5}{6} = \frac{z-7}{8}$$

or $\boxed{\frac{x-3}{2} = \frac{y-5}{3} = \frac{z-7}{4}}$ is req. line.

Q5 Find the co-ords. of the pt. on the join of $(-3, 7, -13)$ & $(-6, 1, -10)$ which is nearest to the intersection of the planes

$$2x - y - 3z + 32 = 0 \quad \& \quad 3x + 2y - 15z - 8 = 0$$

Sol. Eq. of the line through $(-3, 7, -13)$ & $(-6, 1, -10)$

$$\text{is } \frac{x+3}{-3+6} = \frac{y-7}{7-1} = \frac{z+13}{-13+10}$$

$$\frac{x+3}{3} = \frac{y-7}{6} = \frac{z+13}{-3}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{x+3}{1} = \frac{y-7}{2} = \frac{z+13}{-1} = t \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} x &= -3+t \\ y &= 7+2t \\ z &= -13-t \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Any pt. on line (1) is $P(-3+t, 7+2t, -13-t)$

Also given eq. of line is

$$2x - y - 3z + 32 = 0 = 3x + 2y - 15z - 8 = 0$$

let l, m, n be d.c. of this line then since it lies on both planes so by conditions of perpendicularity

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 2l - m - 3n &= 0 \\ 3l + 2m - 15n &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{l}{15+6} = \frac{-m}{-3+9} = \frac{n}{4+3}$$

$$\frac{l}{21} = \frac{m}{21} = \frac{n}{7}$$

$$\frac{l}{3} = \frac{m}{3} = \frac{n}{1}$$

So d.r.s. of given line are 3, 3, 1

To find a pt. on line put $z = 0$ in above eqs.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 2x - y + 3z &= 0 \\ 3x + 2y - 8 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{x}{8-64} = \frac{-y}{-16-96} = \frac{z}{4+3}$$

$$\frac{x}{-56} = \frac{-y}{-112} = \frac{z}{7}$$

$$\boxed{x = -8}, \quad \boxed{y = 16}, \quad \boxed{z = 0}$$

So $(-8, 16, 0)$ is a pt. on given line.

Now eq. of given line through $(-8, 16, 0)$ & with d.r.s. 3, 3, 1 is

$$\frac{x+8}{3} = \frac{y-16}{3} = \frac{z}{1} = \lambda \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} x &= -8 + 3\lambda \\ y &= 16 + 3\lambda \\ z &= \lambda \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Any pt. on this line is $Q(-8+3\lambda, 16+3\lambda, \lambda)$

Now d.r.s. of line PQ are $-3+t+8-3\lambda, 7+2t-16-3\lambda, -13-t-\lambda$
 $= t-3\lambda+5, 2t-3\lambda-9, -13-t-\lambda$

∴ PQ is perp. to both lines (1) & (2)

Then

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 1(t-3\lambda+5) + 2(2t-3\lambda-9) - 1(13-t-\lambda) &= 0 \\ 3(t-3\lambda+5) + 3(2t-3\lambda-9) + 1(13-t-\lambda) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6t - 8\lambda &= 0 & \text{--- I} \\ 8t - 19\lambda - 25 &= 0 & \text{--- II} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Multiplying I by 4 & II by 3

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 24t - 32\lambda &= 0 & \text{--- I} \\ 24t - 57\lambda &= 75 & \text{--- II} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$25\lambda = -75$$

$$\lambda = -3$$

Put in I

$$6t - 8(-3) = 0$$

$$6t + 24 = 0$$

$$t + 4 = 0$$

$$t = -4$$

Put $t = -4$ in co-ords. of P

$$P(-3-4, 7-8, -13+4)$$

or $P(-7, -1, -9)$ is the req. pt.

Q6 Find the length & eq. of the common perpendicular of the lines

$$L: 6x + 8y + 3z - 11 = 0, \quad x + 2y + z - 3 = 0$$

$$M: 3x - 9y + 3z = 0, \quad x + y - z = 0$$

Soln

Given lines are

$$L: 6x + 8y + 3z - 13 = 0 = x + 2y + z - 3$$

$$M: 3x - 9y + 5z = 0 = x + y - z$$

We will write both eqs. in symmetric form.

