

Distance from a Pt to a Plane

The distance between a pt  
 $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and a plane

$$ax + by + cz + d = 0$$

is

$$D = \frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$$

Ex. Find the distance between  
the pt  $(5, -2, 3)$  and the plane

$$6x + 8y - z + 4 = 0$$

Here,

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

$$a = 6, b = 8, c = -1$$

$$\text{So } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 36 + 64 + 1 = 101$$

$$ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d$$

$$= 30 - 16 - 3 + 4 = 15$$

so

$$D =$$

$$\frac{15}{\sqrt{101}}$$