

**2001**

B6. Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be the lines  $L_1 = x = 8 - 2t, y = -4 + 2t, z = 3 + t$

$$L_2 = \frac{x}{-2} = \frac{y+2}{-1} = \frac{z-9}{2}$$

- (a) (i) Show that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect and find their point of intersection. 4 marks
- (ii) Verify that the acute angle between them is  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{4}{9}\right)$  2 marks
- (b) (i) Obtain the equation of the plane  $\pi$  that is perpendicular to  $L_2$  and passes through the point  $(1, -4, 2)$ . 3 marks
- (ii) Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of the plane  $\pi$  and the line  $L_1$ . 2 marks

**2002**

- B1. a) Find an equation of the plane  $\pi_1$  containing the points  $A(1, 1, 0)$ ,  $B(3, 1, -1)$  and  $C(2, 0, -3)$ . 4 marks
- b) Given that  $\pi_2$  is the plane whose equation is  $x + 2y + z = 3$ , calculate the size of the acute angle between  $\pi_1$  and the plane  $\pi_2$ . 3 marks

**2003**

- B1. Find the point of intersection of the line  $\frac{x-3}{4} = \frac{y-2}{-1} = \frac{z+1}{2}$  and the plane with equation  $2x + y - z = 4$ . 4 marks

**2004**

14. a) Find an equation of the plane  $\pi_1$  containing the points  $A(1, 0, 3)$ ,  $B(0, 2, -1)$  and  $C(1, 1, 0)$ . 4 marks
- Calculate the size of the acute angle between  $\pi_1$  and the plane  $\pi_2$  with equation  $x + y - z = 0$ . 3 marks
- b) Find the point of intersection of plane  $\pi_2$  and the line  $\frac{x-11}{4} = \frac{y-15}{5} = \frac{z-12}{2}$ . 3 marks

**2005**

8. The equations of two planes are  $x - 4y + 2z = 1$  and  $x - y - z = -5$ . By letting  $z = t$ , or otherwise obtain parametric equations for the line of intersection of the planes. 4 marks

Show that this line lies in the plane with equation  $x + 2y - 4z = -11$ . 1 mark

**2006**

15. Obtain an equation for the plane passing through the point P (1, 1, 0) which is perpendicular to the line L given by  $\frac{x+1}{2} = \frac{y-2}{1} = \frac{z}{-1}$  3 marks

Find the coordinates of the point Q where the plane and L intersect. 4 marks

Hence, or otherwise, obtain the shortest distance from P to L and explain why this is the shortest distance. 2, 1 marks

**2007**

15. Lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are given by the parametric equations

$$L_1 : x = 2 + s, y = -s, z = 2 - s \quad L_2 : x = -1 - 2t, y = t, z = 2 + 3t$$

- (a) Show that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  do not intersect. 3 marks  
 (b) The line  $L_3$  passes through the point P(1, 1, 3) and its direction is perpendicular to the directions of both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Obtain parametric equations for  $L_3$ . 3 marks  
 (c) Find the coordinates of the point Q where  $L_3$  and  $L_2$  intersect and verify the P lies on  $L_3$  3 marks  
 (d) PQ is the shortest distance between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . Calculate PQ. 1 mark

**2008**

14. (a) Find an equation of the plane  $\pi_1$  through the points A(1, 1, 1), B(2, -1, 1) and C(0, 3, 3). 3 marks  
 (b) The plane  $\pi_2$  has equation  $x + 3y - z = 2$ .  
 Given that the point (0, a, b) lies on both the planes  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ , find the values of a and b.  
 Hence find an equation of the line of intersection of the planes  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ . 4 marks  
 (c) Find the size of the acute angle between the planes  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ . 3 marks

**2009**

16. (a) Use Gaussian elimination to solve the following system of equations 5 marks  

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - z &= 6 \\ 2x - 3y + 2z &= 2 \\ -5x + 2y - 4z &= 1. \end{aligned}$$
  
 (b) Show that the line of intersection,  $L$ , of the planes  $x + y - z = 6$  and  $2x - 3y + 2z = 2$  has parametric equations 2 marks  

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \lambda \\ y &= 4\lambda - 14 \\ z &= 5\lambda - 20. \end{aligned}$$
 4 marks  
 (c) Find the acute angle between line  $L$  and the plane  $-5x + 2y - 4z = 1$ .

