

Question 1:

Find the distance between the following pairs of points:

- (i) $(2, 3, 5)$ and $(4, 3, 1)$
- (ii) $(-3, 7, 2)$ and $(2, 4, -1)$
- (iii) $(-1, 3, -4)$ and $(1, -3, 4)$
- (iv) $(2, -1, 3)$ and $(-2, 1, 3)$

Solution:

- (i) $(2, 3, 5)$ and $(4, 3, 1)$

Let P be $(2, 3, 5)$ and Q be $(4, 3, 1)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 2, y_1 = 3, z_1 = 5$$

$$x_2 = 4, y_2 = 3, z_2 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} PQ &= \sqrt{(4-2)^2 + (3-3)^2 + (1-5)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{2^2 + 0^2 + (-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{4+16} \\ &= \sqrt{20} \\ &= 2\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the required distance is $2\sqrt{5}$ units.

- (ii) $(-3, 7, 2)$ and $(2, 4, -1)$

Let P be $(-3, 7, 2)$ and Q be $(2, 4, -1)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -3, y_1 = 7, z_1 = 2$$

$$x_2 = 2, y_2 = 4, z_2 = -1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 PQ &= \sqrt{(2 - (-3))^2 + (4 - 7)^2 + (-1 - 2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{5^2 + (-3)^2 + (-3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{25 + 9 + 9} \\
 &= \sqrt{43}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the required distance is $\sqrt{43}$ units.

(iii) $(2, -1, 3)$ and $(-2, 1, 3)$

Let P be $(-1, 3, -4)$ and Q be $(1, -3, 4)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -1, y_1 = 3, z_1 = -4$$

$$x_2 = 1, y_2 = -3, z_2 = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 PQ &= \sqrt{(1 - (-1))^2 + (-3 - 3)^2 + (4 - (-4))^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{2^2 + (-6)^2 + 8^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{4 + 36 + 64} \\
 &= \sqrt{104} \\
 &= 2\sqrt{26}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the required distance is $2\sqrt{26}$ units.

(iv) $(2, -1, 3)$ and $(-2, 1, 3)$

Let P be $(2, -1, 3)$ and Q be $(-2, 1, 3)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 2, y_1 = -1, z_1 = 3$$

$$x_2 = -2, y_2 = 1, z_2 = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 PQ &= \sqrt{(-2-2)^2 + (1-(-1))^2 + (3-3)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-4)^2 + 2^2 + 0^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{16+4} \\
 &= \sqrt{20} \\
 &= 2\sqrt{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the required distance is $2\sqrt{5}$ units.

Question 2:

Show that the points $(-2, 3, 5)$, $(1, 2, 3)$ and $(7, 0, -1)$ are collinear.

Solution:

If three points are collinear, then they lie on a line.

Firstly, let us calculate distance between the 3 points i.e. PQ, QR and PR.

Calculating PQ:

$$P = (-2, 3, 5) \text{ and } Q = (1, 2, 3)$$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -2, y_1 = 3, z_1 = 5$$

$$x_2 = 1, y_2 = 2, z_2 = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 PQ &= \sqrt{[1 - (-2)]^2 + (2 - 3)^2 + (3 - 5)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(3)^2 + (-1)^2 + (-2)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9 + 1 + 4} \\
 &= \sqrt{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating QR:

$$Q = (1, 2, 3) \text{ and } R = (7, 0, -1)$$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } QR = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 1, y_1 = 2, z_1 = 3$$

$$x_2 = 7, y_2 = 0, z_2 = -1$$

$$\begin{aligned} QR &= \sqrt{(7-1)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (-1-3)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{6^2 + (-2)^2 + (-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{36 + 4 + 16} \\ &= \sqrt{56} \\ &= 2\sqrt{14} \end{aligned}$$

Calculating PR:

$$P = (-2, 3, 5) \text{ and } R = (7, 0, -1)$$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } PR = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -2, y_1 = 3, z_1 = 5$$

$$x_2 = 7, y_2 = 0, z_2 = -1$$

$$\begin{aligned} PR &= \sqrt{(7 - (-2))^2 + (0 - 3)^2 + (-1 - 5)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{9^2 + (-3)^2 + (-6)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{81 + 9 + 36} \\ &= \sqrt{126} \\ &= 3\sqrt{14} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus, } PQ = \sqrt{14}, QR = 2\sqrt{14} \text{ and } PR = 3\sqrt{14}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} PQ + QR &= \sqrt{14} + 2\sqrt{14} \\ &= 3\sqrt{14} \\ &= PR \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the points P, Q and R are collinear.

Question 3:

Verify the following:

- (i) $(0, 7, -10), (1, 6, -6)$ and $(4, 9, -6)$ are the vertices of an isosceles triangle.
- (ii) $(0, 7, 10), (-1, 6, 6)$ and $(-4, 9, 6)$ are the vertices of a right angled triangle.

(iii) $(-1, 2, 1), (1, -2, 5), (4, -7, 8)$ and $(2, -3, 4)$ are the vertices of a parallelogram.

Solution:

(i) $(0, 7, -10), (1, 6, -6)$ and $(4, 9, -6)$ are the vertices of an isosceles triangle.

