

There is no such thing as "the equation of a line" in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Instead we need at least 2 equations.

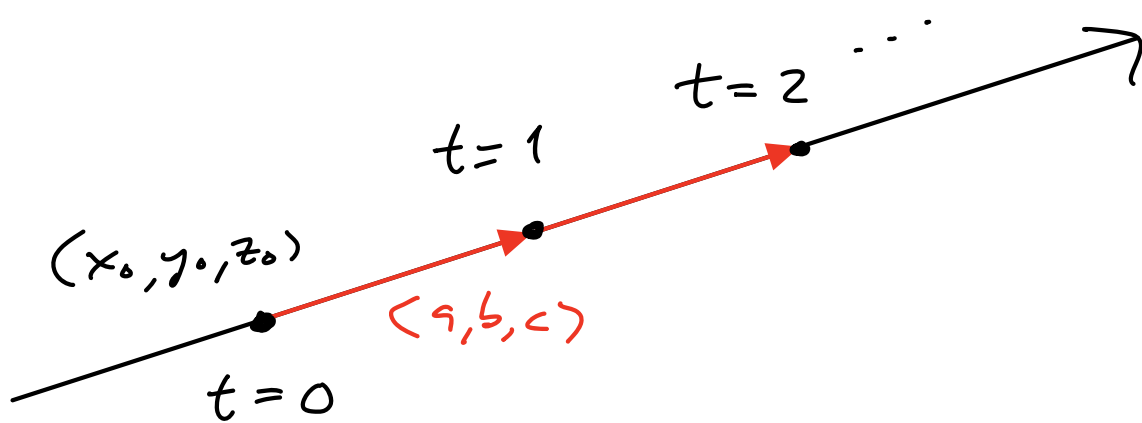
Geometrically: A line is an intersection of 2 planes in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Two ways to describe a line in \mathbb{R}^3 .

• Parametrization:

$$\vec{r}(t) = \vec{x}_0 + t\vec{a}$$

$$= \langle x_0 + ta, y_0 + tb, z_0 + tc \rangle$$



One parameter because a line is a "one dimensional" shape.

- As the solution of a system of 2 linear equations in 3 unknowns.

Example:

$$\begin{cases} \textcircled{1} & x - y + 0 = 1, \\ \textcircled{2} & x + y + 2z = 1. \end{cases}$$

To find a parametrization of the line we let $t = z$ be the parameter, then solve for x & y in terms of t . Method:

Find an equation without x and an equation without y .

$$\textcircled{1} : x - y = 1$$

$$\textcircled{2} : x + y = 1 - 2z \quad \begin{matrix} t \\ \cancel{z} \end{matrix}$$

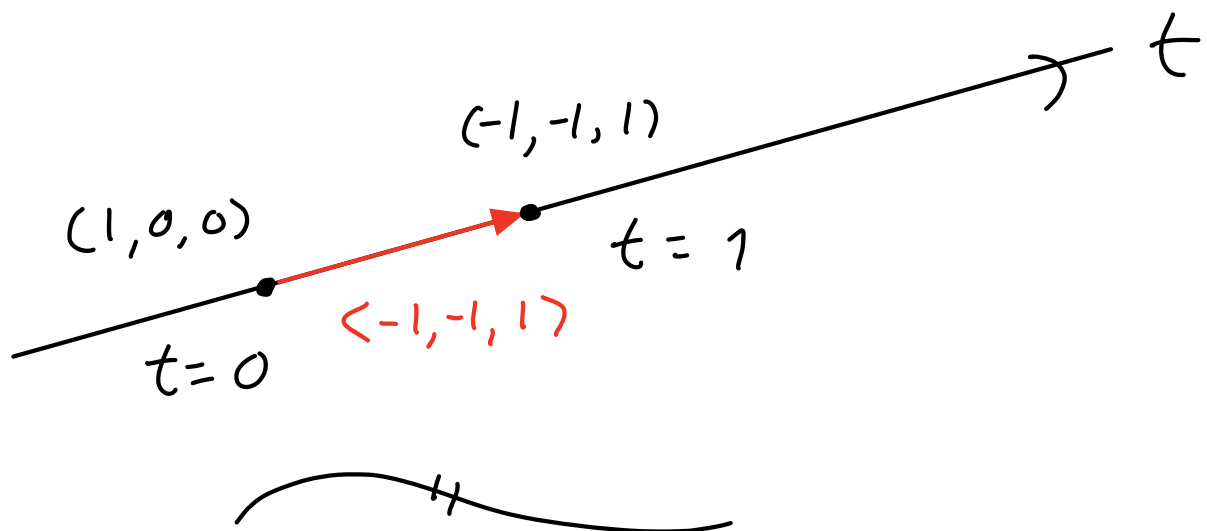
$$\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2} : 2x + 0 = 2 - 2z \quad \begin{matrix} t \\ \cancel{z} \end{matrix}$$

$$\textcircled{2} - \textcircled{1} : 0 + 2y = 0 - 2z \quad \begin{matrix} t \\ \cancel{z} \end{matrix}$$