**2010**

6. Given  $\mathbf{u} = -2\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = 3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{w} = -\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$ . Calculate  $\mathbf{u} \cdot (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w})$ . 4 marks

**2011**

15. The lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are given by the equations  $\frac{x-1}{k} = \frac{y}{-1} = \frac{z+3}{1}$  and  $\frac{x-4}{1} = \frac{y+3}{1} = \frac{z+3}{2}$ , respectively.

Find

- (a) the value of  $k$  for which  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect and the point of intersection; 6 marks  
 (b) the acute angle between  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . 4 marks

**2012**

5. Obtain an equation for the plane passing through the points  $P(-2,1,-1)$ ,  $Q(1,2,3)$  and  $R(3,0,1)$ . 5 marks

**2013**

15. (a) Find an equation of the plane  $\pi_1$ , through the points  $A(0,-1,3)$ ,  $B(1,0,3)$  and  $C(0,0,5)$ . 4 marks  
 (b)  $\pi_2$  is the plane through  $A$  with normal in the direction  $-\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ .  
 Find an equation of the plane  $\pi_2$ . 2 marks  
 (c) Determine the acute angle between  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ . 3 marks

**2014**

5. Three vectors  $\overrightarrow{OA}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{OB}$  and  $\overrightarrow{OC}$  are given by  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$  where

$$u = 5i + 13j, \quad v = 2i + j + 3k, \quad w = i + 4j - k$$

Calculate  $u \cdot (v \times w)$ . 3 marks

Interpret your result geometrically. 1 mark

**2015**

15. A line  $L_1$  passes through the point  $P(2, 4, 1)$  and is parallel to  $u_1 = i + 2j - k$   
 and a second line,  $L_2$  passes through  $Q(-5, 2, 5)$  and is parallel to  $u_2 = -4i + 4j + k$ .
- a) Write down the vector equations for  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . 2 marks  
 b) Show that the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect and find the point of intersection. 4 marks  
 c) Determine the equation of the plane containing  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . 4 marks

**2016**

14. Two lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are given by the equations:  $L_1: x = 4 + 3\lambda, y = 2 + 4\lambda, z = -7\lambda$

$$L_2: \frac{x-3}{-2} = \frac{y-8}{1} = \frac{z+1}{3}$$

- a) Show that the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect and find the point of intersection. **4 marks**  
 b) Calculate the obtuse angle between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ . **5 marks**

**2017**

15. (a) A beam of light passes through the points  $B(7, 8, 1)$  and  $T(-3, -22, 6)$ .  
 Obtain parametric equations of the line representing the beam of light. **2 marks**

(b) A sheet of metal is represented by a plane containing the points  $P(2, 1, 9)$ ,  $Q(1, 2, 7)$  and  $R(-3, 7, 1)$ .  
 Find the Cartesian equation of the plane. **4 marks**

(c) The beam of light passes through a hole in the metal at point H. Find the coordinates of H. **3 marks**

**2018**

16. Planes  $\pi_1$ ,  $\pi_2$  and  $\pi_3$  have equations:

$$\pi_1: x - 2y + z = -4$$

$$\pi_2: 3x - 5y - 2z = 1$$

$$\pi_3: -7x + 11y + az = -11$$

where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Use Gaussian elimination to find the value of  $a$  such that the intersection of the planes  $\pi_1$ ,  $\pi_2$  and  $\pi_3$  is a line. **4**

(b) Find the equation of the line of intersection of the planes when  $a$  takes this value. **2**

The plane  $\pi_4$  has equation  $-9x + 15y + 6z = 20$ .

(c) Find the acute angle between  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_4$ . **3**

(d) Describe the geometrical relationship between  $\pi_2$  and  $\pi_4$ .  
 Justify your answer. **1**

2019

15. The equations of two planes are given below.

$$\pi_1: 2x - 3y - z = 9$$

$$\pi_2: x + y - 3z = 2$$

- (a) Verify that the line of intersection,  $L_1$ , of these two planes has parametric equations

$$x = 2\lambda + 3$$

$$y = \lambda - 1$$

$$z = \lambda$$

2

- (b) Let  $\pi_3$  be the plane with equation  $-2x + 4y + 3z = 4$ .

Calculate the acute angle between the line  $L_1$  and the plane  $\pi_3$ .

3

- (c)  $L_2$  is the line perpendicular to  $\pi_3$  passing through  $P(1, 3, -2)$ .

Determine whether or not  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  intersect.

