- Direction cosines of a line are the cosines of the angles made by the line with the positive directions of the coordinate axes.
- If l, m, n are the direction cosines of a line, then
   l<sub>2</sub> + m<sub>2</sub> + n<sub>2</sub> = 1.
- Direction cosines of a line joining two points
   P(x<sub>1</sub>, y<sub>1</sub>, z<sub>1</sub>) and Q(x<sub>2</sub>, y<sub>2</sub>, z<sub>2</sub>) are

$$\frac{x_2 - x_1}{PQ}, \frac{y_2 - y_1}{PQ}, \frac{z_2 - z_1}{PQ}$$

Where, 
$$PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

- Direction ratios of a line are the numbers which are proportional to the direction cosines of a line.
- If l, m, n are the direction cosines and a, b, c are the direction ratios of a line

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

 Vector equation of a line that passes through the given point whose position vector is a and parallel to a given vector b is r = a + λb.  Cartesian equation of a line that passes through two Points (x<sub>1</sub>, y<sub>1</sub>, z<sub>1</sub>) and (x<sub>2</sub>, y<sub>2</sub>, z<sub>2</sub>) is

$$\frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y - y_1}{y_2 - y_1} = \frac{z - z_1}{z_2 - z_1}$$

• Distance between parallel lines  $\vec{r} = \vec{a_1} + \lambda \vec{b}$  and  $\vec{r} = \vec{a_2} + \mu \vec{b}$  is

$$\frac{\vec{b} \times (\vec{a_2} - \vec{a_1})}{|\vec{b}|}$$

- Equation of a plane which is at a distance of d from the origin and the direction cosines of the normal to the plane as l, m, n is lx + my + nz = d.
- Equation of a plane that cuts the coordinates axes at (a, 0, 0), (0, b, 0) and (0, 0, c) is

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$$

Two planes a<sub>1</sub> x + b<sub>1</sub> y + c<sub>1</sub> z + d<sub>1</sub> = 0 and
 a<sub>2</sub> x + b<sub>2</sub> y + c<sub>2</sub> z + d<sub>2</sub> = 0 are coplanar if

$$\begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & z_2 - z_1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \end{vmatrix}$$

• The distance of a point whose position vector is  $\vec{a}$  from the plane  $\vec{r} \cdot \hat{n} = d$  is  $|d - \vec{a} \cdot \hat{n}|$ .