

1. Find an equation of the plane through the points $(0, 1, 1)$, $(1, 0, 1)$ and $(1, 1, 0)$.

Solution. Name these three points as P , Q , R , respectively. $\overrightarrow{PQ} = \langle 1, -1, 0 \rangle$ and $\overrightarrow{PR} = \langle 1, 0, -1 \rangle$.

$$\begin{aligned} \overrightarrow{PQ} \times \overrightarrow{PR} &= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{i} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} - \mathbf{j} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + \mathbf{k} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

The equation of the plane:

$$(x - 0) + (y - 1) + (z - 1) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x + y + z = 2$$

2. Find a parametric equation of the tangent line to the curve $\mathbf{r} = \langle \cos 2t, \sin t, t \rangle$ at $t = \pi/4$.

Solution. When $t = \pi/4$, $x = \cos(\pi/2) = 0$, $y = \sin(\pi/4) = \sqrt{2}/2$ and $z = \pi/4$. That gives the information of “one point”. In addition, $\mathbf{r}'(t) = \langle -2 \sin 2t, \cos t, 1 \rangle$. This gives the information about “one direction”:

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{r}'\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \left\langle -2 \sin \frac{\pi}{2}, \cos \frac{\pi}{4}, 1 \right\rangle = \left\langle -2, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, 1 \right\rangle$$

So the parametric equation of the tangent line is

$$\begin{cases} x = 0 - 2t = -2t \\ y = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}t \\ z = \frac{\pi}{4} + t \end{cases}$$