4

**2001** B6. (a) (i) proof (4) (ii) proof (2) (b) (i)  $-2x - y + 2z = 6$  (3) (ii) (2, 2, 6) (2)

**2002** B1.a)  $-x + 5y - 2z = 4$  (4) b)  $\theta = 58.6^\circ$  (3)

Answers

**2003** (-1, 3, -3) (4)

**2004** 14.a)  $2x + 3y + z = 5$  (4)  $\theta = 51.9^\circ$  (3) b)  $x = 3$   $y = 5$   $z = 8$  (3)

**2005** 8. a)  $x = 2t - 7$ ,  $y = t - 2$ ,  $z = t$  (4) b) Proof (1)

**2006** a)  $2x + y - z = 3$  (3) b)  $Q = \left(0, 2\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}\right)$  (4) c) Perpendicular to L.  $\sqrt{\frac{7}{2}} = 1.87$  (3)

**2007** a) Z coordinates differ therefore does not intersect. (3) b)  $x = 1 - 2u$ ;  $y = 1$ ;  $z = 3 - u$  (3)

c) Q (-1, 0, 2) (3) d)  $PQ = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{6}$  (1)

**2008** a)  $2x + y = 3$  (3) b)  $a = 3$   $b = 7$   $x = 0 + 2t$ ;  $y = 3 - 4t$ ;  $z = 7 - 10t$  (4) c)  $47.6^\circ$  (3)

**2009** 16.a)  $x = 3$ ,  $y = -2$ ,  $z = -5$  (5) b) Proof (2) c)  $23^\circ$  (4)

**2010** 6) 7

**2011** 15.  $k = 2$  (5, -2, -1)  $\theta = 60^\circ$

**2012**  $3x + 7y - 4z = 5$

**2013** 15. a)  $r = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  or equivalent **2014** 5.  $u \cdot (v \times w) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 13 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -13 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} = 0$

b)  $-y + z = 4$

c)  $45^\circ$  or  $\frac{\pi}{4}$

$u$  lies in the same plane as the one containing both  $v$  and  $w$ .

OR  $u$  is parallel to the plane containing  $v$  and  $w$ .

OR  $u$  is perpendicular to the normal of  $v$  and  $w$ .

OR All 4 points lie in the same plane.

OR  $u$  is perpendicular to  $v \times w$ .

OR Volume of parallelepiped is zero.

OR  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$  are coplanar/linearly dependent.

**2015**

15.a)  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  15.b) (-1, -2, 4)

15.c)  $6x + 3y + 12z = 36$

**2016**

14. (7, 6, -7)

$\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{-23}{\sqrt{74}\sqrt{14}}\right) \approx 135.6^\circ$

**2017**

15.  $x = 2\lambda + 7$   $x = 2\lambda - 3$   $4x + 2y - z = 1$   
 $y = 6\lambda + 8$   $y = 6\lambda - 22$   $H(3, -4, 3)$  (9)  
 $z = -\lambda + 1$   $z = -\lambda + 6$

**2018**

16.a)  $a = 8$  (last row redundant)

b)  $\lambda = \frac{x-22}{9} = \frac{y-13}{5} = z$

c)  $\theta = 43 \cdot 24^\circ$

d)  $n_4 = -3n_2$  therefore parallel

**2019**

a)  $\bullet^1$  eg  $2(2\lambda+3) - 3(\lambda-1) - \lambda = 9$

$\bullet^2$  eg  $2\lambda+3+\lambda-1-3\lambda=2$ ;  
therefore the line lies on  
both planes

OR

$\bullet^1$  eg  $2x-3y-\lambda=9$   
 $x+y-3\lambda=2$

$\bullet^2$   $x=2\lambda+3; y=\lambda-1; z=\lambda$

OR

$\bullet^1$  eg  $10\mathbf{i}+5\mathbf{j}+5\mathbf{k}$   
OR  $(3, -1, 0)$

$\bullet^2$   $(3, -1, 0)$

OR

$10\mathbf{i}+5\mathbf{j}+5\mathbf{k}$

AND

$x=2\lambda+3; y=\lambda-1; z=\lambda$

b)  $\bullet^3$   $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

$\bullet^4$   $\cos\theta = \left( \frac{3}{\sqrt{6}\sqrt{29}} \right)$

$\bullet^5$  any answer which rounds  
to  $0.229$  or  $13^\circ$

c)  $\bullet^6$   $x=-2\mu+1; y=4\mu+3;$   
 $z=3\mu-2$

$\bullet^7$  any two from  
 $2\lambda+3=-2\mu+1;$   
 $\lambda-1=4\mu+3; \lambda=3\mu-2$

$\bullet^8$  eg  $\mu=-1; \lambda=0$

$\bullet^9$  eg LHS = 0, RHS = -5  
so lines do not intersect.