

Exemplar Problem

Three Dimensional Geometry

25. Show that the points

$$(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$$

and

$$3(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$$

are equidistant from the plane

$$\vec{r} \cdot [5\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 7\hat{k}] + 9 = 0$$

and lies on the opposite side of it.

Ans: To show that these given points $(\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$ and $3(\hat{i} + \hat{j} + \hat{k})$ are equidistant from the plane $\vec{r} \cdot [5\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 7\hat{k}] + 9 = 0$. We first find out the midpoint of the points which is $(2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 3\hat{k})$.

On substituting \vec{r} by the midpoint in plane, we get

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= (2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 3\hat{k}) \cdot (5\hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 7\hat{k}) + 9 \\ &= 10 + 2 - 21 + 9 = 0 = RHS \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the two points lie on opposite sides of the plane are equidistant from the plane.