We conclude that

$$\begin{cases} x = 1 - t \\ y = -t \\ z = t \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}(t) &= \langle x, y, z \rangle = \langle 1 - t, -t, t \rangle \\ &= \langle 1 - t, 0 - t, 0 + t \rangle = \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle + \langle -t, -t, t \rangle \\ &= \langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle + t \langle -1, -1, 1 \rangle \end{aligned}$$



We can also give a "parametric description" of a plane in \mathbb{R}^3 .

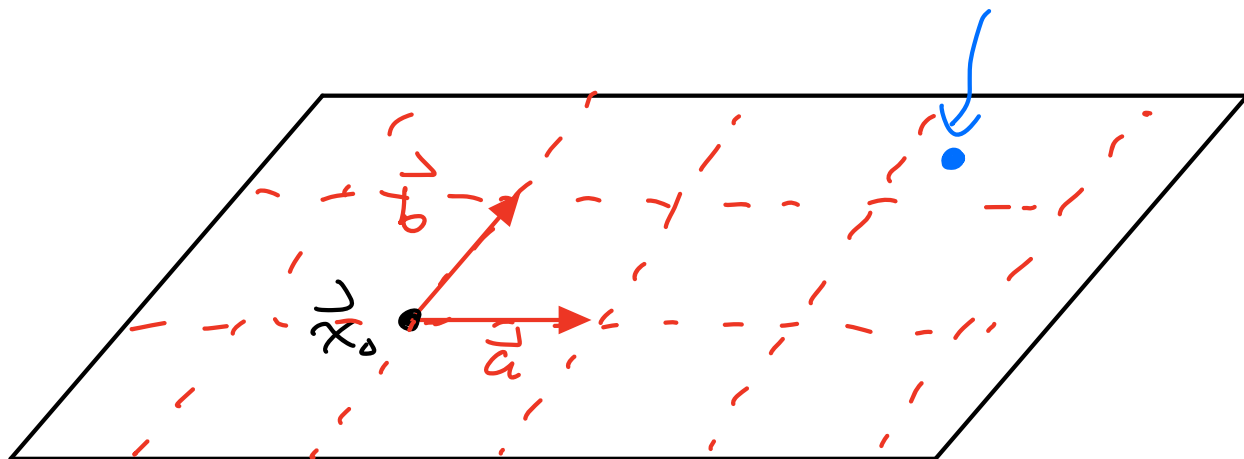
Since a plane is "2 dimensional" we will need 2 independent parameters. What should we call them?

Our book uses u & v .

A parametric plane has the form

$$\vec{r}(u, v) = \vec{x}_0 + u\vec{a} + v\vec{b}$$

$$2.25\vec{a} + 1.4\vec{b}$$



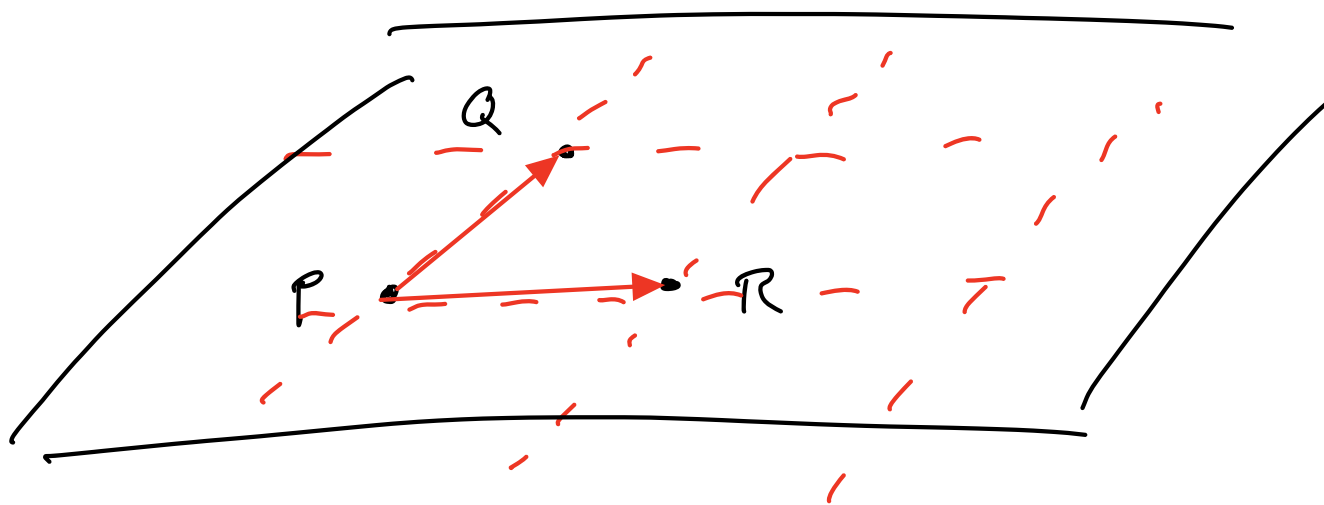
Every point in the plane has unique "coordinates" u, v with respect to the "basic vectors" \vec{a} & \vec{b} . This is the only way to introduce a "coordinate system" on a general plane: Pick a point & pick a "basis" of two direction vectors.

