

9 Mixed Exercise

$$1 \text{ a } \overline{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} + \lambda(3\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k})$$

$$1 \text{ b } \mathbf{c} = \overline{OA} + \frac{2}{3}\overline{AB}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{2}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \frac{7}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \frac{7}{3}\mathbf{k}$$

$$2 \text{ } A(7, -1, 2) \text{ and } B(-1, 3, 8)$$

$$\overline{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = -2 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

\therefore A vector equation is

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \frac{x-7}{4} = \frac{y+1}{-2} = \frac{z-2}{-3}$$

$$3 \text{ } (2\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} - 4\mathbf{k}) + \lambda(2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k})$$

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

$$1 \text{ b } \frac{0-3}{2} = \frac{a+2}{1} = \frac{b-1}{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = -\frac{7}{2}, b = \frac{5}{2}$$

5 Use the equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

When $\lambda = 2$, $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$, so the point $(7, 4, -5)$ lies on l

$\begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ so these two vectors are parallel.

So an alternative form of the equation is $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 3 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$

6 a $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

b Set $\lambda = 2$

7 a $\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$, $\overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

$\therefore \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

b $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

$x - 2 = -\lambda + 2\mu$ (1)

$y + 1 = 4\lambda + 3\mu$ (2)

$z - 2 = -3\lambda + 3\mu$ (3)

(3) - (2): $z - y - 3 = -7\lambda \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{y - z + 3}{7}$

$\Rightarrow \mu = \frac{3y + 4z - 5}{21}$

Into (1):

$x - 2 = -\frac{y + 3 - z}{7} + 2 \left(\frac{3y + 4z - 5}{21} \right)$

$\Rightarrow 21(x - 2) = -3(y + 3 - z) + 2(3y + 4z - 5)$

$\Rightarrow 21x - 3y - 11z = 23$

8 Three points on the plane are $A(6,0,0)$, $B(8,-3,0)$ and $C(10,0,3)$

$$\overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{AC} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

9 a $\overrightarrow{ML} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\overrightarrow{MN} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

b $\frac{\overrightarrow{ML} \cdot \overrightarrow{MN}}{|\overrightarrow{ML}| |\overrightarrow{MN}|} = \frac{27}{5\sqrt{2} \cdot 3\sqrt{2}} = \frac{9}{10}$

10 a $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ p \\ q \end{pmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Equation of l :

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

b Since C lies on l ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$3 = 9 - 3\mu$$

$$3\mu = 6$$

$$\mu = 2$$

$$\text{So } p = -2 + 4\mu = 6 \text{ and } q = 1 + 5\mu = 11$$

$$10 \text{ c } \cos \theta = \frac{\mathbf{OC} \cdot \mathbf{AB}}{|\mathbf{OC}| |\mathbf{AB}|}$$

$$\mathbf{OC} \cdot \mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = -9 + 24 + 55 = 70$$

$$|\mathbf{OC}| = \sqrt{3^2 + 6^2 + 11^2} = \sqrt{166}$$

$$|\mathbf{AB}| = \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 4^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{50}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{70}{\sqrt{166}\sqrt{50}}$$

$$\theta = 39.8^\circ \text{ (1 d.p.)}$$

d If \mathbf{OD} and \mathbf{AB} are perpendicular, $\mathbf{d} \cdot (\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}) = 0$

$$\text{Since } \mathbf{d} \text{ lies on } \mathbf{AB}, \text{ use } \mathbf{d} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 - 3\mu \\ -2 + 4\mu \\ 1 + 5\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9 - 3\mu \\ -2 + 4\mu \\ 1 + 5\mu \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$-3(9 - 3\mu) + 4(-2 + 4\mu) + 5(1 + 5\mu) = 0$$

$$-27 + 9\mu - 8 + 16\mu + 5 + 25\mu = 0$$

$$50\mu = 30$$

$$\mu = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\mathbf{d} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 - \frac{9}{5} \\ -2 + \frac{12}{5} \\ 1 + 3 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{36}{5}\mathbf{i} + \frac{2}{5}\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}$$

$$11 \text{ a } \overline{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

b Set $\mu = -3$

$$11 \text{ c} \quad \text{Let } \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 4 + 4 + 0 = 8$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{4^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{20}$$

$$|\mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-2)^2 + 2^2} = 3$$

$$\therefore \cos \theta = \frac{8}{3\sqrt{20}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = 53.4^\circ \text{ (1.d.p.)}$$

d Let G be a general point on l_1

$$\overline{\mathbf{CG}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 4\mu \\ -2 - 2\mu \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

When C is closest to l_1 , $\overline{\mathbf{CG}}$ is perpendicular to l_1 .

