

1. Lines in \mathbb{R}^2 .

- (a) Draw the following three parallel lines in the Cartesian plane:

$$x + 2y = -5, \quad x + 2y = 0, \quad x + 2y = 5.$$

- (b) Fill in the blanks: The equation $ax + by = c$ represents a line in \mathbb{R}^2 that is perpendicular to the vector _____ and contains the point _____. [There are infinitely many correct answers.]
- (c) Fill in the blanks: The two lines $ax + by = c$ and $a'x + b'y = c'$ are perpendicular if and only if _____. They are parallel if and only if _____.

2. Two Equations in Two Unknowns. The following vector equation with two unknowns is equivalent to a system of two linear equations in two unknowns:

$$x \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \iff \begin{cases} -x + y = 3, \\ 2x + 0y = 4. \end{cases}$$

- (a) Solve the system to find x and y .
- (b) Let $\mathbf{u} = (-1, 2)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (1, 0)$. Draw your solution to the vector equation, using copies of \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} to get from the origin to the point $(3, 4)$. (Strang calls this the *column picture*.)
- (c) Draw your solution to the linear system as the intersection of two lines. (Strang calls this the *row picture*.)

3. Planes in \mathbb{R}^3 .

- (a) Fill in the blanks: The equation $ax + by + cz = d$ represents a plane in \mathbb{R}^3 that is perpendicular to the vector _____ and contains the point _____. [There are infinitely many correct answers.]
- (b) Fill in the blanks: The two planes $ax + by + cz = d$ and $a'x + b'y + c'z = d'$ are perpendicular if and only if _____. They are parallel if and only if _____.
- (c) Fill in the blanks: The intersection of two planes in \mathbb{R}^3 is probably a _____. The intersection of three planes in \mathbb{R}^3 is probably a _____.

4. Three Equations in Three Unknowns. Consider the following system of two linear equations in three unknowns:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 2z = 0, \\ x + 2y - z = 0. \end{cases}$$

- (a) This system represents the intersection of two planes. Express the solution as a parametrized line $\{t\mathbf{v} : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ for some direction vector \mathbf{v} . [Hint: Let $z = t$ be a free parameter.]
- (b) Use your answer from part (a) to find some vector (x, y, z) that is simultaneously perpendicular to both $(1, 2, -1)$ and $(1, 1, 2)$. [There are infinitely many correct answers.]
- (c) Compute the intersection of the line from part (a) with the third plane

$$x + y + z = -1.$$

(d) Finally, compute the solution of the following vector equation:

$$x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

5. Hyperplanes in \mathbb{R}^n .

- (a) Fill in the blanks: The equation $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = b$ represents a flat ___-dimensional shape in ___-dimensional space. This shape is called a *hyperplane*.
- (b) Fill in the blank: If $m \leq n$ then the intersection of m hyperplanes in n -dimensional space probably has dimension _____ .
- (c) Fill in the blank: If $m \leq n$ then the solution to a system of m linear equations in n unknowns probably has _____ free parameters.
- (d) Fill in the blank: If $m > n$ then a system of m linear equations in n unknowns probably has _____ .