Example: The plane generated

by points $P = (1, 1, 0)$

$Q = (1, 0, 2)$

$R = (1, 2, 3)$



$$\vec{r}(u, v) = P + u \vec{PQ} + v \vec{PR}$$

$$= \langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle + u \langle 0, -1, 2 \rangle + v \langle 0, 2, 1 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 1, 1 - u + 2v, 0 + 2u + v \rangle$$

Example: Parametrize the plane

$$2x + 3y - z = 5$$

- Find 3 points?

- Easiest: Let $y = u$ & $z = v$ be parameters. Then solve for x .

$$2x + 3u - v = 5$$

$$2x = 5 - 3u + v$$

$$x = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}u + \frac{1}{2}v$$

$$y = u$$

$$z = v$$

$$\vec{r}(u, v) = \left\langle \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}u + \frac{1}{2}v, u, v \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}u + \frac{1}{2}v, 0 + 1u + 0v, 0 + 0u + 1v \right\rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \frac{5}{2}, 0, 0 \right\rangle + u \left\langle -\frac{3}{2}, 1, 0 \right\rangle + v \left\langle \frac{1}{2}, 0, 1 \right\rangle$$



Later we will parametrize general surfaces in \mathbb{R}^3 . We need to do this so we can integrate over a surface.

Example: let $\vec{r}(u, v)$ be a parametrized surface. Let

$$\vec{r}_u(u, v) = \frac{d}{du} \vec{r}(u, v)$$

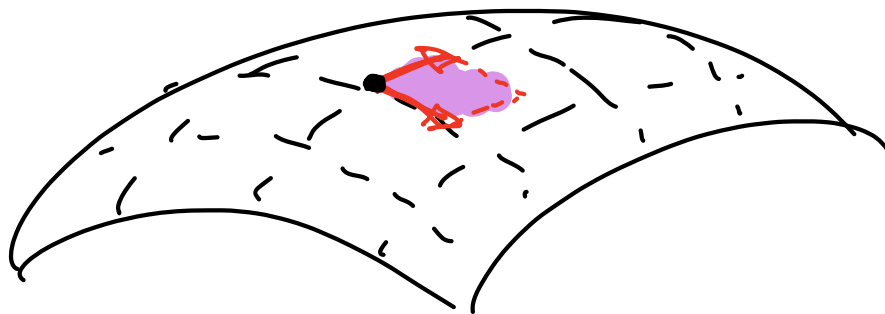
$$\vec{r}_v(u, v) = \frac{d}{dv} \vec{r}(u, v)$$

The surface area is a double integral


$$\iint |\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| du dv$$

↑
integrate over all relevant values of u, v .

Reason: $|\vec{r}_u \times \vec{r}_v| du dv$ is the area of a tiny parallelogram.



Stay Tuned.



Motion in Space & Newton's Second Law.

Consider a parametrized curve in 3D:

$$\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$$

Think of t as time.

At each time there is a velocity vector & an acceleration vector:

$$\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) = \langle x'(t), y'(t), z'(t) \rangle$$

$$\vec{a}(t) = \vec{r}''(t) = \langle x''(t), y''(t), z''(t) \rangle.$$

Example:

$$\vec{r}(t) = (x_0 + at, y_0 + bt, z_0 + ct)$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \langle a, b, c \rangle \quad \text{CONSTANT.}$$

$$\vec{a}(t) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle \quad \text{NO ACCELERATION.}$$

Conversely, let $\vec{r}(t)$ be any path with zero acceleration:

$$\vec{r}''(t) = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle.$$

Integrate to find the velocity.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}'(t) &= \left\langle \int 0 dt, \int 0 dt, \int 0 dt \right\rangle \\ &= \langle a, b, c \rangle\end{aligned}$$

for some constants of integration a, b, c . Then integrate velocity to get position:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}(t) &= \left\langle \int a dt, \int b dt, \int c dt \right\rangle \\ &= \langle at + x_0, bt + y_0, ct + z_0 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

for some constants of integration; call them x_0, y_0, z_0 .