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 4\mu \\ -2 - 2\mu \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = -\frac{2}{5}$$

$$\therefore \overline{\mathbf{CG}} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{3}{5} \\ -\frac{6}{5} \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overline{\mathbf{CG}}| = \sqrt{\left(-\frac{3}{5}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{6}{5}\right)^2 + 2^2} = \frac{\sqrt{145}}{5}$$

$$12 \text{ a Line } l_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Line } l_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Using the direction vectors:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 4 - 2 - 2 = 0$$

Since the scalar product is zero, the directions are perpendicular.

$$b \text{ At an intersection point: } \begin{pmatrix} 3 + \lambda \\ 4 - 2\lambda \\ -5 + 2\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 + 4\mu \\ 1 + \mu \\ -2 - \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$3 + \lambda = 9 + 4\mu \quad (\times 2)$$

$$4 - 2\lambda = 1 + \mu$$

$$6 + 2\lambda = 18 + 8\mu$$

$$4 - 2\lambda = 1 + \mu$$

$$\text{Adding: } 10 = 19 + 9\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow 9\mu = -9$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = -1$$

$$3 + \lambda = 9 - 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 2$$

$$\text{Intersection point: } \begin{pmatrix} 3 + \lambda \\ 4 - 2\lambda \\ -5 + 2\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Position vector of **A** is $\mathbf{a} = 5\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{k}$.

$$c \text{ Position vector of } \mathbf{B}: \mathbf{b} = 10\mathbf{j} - 11\mathbf{k} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 10 \\ -11 \end{pmatrix}$$

For l_1 , to give zero as the x component, $\lambda = -3$.

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} - 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 10 \\ -11 \end{pmatrix}$$

So **B** lies on l_1 .

For l_2 , to give -11 as the z component, $\mu = 9$.

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + 9 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 45 \\ 10 \\ -11 \end{pmatrix}$$

So **B** does not lie on l_2 .

So Only one of the submarines passes through **B**.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{12\ d} \quad |\mathbf{AB}| &= \sqrt{(0-5)^2 + (10-0)^2 + [-11-(-1)]^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-5)^2 + 10^2 + (-10)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{225} = 15
 \end{aligned}$$

Since 1 unit represents 100 m, the distance **AB** is $15 \times 100 = 1500 \text{ m} = 1.5 \text{ km}$.

13 Let A and B be general points on l_1 and l_2 respectively.

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 6+t \\ -2-2t-s \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$

\overrightarrow{AB} is perpendicular to l_1

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} 6+t \\ -2-2t-s \\ t \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -2 - 2t - s = 0$$

\overrightarrow{AB} is perpendicular to l_2

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6+t \\ -2-2t-s \\ t \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 10 + 6t + 2s = 0$$

Solving these simultaneous equations:

$$s = 4, t = -3$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{AB}| = \sqrt{3^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2} = 4.24 \text{ (3 s.f.)}$$

- 14 Let A and B be general points on l_1 and l_2 respectively.

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 6+t-3s \\ -2+2t+s \\ -s \end{pmatrix}$$

\overrightarrow{AB} is perpendicular to l_1

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} 6+t-3s \\ -2+2t+s \\ -s \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 20+t-11s=0$$

\overrightarrow{AB} is perpendicular to l_2

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6+t-3s \\ -2+2t+s \\ -s \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2+5t-s=0$$

Solving these simultaneous equations:

$$s = \frac{49}{27}, \quad t = -\frac{1}{27}$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{14}{27} \\ -\frac{7}{27} \\ -\frac{49}{27} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\overrightarrow{AB}| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{14}{27}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{7}{27}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{49}{27}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{2646}{729}} = \sqrt{\frac{294}{81}} = \frac{7\sqrt{6}}{9} = 1.91 \text{ (3 s.f.)}$$

$$15 \text{ a } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 0, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 1, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ all lie on the plane

