

1. the line through the points $(1:2:1)$ and $(3:1:0)$

is given by: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$

$= \hat{x}[-1] - \hat{y}[-3] + \hat{z}[-5]$

$= \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$. check: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = -1 + 6 - 5 = 0 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = -3 + 3$

A line given in homogeneous coordinates as $(a:b:c)$ is incident with the point $(x:y:z)$ iff $(a \ b \ c) \cdot (x \ y \ z) = 0$.

Let us check the options:

(a) $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = 2 - 3 - 5 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ not incident.

(b) $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = -2 - 3 + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow$ incident.

(c) $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = -2 + 3 - 5 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ not incident

2. three lines are concurrent if the determinant of the three homogeneous coefficient are zero. So let us check:

(a) $\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$
 $= 2 \times (-18) + 3 \times (-6) + 4 = 2 \times (-18) + (-18) + 4$
 $= -18[2+1] + 4 \neq 0$

(b) $\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$
 $= 2 \times 12 + 3 \times (-6) + (-6) = 24 + (-6)[3+1]$
 $= 24 - 24 = 0 \Rightarrow$ concurrent

(c) $\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$
 $= 2 \times (-12) + 3 \times 0 + 4 = -24 + 4 \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ not concurrent

3. the conic $x^2 + 4xy - 2xz + 2yz - z^2 = 0$ has matrix A given by:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ because:}$$

$$(x \ y \ z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = (x \ y \ z) \begin{pmatrix} x+2y-z \\ 2x+z \\ -x+y-z \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= x^2 + 2xy - xz + 2xy + yz - xz + yz - z^2$$

$$\text{not true} = x^2 + 4xy - 2xz + 2yz - z^2$$

A line is tangent to the conic if it satisfies $p^t A p = 0$

$$(a) (0 \ 1 \ -1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = (0 \ 1 \ -1) \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = -3 \Rightarrow \text{not tangent.}$$

$$(b) (1 \ 1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ 1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 5 \Rightarrow \text{not tangent}$$

$$(c) (1 \ -1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ -1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = -3 \Rightarrow \text{Not tangent}$$

This method does not seem to work.

Instead, let $p \in A$. We want $Ap =$ given line. Then check

$$p^t A p \stackrel{?}{=} 0.$$

$$(a) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x+2y-z \\ 2x+z \\ -x+y-z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x+2y-z=0; \quad 2x+z=1; \quad -x+y-z=-1 \Rightarrow z=1-2x$$

$$x - 2x - 1 + 2x = 0 \Rightarrow x=1 \quad \Rightarrow -x+y-1+2x=-1 \Rightarrow x+y=0 \Rightarrow y=-x$$

$$\Rightarrow z=-1 \Rightarrow y=-1 \Rightarrow p = (1 \ -1 \ -1)$$

the line

$$p^t A p = (1 \ -1 \ -1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = (1 \ -1 \ -1) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = -1+1=0 \Rightarrow y-z=0$$

is tangent to A through point $(1 \ -1 \ -1)$