Let l_1, m_1, n_1 be d.c.s. of line L, since it lies on both planes, so by condition of perpendicularity

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6l_1 + 8m_1 + 3n_1 &= 0 \\ l_1 + 2m_1 + n_1 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{l_1}{8-6} = \frac{-m_1}{6-3} = \frac{n_1}{12-8}$$

$$\frac{l_1}{2} = \frac{m_1}{-3} = \frac{n_1}{4}$$

So d.c.s. of L are 2, -3, 4

To find a pt. on L put $z = 0$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6x + 8y - 13 &= 0 \\ x + 2y - 3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{x}{-24+26} = \frac{-y}{-18+13} = \frac{1}{12-8}$$

$$\frac{x}{2} = \frac{y}{5} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}, y = \frac{5}{4}$$

So a pt. on L is $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{4}, 0)$

Now eq. of L through $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{4}, 0)$ & having d.c.s. 2, -3, 4 is

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

Let l_2, m_2, n_2 be d.c.s. of line M, since it lies on both planes, so by condition of perpendicularity

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 3l_2 - 9m_2 + 5n_2 &= 0 \\ l_2 + m_2 - n_2 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{l_2}{9-5} = \frac{-m_2}{-3-5} = \frac{n_2}{3+9}$$

$$\frac{l_2}{4} = \frac{m_2}{8} = \frac{n_2}{12}$$

$$\frac{l_2}{1} = \frac{m_2}{2} = \frac{n_2}{3}$$

So dir. of line M are 1, 2, 3

To find a pt. on line M Put $z=0$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 3x - 9y &= 0 \\ x + y &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\text{or } \left. \begin{aligned} x - 3y &= 0 \\ x + y &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{--- I} \\ \text{--- II} \end{array}$$

Subt. we get

$$-4y = 0$$

$$\boxed{y = 0}$$

Put in I

$$x - 0 = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = 0}$$

So a pt. on line M is $(0, 0, 0)$

Hence eq. of M through $(0, 0, 0)$ having dir. 1, 2, 3 is

$$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{2} = \frac{z}{3} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now we want to find shortest distance b/w (1) & (2)

A pt. on line (1) is $A\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{4}, 0\right)$

A pt. on line (2) is $B(0, 0, 0)$

$$\vec{AB} = -\frac{1}{2}\hat{i} - \frac{5}{4}\hat{j} + 0\hat{k}$$

Let \vec{U} be a vector perp. to both lines, then

$$\vec{U} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 2 & -3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-9-8)\hat{i} - (6-4)\hat{j} + (4+3)\hat{k}$$

$$\vec{U} = -17\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k}$$

Let d be the shortest distance b/w lines then

$$d = \frac{|\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{U}|}{|\vec{U}|}$$

$$= \frac{(-\frac{1}{2}\hat{i} - \frac{5}{4}\hat{j} + 0\hat{k}) \cdot (-17\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 7\hat{k})}{\sqrt{289+4+49}}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{17}{2} + 0}{\sqrt{342}}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{17}{2}}{\sqrt{342}}$$

$$= \frac{17}{2\sqrt{342}}$$

$$d = \frac{11}{\sqrt{342}}$$

Now eq. of common perpendicular is

$$\begin{vmatrix} x-\frac{1}{2} & y-\frac{5}{4} & z \\ 2 & -3 & 4 \\ -17 & -2 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 0 = \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -17 & -2 & 7 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$(x-\frac{1}{2})(-21+8) - (y-\frac{5}{4})(14+68) + z(-4+51) = 0 = x(14+6) - y(7+51) + z(-2+34)$$

$$(x-\frac{1}{2})(-13) - (y-\frac{5}{4})(82) + z(55) = 0 = 20x - 58y + 32z$$

$$-13x - 82y - 55z + \frac{13}{2} + \frac{25}{2} = 0 = 20x - 58y + 32z$$

$$-13x - 82y - 55z + 19 = 0 = 10x - 29y + 16z$$

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$$\text{or } 13x + 82y + 55z - 109 = 0 = 10x - 29y + 16z \text{ is req. eq.} \quad 132$$