Suppose the plane has equation $ax + by + cz = 1$

Substituting each of the coordinates into this equation gives:

$$a + b - 2c = 1$$

$$3a + b - 3c = 1$$

$$4a + 3b + c = 1$$

Solving these equations simultaneously gives:

$$a = -\frac{2}{15}, b = \frac{9}{15}, c = -\frac{4}{15}$$

Therefore the equation of the plane is

$$-\frac{2}{15}x + \frac{9}{15}y - \frac{4}{15}z = 1$$

$$\text{or } 2x - 9y + 4z = -15$$

So the required equation is $\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -9 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = -15$

$$15 \text{ b } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 0, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 1, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ all lie on the plane

Suppose the plane has equation $ax + by + cz = 1$

Substituting each of the coordinates into this equation gives:

$$a + 2b + 2c = 1$$

$$3a + 3b - c = 1$$

$$3a + 5b + c = 1$$

Solving these equations simultaneously gives:

$$a = 1, b = -\frac{1}{2}, c = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore the equation of the plane is

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

$$\text{or } 2x - y + z = 2$$

So the required equation is $\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 2$

$$15 \text{ c } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 0, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{When } \lambda = 1, \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the position vectors $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ all lie on the plane

Suppose the plane has equation $ax + by + cz = 1$

Substituting each of the coordinates into this equation gives:

$$2a - b + c = 1$$

$$3a + b + 3c = 1$$

$$7a + 8b + 6c = 1$$

Solving these equations simultaneously gives:

$$a = \frac{8}{22}, b = -\frac{5}{22}, c = \frac{1}{22}$$

Therefore the equation of the plane is

$$\frac{8}{22}x - \frac{5}{22}y + \frac{1}{22}z = 1$$

$$\text{or } 8x - 5y + z = 22$$

So the required equation is $\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 22$

16 The line is in the direction $3\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$. This lies in the plane.

$(2, -4, 1)$ is a point on the line. This also lies in the plane, as does the point $(1, 1, 1)$.

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is a direction in the plane.}$$

First obtain the equation of the plane in the form, $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n}$, then convert to Cartesian form.

Let $\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ be perpendicular to the plane

$$\text{So } \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix} = 0 \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{c} \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Therefore $3a + b + 2c = 0$ and $a - 5b = 0$

Choosing $a = 5$ gives $b = 1$ and $c = -8$

Therefore a normal vector is given by $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$

\therefore The equation of the plane is

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 8\mathbf{k}) = (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot (5\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 8\mathbf{k})$$

$$\text{i.e. } 5x + y - 8z = -2$$

This is a Cartesian equation of the plane.

$$17 \text{ a } \overrightarrow{\text{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overrightarrow{\text{AC}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ be perpendicular to the plane

Then \mathbf{n} is perpendicular to both $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{So } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0 \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore } 2a - 2b + c = 0 \text{ and } a + b - 2c = 0$$

Choosing $a = 1$ gives $b - 2c = -1$ and $-2b + c = -2$

Solving simultaneously gives $b = \frac{5}{3}$ and $c = \frac{4}{3}$

Therefore a normal vector is given by $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{5}{3} \\ \frac{4}{3} \end{pmatrix}$, or $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Therefore a unit vector normal to the plane is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3^2 + 5^2 + 4^2}}(3\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k})$
 $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{50}}(3\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k})$

b The equation of the plane may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r} \cdot (3\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}) &= (\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) \cdot (3\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 4\mathbf{k}) \\ &= 3 + 15 + 12 \\ &= 30 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } 3x + 5y + 4z = 30$$

c The perpendicular distance from the origin to the plane is

$$\frac{30}{\sqrt{3^2 + 5^2 + 4^2}} = \frac{30}{\sqrt{50}} = \frac{30\sqrt{50}}{50} = 3\sqrt{2}.$$

18 a The plane with vector equation

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} + s\mathbf{j} + t(\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{k})$$

is perpendicular to $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}$, as $(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0$ and $(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot (\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{k}) = 1 - 1 = 0$

The plane also has equation

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{i} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}), \text{ as } \mathbf{i} \text{ is the position vector of a point on the plane.}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \mathbf{r} \cdot (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{k}) = 1$$

b The perpendicular distance from the origin to this plane is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ or 0.707 (3 s.f.)

c The Cartesian form of the equation of the plane is $x + z = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{19 a} \quad \overline{\mathbf{AB}} &= \overline{\mathbf{OB}} - \overline{\mathbf{OA}} = (5\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) - (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \\ &= 4\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\mathbf{AC}} &= \overline{\mathbf{OC}} - \overline{\mathbf{OA}} = (3\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} + 6\mathbf{k}) - (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \\ &= 2\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + 5\mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\overline{\mathbf{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overline{\mathbf{AC}} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ be perpendicular to the plane

$$\text{So } \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0 \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore } 4a - 3b = 0 \text{ and } 2a + b + 5c = 0$$

