



## FORMULAE & KEY POINTS

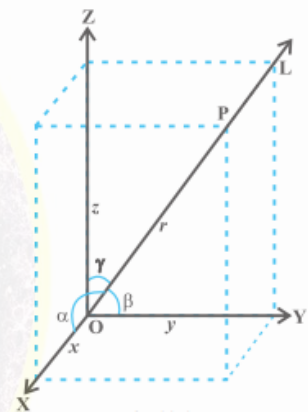
### CLASS 12 MATHEMATICS

#### CHAPTER 11 : THREE DIMENSIONAL GEOMETRY

#### 1. DIRECTION ANGLES, DIRECTION COSINES(D.C.<sup>s</sup>) & DIRECTION RATIOS(D.R.<sup>s</sup>) OF A DIRECTED LINE

##### 1.1 DIRECTION ANGLED OF A DIRECTED LINE

The angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  made by a directed line with the positive direction of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$ -axes respectively are called the **Direction Angles** of the directed line.



##### 1.2 DIRECTION COSINES(D.C.<sup>s</sup>) OF A DIRECTED LINE

If  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are direction angles of a line then the quantities

$$l = \cos \alpha, \quad m = \cos \beta, \quad n = \cos \gamma$$

respectively are called the **Direction Cosines** of the line.

##### VERY IMPORTANT REMARKS

(i)  $l^2 + m^2 + n^2 = 1.$

(ii) A given line in space can be extended in two opposite directions and so it has two set of direction angles *i.e.*  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\pi - \alpha, \pi - \beta, \pi - \gamma$ .

Consequently, for a line there exist two sets of direction cosines:  $\cos \alpha, \cos \beta, \cos \gamma$  and  $\cos(\pi - \alpha) = -\cos \alpha, \cos(\pi - \beta) = -\cos \beta, \cos(\pi - \gamma) = -\cos \gamma$

*i.e.*  $l, m, n$  and  $-l, -m, -n$ .

Thus, in order to have a unique set of direction cosines of a given line in space, we must take given line as a directed line.

##### 1.3 DIRECTION RATIOS(D.R.<sup>s</sup>) OF A DIRECTED LINE

If  $l, m$  and  $n$  are the direction cosines of a directed line then for any non-zero real number  $k$ , the quantities  $a = kl, b = km$  and  $c = kn$  are called direction ratios of the line.

## REMARKS

(i) The direction cosines of a directed line are unique whereas the direction ratios are not so.

(ii) Relation between direction cosines and direction ratios of a directed line:

$$l = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, m = \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, n = \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

(iii) Relation between direction cosines and direction ratios of a non-directed line:

$$l = \pm \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, m = \pm \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}, n = \pm \frac{c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

(iv) The direction cosines of a line are also its direction ratios (because for  $k = 1, a = l, b = m$  and  $c = n$ )

(v) If  $a, b, c$  are the direction ratios of a line then for any non-zero real number  $k$ , then  $ka, kb, kc$  are also the direction ratios of the line.

## 2. D.C.'S AND D.R.'S OF A LINE PASSING THROUGH TWO POINTS

For a line passing through the points  $P(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $Q(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  and directed from P to Q,

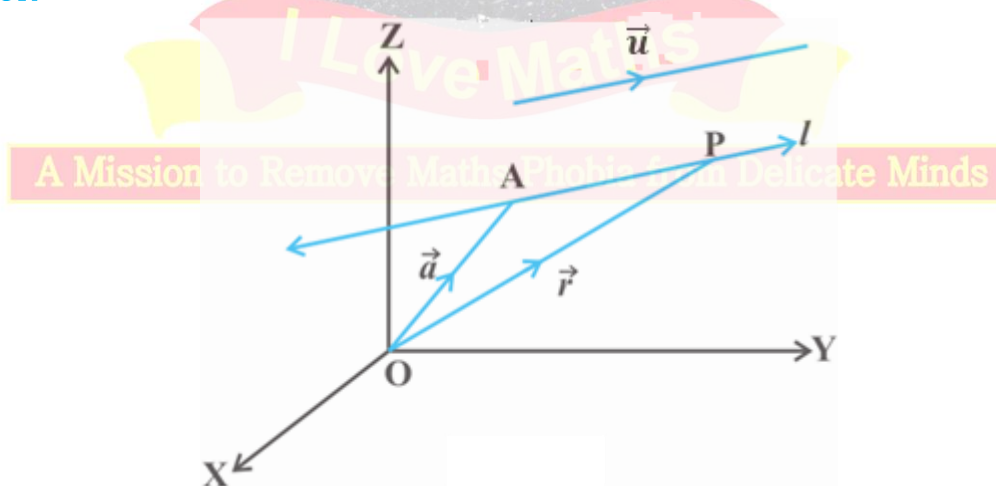
(i) The Direction Ratios are :  $a = (x_2 - x_1), b = (y_2 - y_1), c = (z_2 - z_1)$  and