Q7 Show that the shortest distance b/w any two opposite edges of the tetrahedron formed by the planes $y+z=0$, $z+x=0$, $x+y=0$ & $x+y+z=a$ is $\frac{2a}{\sqrt{6}}$ & that the three st. lines of the shortest distance intersect at the pt. $(-a, -a, -a)$.

Soln

Let the planes $y+z=0$, $z+x=0$, $x+y=0$ & $x+y+z=a$ be ABC, ACD, ABD & BCD respectively.

then eq. of line AC is

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} y+z=0 \\ z+x=0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{a } y = -z$$

$$x = -z$$

$$\text{or } \frac{x}{-1} = \frac{y}{-1} = \frac{z}{-1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

is symmetric form of line AC

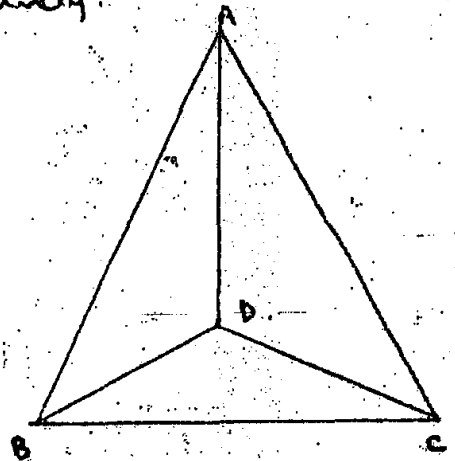
Now the eq. of opposite edge BD is

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x+y=0 \\ x+y+z=a \end{array} \right\}$$

Let l, m, n be d.c.s. of this line

Since it lies on both planes so by conditions of perpendicularity

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} l+m+n=0 \\ l+m+n=0 \end{array} \right\}$$



$$\frac{l}{1-0} = \frac{-m}{1-0} = \frac{n}{1-1}$$

$$\frac{l}{1} = \frac{m}{-1} = \frac{n}{0}$$

So d.r.s. of line is $1, -1, 0$

To find a pt. on this line put $x=0$ in above eqs.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 0+y=0 \\ 0+y+z=a \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \boxed{y=0} \quad \text{or} \quad \boxed{z=a}$$

So a pt. on this line BD is $(0, 0, a)$

Hence eq. of this line is

$$\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{-1} = \frac{z-a}{0} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now we will find shortest distance b/w (1) & (2)

A pt. on line (1) is $A(0, 0, 0)$

A pt. on line (2) is $B(0, 0, a)$

$$\text{Now } \vec{AB} = 0\hat{i} + 0\hat{j} + a\hat{k}$$

Let \vec{U} be a vector perp. to both lines then

$$\vec{U} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

Expanding for R_1

$$= (0-1)\hat{i} - (0+1)\hat{j} + (-1-1)\hat{k}$$

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

Let d be the shortest distance b/w lines

$$\text{Then } d = \frac{\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{U}}{|\vec{U}|}$$

$$d = \frac{(0\hat{i} + 0\hat{j} + a\hat{k}) \cdot (-\hat{i} - \hat{j} - 2\hat{k})}{\sqrt{1+1+4}}$$

$$= \frac{0+0-2a}{\sqrt{6}}$$

$$\boxed{d = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{6}}}$$
 is req. distance.

Similarly we can show that the shortest distance b/w opposite edges AB, CD & BC, AD is also $\frac{2a}{\sqrt{6}}$

Now eq. of line of shortest distance b/w opposite edges AC & BD is

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & y & z \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 0 = \begin{vmatrix} x & y & z-a \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$(-2-1)x - (-2-1)y + (-1+1)z = 0 = (2-a)x - (-2+a)y + (-1-1)(z-a)$$

$$-3x + 3y + 0z = 0 = 2x + 2y - 2z + 2a$$

$$\boxed{x - y = 0 = x + y - z + a}$$

We see that the pt. $(-a, -a, -a)$ satisfies this eq.
 So this pt. lies on the line of shortest distance b/w AC & BD . Similarly, $(-a, -a, -a)$ also lies on the other two lines of shortest distance. Hence it lies on the intersection of all three lines of shortest distances.