Choosing $a = 3$ gives $b = 4$ and $c = -2$

Therefore a normal vector is given by $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Or any multiple of $3\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$

b An equation of the plane containing **A**, **B** and **C** is

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot (3\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}) = (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot (3\mathbf{i} + 4\mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k})$$

$$\text{i.e. } 3x + 4y - 2z - 5 = 0$$

$$20 \text{ a } (2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) \cdot (\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) = 2 - 10 + 9 = 1$$

$\therefore (2, -2, 3)$ lies on the plane l_2

$$20 \text{ b } (2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) \cdot (\mathbf{i} + 5\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}) = 2 - 5 + 3 = 0$$

\therefore the normal to plane l_1 is perpendicular to the normal to plane l_2 .

$\therefore l_1$ is perpendicular to l_2 .

$$20 \text{ c } \mathbf{r} = 2\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k} + \lambda(2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})$$

20 d This line meets the plane l_1 when

$$[(2 + 2\lambda)\mathbf{i} + (-2 - \lambda)\mathbf{j} + (3 + \lambda)\mathbf{k}] \cdot (2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}) = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } 4 + 4\lambda + 2 + \lambda + 3 + \lambda = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } 6\lambda + 9 = 0$$

$$\therefore \lambda = -\frac{3}{2}$$

Substitute $\therefore \lambda = -\frac{3}{2}$ into the equation of the line: then $\mathbf{r} = -\mathbf{i} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{j} + \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{k}$

i.e. The line meets l_1 at the point $\left(-1, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right)$

20 e The distance required is

$$\sqrt{(2 - (-1))^2 + \left(-2 - \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)^2 + \left(3 - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2} = \sqrt{9 + 2\frac{1}{4} + 2\frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt{13\frac{1}{2}} = 3.67 \text{ (3 s.f.)}$$

$$21 \text{ a } l_1 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2\lambda \\ 1 + \lambda \\ -2\lambda \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } l_2 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3\mu \\ 4 \\ -4 + \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{If } l_1 \text{ and } l_2 \text{ intersect, then } \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2\lambda \\ 1 + \lambda \\ -2\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3\mu \\ 4 \\ -4 + \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

$$1 + 2\lambda = 1 - 3\mu \quad (1)$$

$$1 + \lambda = 4 \quad (2)$$

Equation (2) gives $\lambda = 3$

Substituting into (1) gives $7 = 1 - 3\mu$, so $\mu = -2$

Check for consistency: $-2\lambda = -6$ and $-4 + \mu = -6$

$2 + 4\lambda = -5 + 2\mu$, so these equations are consistent.

Therefore l_1 and l_2 intersect.

21 b Substitute $\lambda = 3$ into line l_1 , so $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$

Therefore the position vector of their point of intersection is $\begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$

- c** The cosine of the acute angle θ between the lines is the cosine of the acute angle between their respective direction vectors.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = (2 \times -3) + (1 \times 0) + (-2 \times 1) = -8$$

$$\left| \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{9} = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right| = \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 0^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{10}$$

$$\text{So } \cos \theta = \left| \frac{-8}{3\sqrt{10}} \right| = \frac{8}{3\sqrt{10}}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \cos \theta = \frac{8}{3\sqrt{10}} \times \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{8\sqrt{10}}{30} = \frac{4\sqrt{10}}{15}, \text{ as required.}$$

$$22 \text{ a } \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ a \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -3 \Rightarrow a = 11$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 6 \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 2 \Rightarrow b = 7$$

$$\text{b } \left(\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 6 - 8 + 5 + \lambda(1 + 1 + 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = -1$$

$$\therefore \text{Position vector of } \mathbf{P} \text{ is } \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 9 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{P}(5, 9, 4)$$

$$\text{c } \sqrt{5^2 + 9^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{122}$$

$$23 \text{ a } \overline{\mathbf{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{b } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$23 \text{ c } \overline{\mathbf{CP}} = \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda \\ -7-\lambda \\ 2+2\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda \\ -7-\lambda \\ 2+2\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = 6\lambda + 9 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = -\frac{3}{2}$$

