

**Solution:**

To find a vector equation for  $L_2$  we need  $\vec{d} = \overrightarrow{AB}$  (direction vector) and  $P_0 = A$  (point on  $L_2$ ).

$$\vec{d} = (1 - 1, 2 - 1, 3 - 1) = (0, 1, 2) \text{ and } P_0 = (1, 1, 1)$$

Thus,  $L_2$  has vector equation  $\vec{r}(t) = (1, 1, 1) + t(0, 1, 2)$ .

The point  $P_1 = (1 + s, s, 0)$  represents a general point on  $L_1$ .

The point  $P_2 = (1, 1 + t, 1 + 2t)$  represents a general point on  $L_2$ .

Next we find  $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2}$  which is a general vector whose tail lies on  $L_1$  and head on  $L_2$ .

$$\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} = (1 - (1 + s), (1 + t) - s, (1 + 2t) - 0) = (-s, 1 + t - s, 1 + 2t)$$

The points on  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  that produce the minimum distance must satisfy  $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \cdot \vec{d}_1 = 0$  and  $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \cdot \vec{d}_2 = 0$ . This is because  $\overrightarrow{P_1P_2}$  must be perpendicular to each line for shortest distance.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \cdot \vec{d}_1 = 0 & & \overrightarrow{P_1P_2} \cdot \vec{d}_2 = 0 \\ (-s, 1 + t - s, 1 + 2t) \cdot (1, 1, 0) = 0 & & (-s, 1 + t - s, 1 + 2t) \cdot (0, 1, 2) = 0 \\ -s + 1 + t - s = 0 & & 1 + t - s + 2 + 4t = 0 \\ -2s + t = -1 & & -s + 5t = -3 \end{array}$$

Now we solve the following augmented matrix

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 5 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & \frac{2}{9} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{5}{9} \end{array} \right)$$

Thus,  $s = \frac{2}{9}$  and  $t = -\frac{5}{9}$ .

Now substitute  $s = \frac{2}{9}$  and  $t = -\frac{5}{9}$  into  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  to find the required points.

$$L_1 : \vec{p} \left( \frac{2}{9} \right) = (1, 0, 0) + \frac{2}{9}(1, 1, 0) = \left( \frac{11}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, 0 \right)$$

$$L_2 : \vec{r} \left( -\frac{5}{9} \right) = (1, 1, 1) - \frac{5}{9}(0, 1, 2) = \left( 1, \frac{4}{9}, -\frac{1}{9} \right)$$

Therefore,  $P_1 = \left( \frac{11}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, 0 \right)$  and  $P_2 = \left( 1, \frac{4}{9}, -\frac{1}{9} \right)$  are the points on  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , respectively, that are closest to together.

**Extra:** The shortest distance between the two lines is given by  $\|\overrightarrow{P_1P_2}\|$ .

$$\overrightarrow{P_1P_2} = \left( 1 - \frac{11}{9}, \frac{4}{9} - \frac{2}{9}, -\frac{1}{9} - 0 \right) = \left( -\frac{2}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, -\frac{1}{9} \right)$$

$$\|\overrightarrow{P_1P_2}\| = \sqrt{\left(-\frac{2}{9}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{9}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{9}\right)^2} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Therefore, the shortest distance between  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  is  $\frac{1}{3}$ .