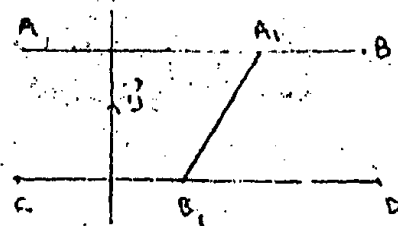
Q8 Find the shortest distance b/w the st. lines joining the pts. $A(3, 2, -4)$ & $B(1, 6, -6)$ & the st. line joining the pts. $C(-1, 1, -2)$ & $D(-3, 1, -6)$. Also find eq. of the line of shortest distance & Co-ords. of the feet of common perpendicular.

Soln Eq. of line AB is

$$\frac{x-3}{1-3} = \frac{y-2}{6-2} = \frac{z+4}{-6+4}$$

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

$$\text{or } \frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-2}{-2} = \frac{z+4}{1} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$



& eq. of line CD is

$$\frac{x+1}{-3+1} = \frac{y-1}{1-1} = \frac{z+2}{-6+2}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{x+1}{-2} = \frac{y-1}{0} = \frac{z+2}{-4}$$

$$\frac{x+1}{1} = \frac{y-1}{0} = \frac{z+2}{2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

A pt. on line (1) is $A(3, 2, -4)$

A pt. on line (2) is $B(-1, 1, -2)$

$$\vec{AB} = (-1-3)\hat{i} + (1-2)\hat{j} + (-2+4)\hat{k}$$

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

Let \vec{U} be a vector perp. to both lines (1) & (2)

$$\text{Then } \vec{U} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\vec{U} = (-4-0)\hat{i} - (2-1)\hat{j} + (0+2)\hat{k}$$

$$\text{or } \vec{U} = -4\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$$

Let d be req. shortest distance b/w lines then

$$d = \frac{|\vec{AB} \cdot \vec{U}|}{|\vec{U}|}$$

$$= \frac{(-4\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \cdot (-4\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})}{\sqrt{16+1+4}}$$

$$= \frac{16+1+4}{\sqrt{21}}$$

$$= \frac{21}{\sqrt{21}}$$

$$\boxed{d = \sqrt{21}}$$

As lines are

$$\frac{x-3}{1} = \frac{y-2}{-2} = \frac{z+4}{1} = t \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{x+1}{1} = \frac{y-1}{0} = \frac{z+2}{2} = s \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Any pt. on line (1) is $P(3+t, 2-2t, -4+t)$

Any pt. on line (2) is $Q(-1+s, 1, -2+2s)$

Diffs. of PQ are $3+t+1-s, 2-2t-1, -4+t+2-2s$

$$\text{or } t-s+4, -2t+1, t-2s-2$$

Suppose PQ is line of shortest distance then

PQ is perp. to both lines (1) + (2)

$$\text{So } \left. \begin{aligned} 1(t-s+4) - 2(-2t+1) + 1(t-2s-2) &= 0 \\ 1(t-s+4) + 0(-2t+1) + 2(t-2s-2) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 6t - 5s &= 0 \\ 3t - 5s &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{t = s = 0}$$

So Co-ords. of feet of perpendiculars P & Q are

$$P(3, 2, -4) \text{ \& } Q(-1, 1, -2)$$

Now eq. of common perp. PQ is

$$\frac{x-3}{-1-3} = \frac{y-2}{1-2} = \frac{z+4}{-2+4}$$

$$\frac{x-3}{-4} = \frac{y-2}{-1} = \frac{z+4}{2}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{x-3}{4} = \frac{y-2}{1} = \frac{z+4}{-2}$$

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