(ii) The Direction Cosines are:  $l = \frac{x_2 - x_1}{PQ}, m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{PQ}, n = \frac{z_2 - z_1}{PQ}$

where,  $PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$  = length of the line segment PQ

## 3. EQUATION OF A LINE IN SPACE

### 3.1 EQUATION OF THE LINE PASSING THROUGH A POINT AND PARALLEL TO A GIVEN VECTOR



Equation of a Line passing through the point  $A(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  with position vector

$\vec{p} = x_1\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j} + z_1\hat{k}$  and parallel to the vector  $\vec{u} = a_1\hat{i} + b_1\hat{j} + c_1\hat{k}$  :

Vector Equation :  $\vec{r} - \vec{p} = \lambda\vec{u}$  or  $\vec{r} = \vec{p} + \lambda\vec{u}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Cartesian Equation :  $\frac{x - x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{c_1}$  ( $= \lambda$ , say)

### REMARKS

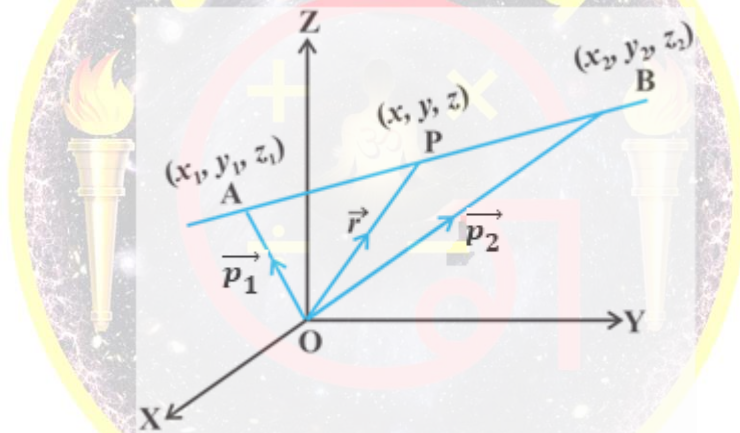
- (i) The coordinates of a General Point on the above line is  $(\vec{a} + \lambda\vec{u})$  OR  $P(x_1 + \lambda a_1, y_1 + \lambda b_1, z_1 + \lambda c_1)$

(iii) Equations of  $x, y$  and  $z$  - axis

|     | Axis      | Vector Equation            | Cartesian Equation                        |
|-----|-----------|----------------------------|---|
| (a) | $x$ -axis | $\vec{r} = \lambda\hat{i}$ | $\frac{x}{1} = \frac{y}{0} = \frac{z}{0}$ |
| (b) | $y$ -axis | $\vec{r} = \lambda\hat{j}$ | $\frac{x}{0} = \frac{y}{1} = \frac{z}{0}$ |
| (c) | $z$ -axis | $\vec{r} = \lambda\hat{k}$ | $\frac{x}{0} = \frac{y}{0} = \frac{z}{1}$ |

- (iv) A point on  $x$ -axis can be taken as  $A(a, 0, 0)$ , a point on  $y$ -axis can be taken as  $B(0, b, 0)$  and a point on  $z$ -axis can be taken as  $C(0, 0, c)$

### 3.2 EQUATION OF THE LINE PASSING THROUGH TWO GIVEN POINTS



Equation of a Line passing through two point  $A(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2, z_2)$  with position vector  $\vec{p}_1 = x_1\hat{i} + y_1\hat{j} + z_1\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{p}_2 = x_2\hat{i} + y_2\hat{j} + z_2\hat{k}$  :

Vector Equation:  $\vec{r} = \vec{p}_1 + \lambda(\vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_1), \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

Cartesian Equation:  $\frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{z_2 - z_1}$  ( $= \lambda$ , say)

### REMARKS

- (i) To find the equation of the line passing through two points, any of the two points A and B can be taken as  $\vec{p}_1$  or  $\vec{p}_2$
- (ii) The coordinates of a General Point on the above line is  $\vec{p}_1 + \lambda(\vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_1)$ , OR  $P(x_1 + \lambda(x_2 - x_1), y_1 + \lambda(y_2 - y_1), z_1 + \lambda(z_2 - z_1))$

### 4. ANGLE BETWEEN TWO LINES:

Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be two lines passing through with direction ratios  $a_1, b_1, c_1$  and  $a_2, b_2, c_2$ , respectively, then the acute angle  $\theta$  between the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is given as

$$\cos \theta = \left| \frac{a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}} \right|$$

**NOTE:**

$$\text{From above, } \sin \theta = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta} = \frac{\sqrt{(a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)^2 + (b_1 c_2 - b_2 c_1)^2 + (c_1 a_2 - c_2 a_1)^2}}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2} \sqrt{a_2^2 + b_2^2 + c_2^2}}$$

**VERY IMPORTANT REMARK**

Before using the equation of a given line, first ensure that the line is in standard form. If not, reduce it to standard form.

