

2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

I Main Topics

A Direction cosines

B Lines

C Planes

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Lineations Along a Probable Fault Matterhorn Peak, California

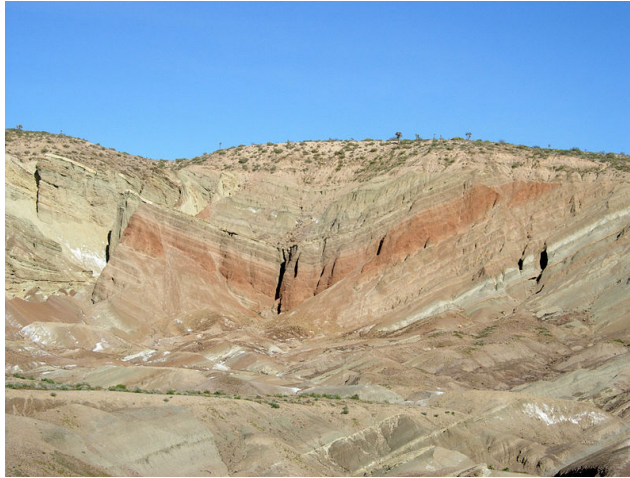


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Small Fold Rainbow Basin, California



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Rainbow_Basin.JPG

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Deformation Bands East Rim of Buckskin Gulch, Utah



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Sheeting Joints Yosemite National Park, California



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Fractures Austrian Alps



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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

II Direction cosines

- A The cosines of the angles between a line and the coordinate axes
- B The coordinates of the endpoint of a vector of unit length
- C The ordered projection lengths of a line of unit length onto the x,y, and z axes

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Direction Cosines from Geologic Angle Measurements (Spherical coordinates; **z up**)

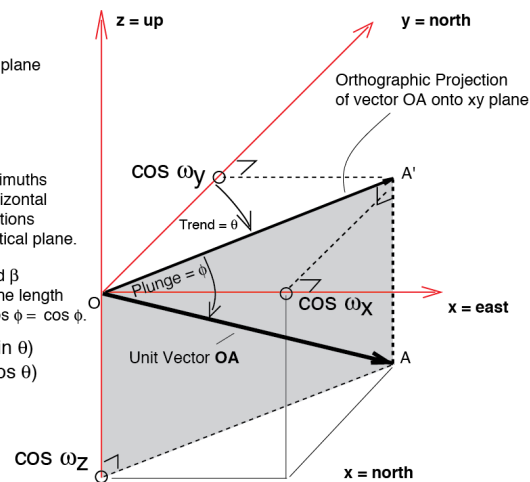
Positive z-axis up
y = north; x = east
 xy plane is horizontal plane

RIGHT-HANDED
 COORDINATES

Remember: Trends are azimuths
 and are measured in a horizontal
 plane. Plunges are inclinations
 and are measured in a vertical plane.

The direction cosines α and β
 are determined from OA' , the length
 of OA' being $|OA'| = |OA| \cos \phi = \cos \phi$.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \cos \omega_x = (\cos \phi) (\sin \theta) \\ \beta &= \cos \omega_y = (\cos \phi) (\cos \theta) \\ \gamma &= \cos \omega_z = -(\sin \phi) \\ \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 &= 1\end{aligned}$$



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Direction Cosines from Geologic Angle Measurements (Spherical coordinates; z down)

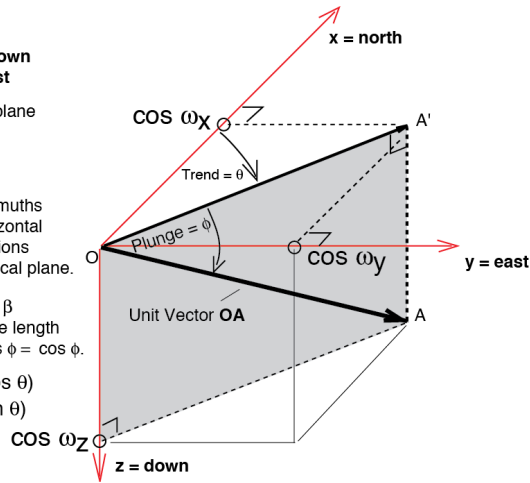
Positive z-axis down
x = north; y = east

xy plane is horizontal plane
RIGHT-HANDED
COORDINATES

Remember: Trends are azimuths and are measured in a horizontal plane. Plunges are inclinations and are measured in a vertical plane.

The direction cosines α and β are determined from OA' , the length of OA' being $|OA'| = |OA| \cos \phi = \cos \phi$.