\therefore The position vector of \mathbf{P} is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{15}{2} \\ \frac{9}{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{P}\left(\frac{15}{2}, \frac{9}{2}, 1\right) \text{ or } \mathbf{P}(7.5, 4.5, 1)$$

$$24 \text{ a } \begin{pmatrix} 3+2\lambda \\ -2+\lambda \\ 4-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+\mu \\ 12-2\mu \\ 8-\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

\mathbf{j} and \mathbf{k} components $\Rightarrow \lambda = 2, \mu = 6$

Check \mathbf{i} component: $3+2(2) = 7 = 1+6$

So the equations are consistent

Therefore the lines meet, and they meet at

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3+2(2) \\ -2+2 \\ 4-2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \therefore A(7, 0, 2)$$

$$\text{b Let } \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 2 - 2 + 1 = 1$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{6}$$

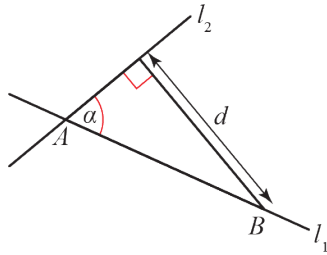
$$|\mathbf{b}| = \sqrt{6}$$

$$\therefore \cos \theta = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = 80.4^\circ \text{ (1 d.p.)}$$

$$\text{c Set } \lambda = 2$$

24 d The shortest distance of \mathbf{B} to the line l_2 is given by $\mathbf{d} = |\overline{\mathbf{BA}}| \sin \alpha$



$$\overline{\mathbf{OA}} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \overline{\mathbf{OB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overline{\mathbf{BA}} = \overline{\mathbf{OA}} - \overline{\mathbf{OB}} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$|\overline{\mathbf{BA}}| = \sqrt{2^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{6}$$

$$\text{So } d = \sqrt{6} \sin 80.4^\circ = 2.42$$

$$25 \text{ a } \overline{\mathbf{AP}} = \mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = -3$$

$$|\mathbf{a}| = \sqrt{3^2 + (-3)^2} = \sqrt{18}$$

$$|\mathbf{n}| = \sqrt{2^2 + (-2)^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{17}$$

$$\therefore \sin \theta = \frac{|-3|}{\sqrt{18}\sqrt{17}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{18}\sqrt{17}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = 10^\circ \text{ to the nearest degree}$$

$$25 \text{ b } \frac{|1(2) + 2(-2) + 2(3) - 1|}{\sqrt{2^2 + (-2)^2 + 3^2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{17}} = \frac{3\sqrt{17}}{17}$$

26 a Let l_1 denote the path of the first aeroplane, and l_2 the second.

$$l_1: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 120 \\ -80 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 80 \\ 100 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$l_2: \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -20 \\ 35 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -2 \\ 0.1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 120 + 80\lambda \\ -80 + 100\lambda \\ 13 - 8\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -20 + 10\mu \\ 35 - 2\mu \\ 5 + 0.1\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

i and **k** components $\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{3}{4}, \mu = 20$

Check **j** component: $-80 + 100\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = -5 = 35 - 2(20)$

So the equations are consistent

Therefore the paths intersect, and they intersect at

$$\begin{pmatrix} 120 \\ -80 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{3}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 80 \\ 100 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 180 \\ -5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow (180, -5, 7)$$

b The planes pass through the same point, but not necessarily at the same time.

Challenge

1 a $-2(-2x + y - 3z) = (-2) \times (-5)$ gives $4x - 2y + 6z = 10$

b matrix **A** is singular if $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$

$$4(c + 3b) + 2(-2c + 3a) + 6(-2b - a) = 6a - 6a + 12b - 12b + 4c - 4c = 0$$

c i $a = 2n, b = -n, c = 30$ where $n \in \mathbb{R}, n \neq 3$

ii $a = 6, b = -3$ and $c = 9$

Challenge

- 2 Coordinates $A(4, -4, 5)$, $B(0, 4, 1)$ and $C(0, 0, 5)$ lie on the circumference of the circle.

Let O be the centre of the circle.

Then A , B , C and O lie on the same plane.

