

Quiz 3, section A03 Solutions

Find a vector \vec{v} parallel to the line of intersection of the planes given by the equations:

$$\begin{aligned}2y - 2x - 4z &= 1 \\3x - 2y + 2z &= 4\end{aligned}$$

Solution: The normal vectors to these planes are $\langle -2, 2, -4 \rangle$ and $\langle 3, -2, 2 \rangle$. The line of intersection is perpendicular to both normals, so it is parallel to the cross product. So the direction vector is:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{v} &= \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ -2 & 2 & -4 \\ 3 & -2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = i(4 - 8) - j(-4 + 12) + k(-4 - 6) \\&= -4i - 8j - 2k \\&= \langle -4, -8, -2 \rangle\end{aligned}$$