

12 The line l_1 has vector equation $\mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$. The plane Π has equation $\mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 4$.

The line l_2 is the reflection of line l_1 in the plane Π .

Find a vector equation of the line l_2 .

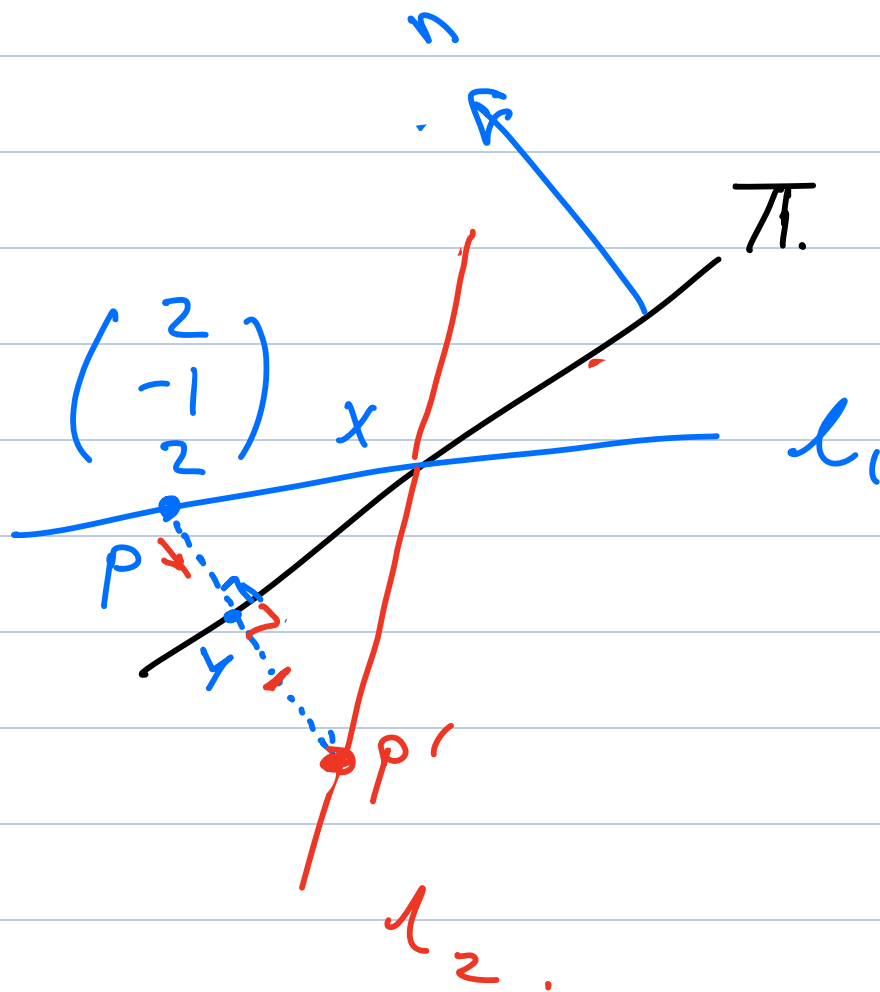
(7)

12 .

$$l_1 : \mathbf{r} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Pi : \mathbf{r} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 4$$

A brief diagram helps to
map out the approach :



We look to find

→ point of intersection between plane π e l_1 (point x)

→ point of reflection of another point along l_1 in π (point p')

So L , e and π meet when:

$$\text{i.e. } \begin{pmatrix} 2+4\lambda \\ -1-3\lambda \\ 2+4\lambda \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 4. \quad \text{Some } \lambda$$

$$(2+4\lambda) - (-1-3\lambda) - (2+4\lambda) = 4.$$

$$3\lambda + 1 = 4.$$

$$\lambda = 1$$

$$\text{So point } X \text{ is } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

X must lie on l_2 , so l_2

has vector equation:

$$l_2: r = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + \mu z.$$

We need another point on l_2 in order to find z .

Take the point $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ & find its reflection in the plane.

line $\overrightarrow{PP'}$ has equation:

$$r = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

normal to plane.

We can find where P hits the plane in the reflection (point Y) by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 + \alpha \\ -1 - \alpha \\ 2 - \alpha \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 4.$$

$$2 + \alpha + 1 + \alpha - 2 + \alpha = 4.$$

$$3\alpha = 3, \alpha = 1.$$

So P hits the plane at $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \parallel Y$

So point P' is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 - 2 \\ -2 - (-1) \\ 1 - 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

Now we can find z (direction

vector of l_2 as $\overrightarrow{xp'} = p' - x$

$$\begin{matrix} p' & x \\ = & \\ = \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\text{So } l_2 : r = \begin{matrix} x \\ p' \\ = \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} = \overrightarrow{xp'}.$$

OR
alternatively: $l_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 6 - 4 \\ -4 + 3 \\ 6 - 0 \end{pmatrix} = \overrightarrow{p'x} = x - p'$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \mu \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