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= \cos \omega_x = (\cos \phi) (\cos \theta) \\ \beta &= \cos \omega_y = (\cos \phi) (\sin \theta) \\ \gamma &= \cos \omega_z = +(\sin \phi) \\ \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$



2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES MATLAB

Cartesian coordinates → Spherical coordinates

```
>> [TH,PHI,R] = cart2sph(1,0,0)
```

TH =

0 The θ and ϕ values are angles.

PHI = R is a length.

0

R =

1

Spherical coordinates → Cartesian coordinates

```
>> [X,Y,Z] = sph2cart(0,0,1)
```

X =

1

The x,y,z values here are direction cosines

Y =

0

Z =

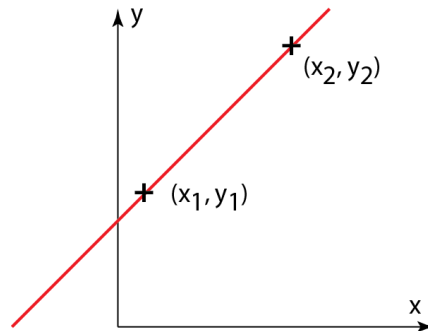
0

2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

A Line defined by 2 points
(two-point form)

$$\frac{y - y_1}{x - x_1} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

where (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)
are two known points on
the line



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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

B Line defined by 1 point (e.g., x_0, y_0, z_0) and a direction

1 Slope-intercept form (2D)

$$y = mx + b$$

2 General form (2D)

$$Ax + By + C = 0$$

3 Parametric form (2D or 3D)

$$x = x_0 + t\alpha, y = y_0 + t\beta, z = z_0 + t\gamma,$$

where α , β , and γ are direction cosines:

$$\alpha = \cos \omega_x, \beta = \cos \omega_y, \text{ and (for 3D) } \gamma = \cos \omega_z;$$

In 2-D, $\cos \omega_x = \sin \omega_y$

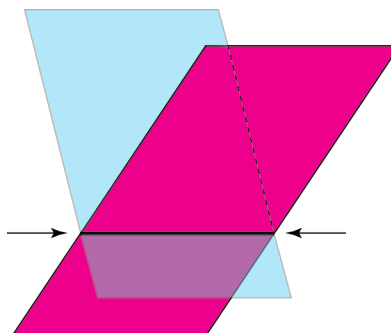
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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

C Line defined by the intersection of two planes



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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

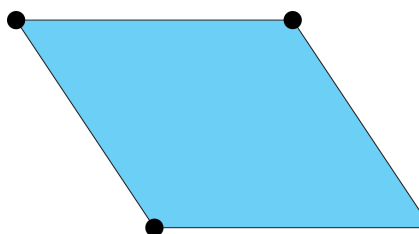
IV Plane

A Defined by three points
(three non-colinear pts)

B Defined by two
intersecting lines

C Defined by two
parallel lines

D Defined by a line and
a point not on the line



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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

IV Plane

D Defined by a distance and a direction
(or pole) from a point not on the plane

1 General form: $Ax + By + Cz + D = 0$

2 Normal form: $\alpha x + \beta y + \gamma z = d$

$$\alpha = \frac{A}{\pm\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}} \quad \beta = \frac{B}{\pm\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}} \quad \gamma = \frac{C}{\pm\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}$$

$$d = \frac{-D}{\pm\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}$$

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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

3 $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{V} = d$,
where

\mathbf{V} is any vector from a given
point O to plane P ;

\mathbf{n} is the unit normal vector to
plane P with direction
cosines α , β , and γ ;

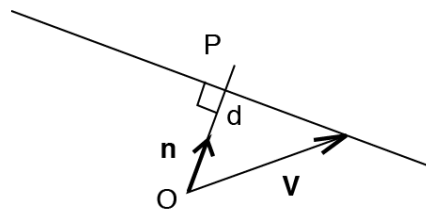
\mathbf{n} also goes through point O ;

d is the distance from O to
plane along \mathbf{n} ;

• refers to the dot product:

$$\langle x_1, y_1, z_1 \rangle \cdot \langle x_2, y_2, z_2 \rangle =$$

$$x_1x_2 + y_1y_2 + z_1z_2$$



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2. EQUATIONS OF LINES AND PLANES

3 $\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{V} = d$

a The distance from a reference point to a plane (as measured along a direction perpendicular to the plane) is d .

b The projection of \mathbf{V} onto \mathbf{n} has a length d

If \mathbf{n} points from the reference point to the plane, then $d > 0$. Otherwise, $d < 0$.