Without loss of generality, suppose the plane has equation $ax + by + cz = 1$

Then substituting point A gives: $4a - 4b + 5c = 1$ (1)

substituting point B gives: $4b + c = 1$ (2)

substituting point C gives: $5c = 1$ (3)

From equation (3), $c = \frac{1}{5}$

Substituting into (2) gives $4b + \frac{1}{5} = 1$

$$4b = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$b = \frac{1}{5}$$

Substituting b and c in equation (1) gives $4a - \frac{4}{5} + \frac{5}{5} = 1$

$$4a = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$a = \frac{1}{5}$$

So the equation of the plane is $\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{5} + \frac{z}{5} = 1$

Or $x + y + z = 5$ (4)

The centre of the circle lies on the intersection of any two perpendicular bisectors chosen from AB , BC or AC .

Each perpendicular bisector must also lie on the plane $x + y + z = 5$

To find the equation of the perpendicular bisector of AB :

The mid-point of AB is $\mathbf{M}\left(\frac{4+0}{2}, \frac{-4+4}{2}, \frac{5+1}{2}\right) = \mathbf{M}(2, 0, 3)$

Therefore the equation of the line \mathbf{MO} may be written as $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix}$

$\overline{\mathbf{AB}} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 8 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\overline{\mathbf{AB}}$ is perpendicular to the direction of \mathbf{MO} , so $\overline{\mathbf{AB}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} = 0$

i.e. $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 8 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} = 0$, so $-4\alpha + 8\beta - 4\gamma = 0$ (5)

The line $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix}$ lies on the plane $x + y + z = 5$ for all values of λ .

Choosing $\lambda = 1$, you have $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + \alpha \\ \beta \\ 3 + \gamma \end{pmatrix}$

Challenge 2 continued

Solving $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+\alpha \\ \beta \\ 3+\gamma \end{pmatrix}$ and $x+y+z=5$ simultaneously gives $(2+\alpha)+\beta+(3+\gamma)=5$, or

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0 \quad (6)$$

Equation (6) is equivalent to $4\alpha + 4\beta + 4\gamma = 0$

Adding this to equation (5) gives $12\beta = 0$, so $\beta = 0$ and $\alpha = -\gamma$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+\alpha \\ \beta \\ 3+\gamma \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+\alpha \\ 0 \\ 3-\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

Now to find the equation of the perpendicular bisector of **BC**:

The mid-point of **BC** is $\mathbf{M}_1 \left(\frac{0+0}{2}, \frac{4+0}{2}, \frac{1+5}{2} \right) = \mathbf{M}_1(0, 2, 3)$

Therefore the equation of the line $\mathbf{M}_1\mathbf{O}$ may be written as $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \\ \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$

$\overline{\mathbf{BC}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\overline{\mathbf{BC}}$ is perpendicular to the direction of $\mathbf{M}_1\mathbf{O}$, so $\overline{\mathbf{BC}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \\ \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \\ \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix} = 0, \text{ so } -4\beta_1 + 4\gamma_1 = 0, \text{ or } \beta_1 = \gamma_1 \quad (7)$$

The line $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ \beta_1 \\ \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$ lies on the plane $x+y+z=5$ for all values of λ .

Choosing $\lambda = 1$, you have $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ 2+\beta_1 \\ 3+\gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$

Solving $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ 2+\beta_1 \\ 3+\gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $x+y+z=5$ simultaneously gives $\alpha_1 + (2+\beta_1) + (3+\gamma_1) = 5$, or

$$\alpha_1 + \beta_1 + \gamma_1 = 0 \quad (8)$$

Solving equations (7) and (8) simultaneously gives $\alpha_1 = -\beta_1 - \gamma_1 = -\gamma_1 - \gamma_1 = -2\gamma_1$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \\ 2+\beta_1 \\ 3+\gamma_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\gamma_1 \\ 2+\gamma_1 \\ 3+\gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Challenge 2 continued

Now consider the equations of the two perpendicular bisectors:

$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + \alpha \\ 0 \\ 3 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\gamma_1 \\ 2 + \gamma_1 \\ 3 + \gamma_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

These meet at the centre of the circle, O .

Equating the \mathbf{j} components gives $0 = 2 + \gamma_1$, so $\gamma_1 = -2$

Therefore the two bisectors must meet at the position vector $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} -2(-2) \\ 2 + (-2) \\ 3 + (-2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

The centre of the circle is therefore $O(4, 0, 1)$

The radius is the distance between O and any of the points A , B or C

Consider the point $C(0, 0, 5)$

$$\text{Then } OC = \sqrt{(0-4)^2 + (0-0)^2 + (5-1)^2} = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}$$

Therefore the circle has radius $4\sqrt{2}$