Conclusion: Any path with zero acceleration is a straight line with constant velocity.

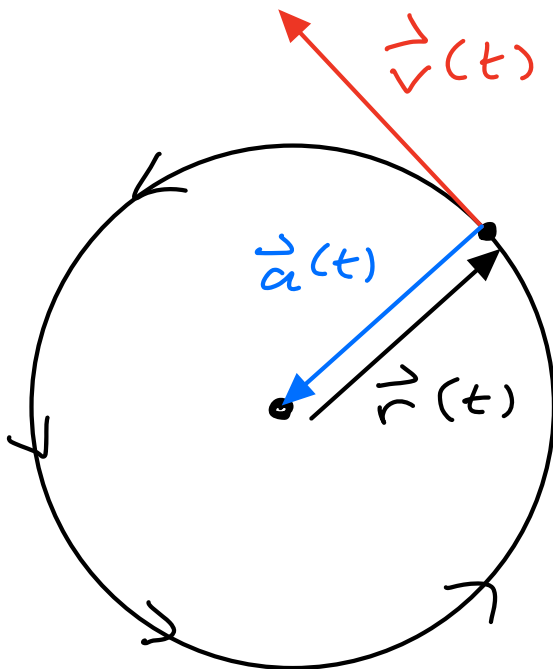
Circle :

$$\vec{r}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$$

$$\vec{v}(t) = \langle -\sin t, \cos t \rangle$$

$$\vec{a}(t) = \langle -\cos t, -\sin t \rangle.$$

Picture :

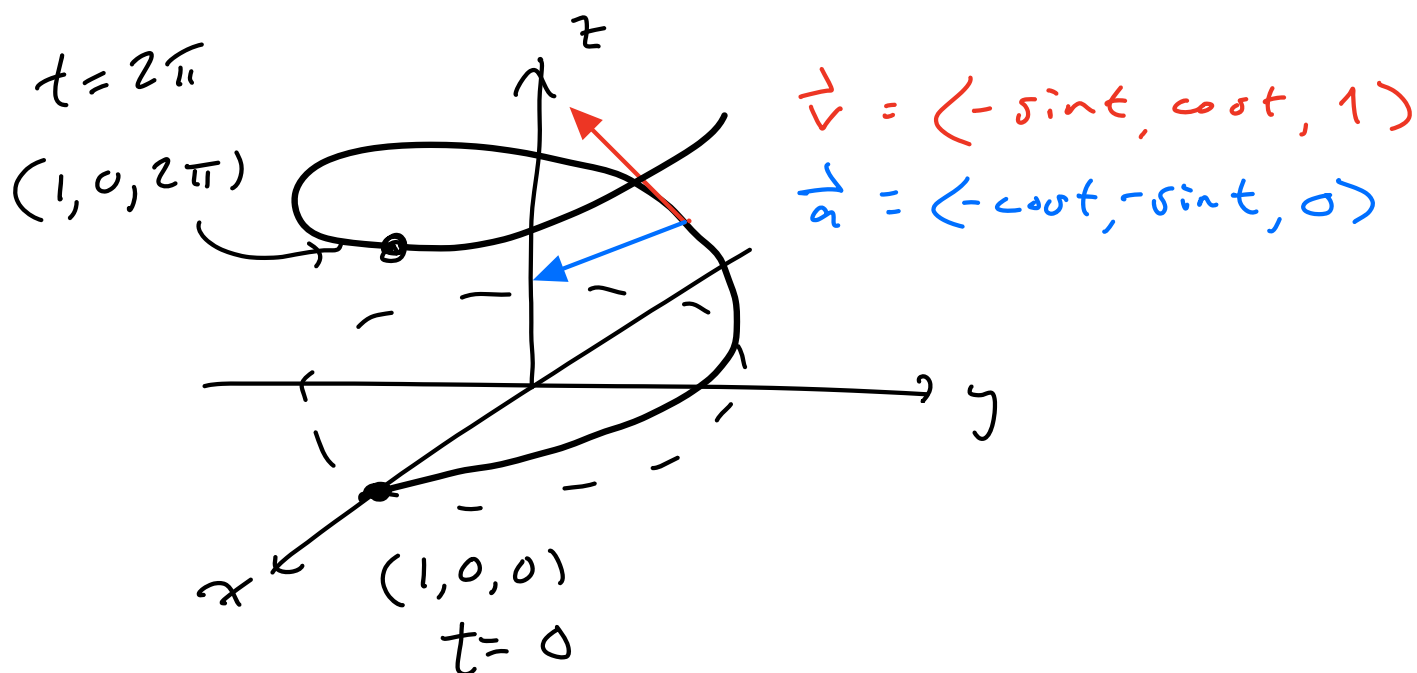


Acceleration always points directly to the center because.