**EXAMPLES**

|      | Non-Standard Form of a line                                    | Standard Form of the line  |
|------|--|--|
| (i)  | $\frac{3x + 4}{5} = \frac{2 - 3y}{4} = z$                      | $\frac{x + 4/3}{5/3} = \frac{y - 2/3}{-4/3} = \frac{z - 0}{1}$                 |
| (ii) | $\vec{r} = (2 - 3s)\hat{i} + (s - 3)\hat{j} + (2s + 5)\hat{k}$ | $\vec{r} = 2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 5\hat{k} + s(-3\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k})$ |

**5. PARALLEL AND PERPENDICULAR LINES**

From point 4, the lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are

- (i) Parallel if  $\sin \theta = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$  the Direction Ratios of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are Proportional
- (ii) Perpendicular if  $\cos \theta = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_1 a_2 + b_1 b_2 + c_1 c_2 = 0$

**6. SKEW LINES**

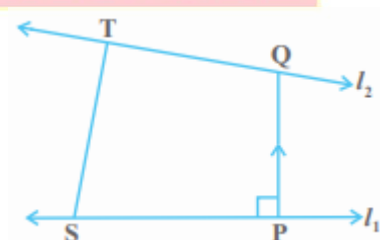
Two lines in space which are neither intersecting nor parallel are called as skew lines. These lines are non coplanar.

**7. SHORTEST DISTANCE ( OR SIMPLY DISTANCE ) BETWEEN TWO SKEW LINES****7.1 VECTOR FORM**

The shortest distance between two lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  whose vector equations are

$$\vec{r} = \vec{a}_1 + \lambda \vec{u}_1 \text{ and } \vec{r} = \vec{a}_2 + \mu \vec{u}_2 \text{ is given by}$$

$$d = \left| \frac{(\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2) \cdot (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1)}{|\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2|} \right|$$

**REMARK**

The shortest distance between two skew lines

$$d = \text{Projection of } (\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1) \text{ along } (\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2)$$

$$= |(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1) \cdot [\text{unit Vector along } (\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2)]| \quad \left( \text{using } \hat{a} = \frac{\vec{a}}{|\vec{a}|} \right)$$

$$= \left| \frac{(\vec{a}_2 - \vec{a}_1) \cdot (\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2)}{|\vec{u}_1 \times \vec{u}_2|} \right|$$

## 7.2 CARTESIAN FORM

The shortest distance between the lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$  whose cartesian equations are

$$\frac{x - x_1}{a_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{b_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{c_1} \text{ and } \frac{x - x_2}{a_2} = \frac{y - y_2}{b_2} = \frac{z - z_2}{c_2} \text{ is given by}$$

$$d = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}}{\sqrt{(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)^2 + (c_1a_2 - c_2a_1)^2 + (a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)^2}}$$

### REMARKS

- For the question “Show that the following lines intersect. Also find the point of intersection”, solve by using “general points on the lines”.
- For the question “Check if the following lines intersect.”, solve by using “concept of Shortest Distance”.
- Be clear with the meaning of ‘hence find ...’ and “hence or otherwise find ...”

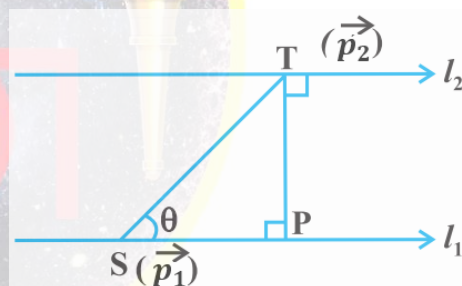
## 8. DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO PARALLEL LINES

Distance Between two parallel lines  $l_1$  and  $l_2$

whose vector equations are

$\vec{r} = \vec{p}_1 + \lambda\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{r} = \vec{p}_2 + \lambda\vec{u}$  is given by

$$d = \frac{|\vec{u} \times (\vec{p}_2 - \vec{p}_1)|}{|\vec{u}|}$$



### IMPORTANT REMARKS

- To find the distance between two parallel lines, first write the equations in such a form that the vectors attached with Type equation here.

A Mission to Remove Maths Phobia from Delicate Minds

**For Example,**

To find the distance between the parallel lines

$$\vec{r} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} + \lambda(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{r} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k} + \mu(-2\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} - 4\hat{k})$$

first write the first equation as

$$\vec{r} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k} + (-2)\lambda(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) = \vec{r} = 3\hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 4\hat{k} + \lambda'(\hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}) \text{ where}$$

$\lambda' = (-2)\lambda$  and then take  $\vec{u} = \hat{i} - 3\hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$  in the formula.