Let us consider the points be $P(0, 7, -10), Q(1, 6, -6)$ and $R(4, 9, -6)$

If any 2 sides are equal, hence it will be an isosceles triangle.

So, firstly let us calculate the length of the sides.

Calculating PQ:

$P(0, 7, -10)$ and $Q(1, 6, -6)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 0, y_1 = 7, z_1 = -10$$

$$x_2 = 1, y_2 = 6, z_2 = -6$$

$$\begin{aligned} PQ &= \sqrt{(1-0)^2 + (6-7)^2 + (-6-(-10))^2} \\ &= \sqrt{1^2 + (-1)^2 + 4^2} \\ &= \sqrt{1+1+16} \\ &= \sqrt{18} \end{aligned}$$

Calculating QR:

$Q(1, 6, -6)$ and $R(4, 9, -6)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } QR = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 1, y_1 = 6, z_1 = -6$$

$$x_2 = 4, y_2 = 9, z_2 = -6$$

$$\begin{aligned} QR &= \sqrt{(4-1)^2 + (9-6)^2 + (-6-(-6))^2} \\ &= \sqrt{3^2 + 3^2 + 0^2} \\ &= \sqrt{9+9} \\ &= \sqrt{18} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Here, } PQ = QR = \sqrt{18}$$

Since, two sides are equal, ΔPQR is an isosceles triangle.

Thus, $(0, 7, -10)$, $(1, 6, -6)$ and $(4, 9, -6)$ are the vertices of an isosceles triangle.

- (ii) $(0, 7, 10)$, $(-1, 6, 6)$ and $(-4, 9, 6)$ are the vertices of a right angled triangle.

Let the points be $P(0, 7, 10)$, $Q(-1, 6, 6)$ and $R(-4, 9, 6)$

Firstly, let us calculate the length of sides PQ, QR and PR.

Calculating PQ:

$P(0, 7, 10)$ and $Q(-1, 6, 6)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 0, y_1 = 7, z_1 = 10$$

$$x_2 = -1, y_2 = 6, z_2 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} PQ &= \sqrt{(-1-0)^2 + (6-7)^2 + (6-10)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(-1)^2 + (-1)^2 + (-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{1+1+16} \\ &= \sqrt{18} \end{aligned}$$

Calculating QR:

$Q(-1, 6, 6)$ and $R(-4, 9, 6)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } QR = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -1, y_1 = 6, z_1 = 6$$

$$x_2 = -4, y_2 = 9, z_2 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} QR &= \sqrt{(-4-(-1))^2 + (9-6)^2 + (6-6)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 3^2 + 0^2} \\ &= \sqrt{9+9} \\ &= \sqrt{18} \end{aligned}$$

Calculating PR:

$P(0,7,10)$ and $R(-4,9,6)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } PR = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 0, y_1 = 7, z_1 = 10$$

$$x_2 = -4, y_2 = 9, z_2 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} PR &= \sqrt{(-4-0)^2 + (9-7)^2 + (6-10)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(-4)^2 + 2^2 + (-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{16+4+16} \\ &= \sqrt{36} \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} PQ^2 + QR^2 &= 18 + 18 \\ &= 36 \\ &= PR^2 \end{aligned}$$

By using Converse of Pythagoras theorem,

The given vertices P, Q and R are the vertices of a right-angled triangle at Q.

Thus, $(0,7,10), (-1,6,6)$ and $(-4,9,6)$ are the vertices of a right angled triangle.

(iii) $(-1,2,1), (1,-2,5), (4,-7,8)$ and $(2,-3,4)$ are the vertices of a parallelogram.

Let the points be $A(-1,2,1), B(1,-2,5), C(4,-7,8)$ and $D(2,-3,4)$

if pairs of opposite sides are equal then only ABCD can be a parallelogram.

i.e., $AB = CD$ and $BC = AD$.

Firstly, let us calculate the lengths of the sides

Calculating AB:

$$A(-1,2,1) \text{ and } B(1,-2,5)$$

By using the distance formula,

$$\text{Distance } AB = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = -1, y_1 = 2, z_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 1, y_2 = -2, z_2 = 5$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= \sqrt{(1 - (-1))^2 + (-2 - 2)^2 + (5 - 1)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{2^2 + (-4)^2 + 4^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{4 + 16 + 16} \\
 &= \sqrt{36} \\
 &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating BC:

$B(1, -2, 5)$ and $C(4, -7, 8)$

By using the distance formula,

$$\text{Distance } BC = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 1, y_1 = -2, z_1 = 5$$

$$x_2 = 4, y_2 = -7, z_2 = 8$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 BC &= \sqrt{(4 - 1)^2 + (-7 - (-2))^2 + (8 - 5)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{3^2 + (-5)^2 + 3^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{9 + 25 + 9} \\
 &= \sqrt{43}
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating CD:

$C(4, -7, 8)$ and $D(2, -3, 4)$

By using the distance formula,

$$\text{Distance } CD = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 4, y_1 = -7, z_1 = 8$$

$$x_2 = 2, y_2 = -3, z_2 = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 CD &= \sqrt{[(2 - 4)^2 + (-3 - (-7))^2 + (4 - 8)^2]} \\
 &= \sqrt{(-2)^2 + 4^2 + (-4)^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{4 + 16 + 16} \\
 &= \sqrt{36} \\
 &= 6
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculating DA:

$D(2, -3, 4)$ and $A(-1, 2, 1)$

By using the formula,

$$\text{Distance } DA = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = 2, y_1 = -3, z_1 = 4$$

$$x_2 = -1, y_2 = 2, z_2 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} DA &= \sqrt{(-1-2)^2 + (2-(-3))^2 + (1-4)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(-3)^2 + 5^2 + (-3)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{9+25+9} \\ &= \sqrt{43} \end{aligned}$$

Since, in quadrilateral ABCD both the pairs of opposite sides are equal i.e., $AB = CD$ and $BC = AD$, ABCD is a parallelogram.

Thus, $(-1, 2, 1), (1, -2, 5), (4, -7, 8)$ and $(2, -3, 4)$ are the vertices of a parallelogram.

Question 4:

Find the equation of the set of points which are equidistant from the points $(1, 2, 3)$ and $(3, 2, -1)$.

Solution:

Let $A(1, 2, 3)$ and $B(3, 2, -1)$

Let point P be (x, y, z)

Since it is given that point $P(x, y, z)$ is equidistant from the points $A(1, 2, 3)$ and $B(3, 2, -1)$ i.e., $PA = PB$

Firstly, let us calculate distances PA and PB

Calculating PA:

$P(x, y, z)$ and $A(1, 2, 3)$

By using the distance formula,

$$\text{Distance } PA = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = x, y_1 = y, z_1 = z$$

$$x_2 = 1, y_2 = 2, z_2 = 3$$

$$PA = \sqrt{(1-x)^2 + (2-y)^2 + (3-z)^2}$$

Calculating PB:

$$P(x, y, z) \text{ and } B(3, 2, -1)$$

By using the distance formula,

$$\text{Distance } PB = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

So here,

$$x_1 = x, y_1 = y, z_1 = z$$

$$x_2 = 3, y_2 = 2, z_2 = -1$$

$$PB = \sqrt{(3-x)^2 + (2-y)^2 + (-1-z)^2}$$

Since, $PA = PB$

On squaring both the sides, we get

$$PA^2 = PB^2$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} (1-x)^2 + (2-y)^2 + (3-z)^2 &= (3-x)^2 + (2-y)^2 + (-1-z)^2 \\ (1+x^2-2x) + (4+y^2-4y) + (9+z^2-6z) &= (9+x^2-6x) + (4+y^2-4y) + (1+z^2+2z) \\ -2x-4y-6z+14 &= -6x-4y+2z+14 \\ 4x-8z &= 0 \\ x-2z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the required equation is $x-2z=0$

Question 5:

Find the equation of the set of points P, the sum of whose distances from $A(4,0,0)$ and $B(-4,0,0)$ is equal to 10.

Solution:

Let $A(4,0,0)$ and $B(-4,0,0)$

Let the coordinates of point P be (x, y, z)

Calculating PA:

$$P(x, y, z) \text{ and } A(4, 0, 0)$$

By using the distance formula,

Distance $PA = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$

So here,

$$x_1 = x, y_1 = y, z_1 = z$$

$$x_2 = 4, y_2 = 0, z_2 = 0$$

Distance $PA = \sqrt{(4 - x)^2 + (0 - y)^2 + (0 - z)^2}$

Calculating PB:

$$P(x, y, z) \text{ and } B(-4, 0, 0)$$

By using the distance formula,

Distance $PB = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$

So here,

$$x_1 = x, y_1 = y, z_1 = z$$

$$x_2 = -4, y_2 = 0, z_2 = 0$$

Distance $PB = \sqrt{(-4 - x)^2 + (0 - y)^2 + (0 - z)^2}$

Now it is given that

$$PA + PB = 10$$

$$PA = 10 - PB$$

On squaring both the sides, we get

$$PA^2 = (10 - PB)^2$$

$$PA^2 = 100 + PB^2 - 20PB$$

Therefore,

$$(4 - x)^2 + (0 - y)^2 + (0 - z)^2 = 100 + (-4 - x)^2 + (0 - y)^2 + (0 - z)^2 - 20PB$$

$$(16 + x^2 - 8x) + y^2 + z^2 = 100 + (16 + x^2 + 8x) + y^2 + z^2 - 20PB$$

$$20PB = 16x + 100$$

$$5PB = (4x + 25)$$

On squaring both the sides again, we get

$$25PB^2 = 16x^2 + 200x + 625$$

$$25[(-4 - x)^2 + (0 - y)^2 + (0 - z)^2] = 16x^2 + 200x + 625$$

$$25[x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 8x + 16] = 16x^2 + 200x + 625$$

$$25x^2 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 + 200x + 400 = 16x^2 + 200x + 625$$

$$9x^2 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 - 225 = 0$$

Thus, the required equation is $9x^2 + 25y^2 + 25z^2 - 225 = 0$.