$$\vec{a}(t) = \langle -\cos t, -\sin t \rangle = -\vec{r}(t).$$

Example in \mathbb{R}^3 : Consider the following "helical" path

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}(t) &= (x(t), y(t), z(t)) \\ &= (\cos t, \sin t, t)\end{aligned}$$



Find arc length between $t=0$ & $t=2\pi$.

$$\vec{v}(t) = \vec{r}'(t) = \langle -\sin t, \cos t, 1 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}\|\vec{v}(t)\| &= \sqrt{\sin^2 t + \cos^2 t + 1} \\ &= \sqrt{2}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Arc length} &= \int_0^{2\pi} \|\vec{v}(t)\| dt \\
 &= \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{2} dt \\
 &= 2\pi\sqrt{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Acceleration vector:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{a}(t) = \vec{v}'(t) &= \langle -\sin t, \cos t, 1 \rangle \\
 &= \langle -\cos t, -\sin t, \odot \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Points directly toward z-axis.



Integration of vector-valued functions.

Given any function

$$\vec{r}(t) = \langle x(t), y(t), z(t) \rangle$$

we define the integral with respect to t "componentwise"

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{r}(t) dt =$$

$$\left\langle \int_{t_0}^{t_1} x(t) dt, \int_{t_0}^{t_1} y(t) dt, \int_{t_0}^{t_1} z(t) dt \right\rangle$$

Why do we want to do this?

Newton's 2nd Law.

If a time varying force $\vec{F}(t)$ acts on a particle of mass m at point $\vec{r}(t)$, then we have

force = mass · acceleration

$$\vec{F}(t) = m \vec{a}(t)$$

$$= m \vec{v}'(t)$$

$$= m r''(t)$$

This is a second order differential equation. Goal: solve for $\vec{r}(t)$.

Example: Projectile Motion.

Near the surface of the Earth, a free falling body experiences a constant acceleration due to gravity:

$$\vec{r}''(t) = \langle 0, 0, -9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \rangle$$

We can solve for $\vec{r}(t)$ by integrating twice.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{r}'(t) &= \langle \int 0 dt, \int 0 dt, \int -9.81 dt \rangle \\ &= \langle c_1, c_2, -9.81 t + c_3 \rangle\end{aligned}$$

Meaning of the constants:

$$\vec{r}'(0) = \langle c_1, c_2, 0 + c_3 \rangle$$



initial velocity.
Call it u_0, v_0, w_0

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \langle u_0, v_0, -9.81 t + w_0 \rangle.$$

Integrate again to get position
at time t :

$$\vec{r}(t) = \left\langle \int dt, \int dt, \int (-9.81t + w_0) dt \right\rangle$$
$$= \left\langle u_0 t + d_1, v_0 t + d_2, -\frac{9.81}{2} t^2 + w_0 t + d_3 \right\rangle$$

Meaning of d_1, d_2, d_3 :

$$\vec{r}(0) = \left\langle \underbrace{d_1, d_2, d_3}_{\text{initial position.}} \right\rangle$$

Call x_0, y_0, z_0

A free falling body has position

$$\vec{r}(t) = \left\langle \underbrace{x_0 + u_0 t, y_0 + v_0 t, z_0 + w_0 t}_{\text{this part is like a straight line}}, \underbrace{-\frac{9.81}{2} t^2}_{\substack{\text{this makes} \\ \text{it curve} \\ \text{toward Earth.}}} \right\rangle$$



More interesting:

Universal Gravitation.

Put the sun at $(0,0,0)$ in \mathbb{R}^3 .

A moving planet has position $\vec{r}(t)$.

Newton: Planet feels a gravitational force of magnitude

$$\frac{GMm}{\|\vec{r}(t)\|^2}$$

where $M = \text{mass of sun}$

$m = \text{mass of planet}$

$G = \text{gravitational constant.}$

The direction of the force is directly toward the sun.

SOLVE FOR $\vec{r}(t)$.