

On the Shortest Distance in the Plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$

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Abstract: In this paper, we study the shortest distance of a point to the line and area of a triangle in Iso-taxicab Geometry.

Keywords: Distance; non-Euclidean geometry.

1 Introduction

The Minkowski distance is a metric in a normed vector space which can be considered as a generalization of both the Euclidean distance and the taxicab distance. Taxicab geometry is a geometry whose usual distance function or metric of Euclidean geometry is replaced by a new metric in which the distance between two points is the sum of the absolute differences of their cartesian coordinates in [4], [8]. Iso-taxicab geometry is a non-Euclidean geometry defined by K. O. Sowell in 1989 in [7]. In this geometry presented by Sowell three distance functions arise depending upon the relative positions of the points A and B . There are three axes at the origin; the x -axis, the y -axis and the y' -axis, having 60° angle which each other. These three axes separate the plane into six regions. The iso-taxicab trigonometric functions in iso-taxicab plane with three axes were given in [5], [6]. A family of distances, $d_{\pi n}$, that includes Taxicab, Chinese-Checker and Iso-taxi distances, as special cases introduced and the group of isometries of the plane with $d_{\pi n}$ metric is the semi-direct product of D_{2n} and $T(2)$ was shown in [3]. The trigonometric functions in $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ and the versions in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ of some Euclidean theorems were given in [1], [2].

The definition of $d_{\pi n}$ -distances family is given as follows;

Definition 1. Let $A = (x_1, y_1)$ and $B = (x_2, y_2)$ be any two points in \mathbb{R}^2 , a family of $d_{\pi n}$ distances is defined by

$$d_{\pi n}(A, B) = \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{n}} \left(\left| \sin \frac{k\pi}{n} - \sin \frac{(k-1)\pi}{n} \right| |x_1 - x_2| + \left| \cos \frac{(k-1)\pi}{n} - \cos \frac{k\pi}{n} \right| |y_1 - y_2| \right)$$

$$\text{where } \begin{cases} 1 \leq k \leq \left[\frac{n-1}{2} \right], k \in \mathbb{Z}, \tan \frac{(k-1)\pi}{n} \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| \leq \tan \frac{k\pi}{n} \\ k = \left[\frac{n+1}{2} \right], \tan \frac{\left[\frac{n-1}{2} \right] \pi}{n} \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| < \infty \text{ or } x_1 = x_2 \end{cases}$$

For $n = 3$ and $k = 1$ or $k = 2$, we obtain the formula of $d_{\pi 3}$ -distance between the points A and B according to the inclination in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ as the following:

$$d_{\pi 3}(A, B) = \frac{1}{\sin \frac{\pi}{3}} \left(\left| \sin \frac{k\pi}{3} - \sin \frac{(k-1)\pi}{3} \right| |x_1 - x_2| + \left| \cos \frac{(k-1)\pi}{3} - \cos \frac{k\pi}{3} \right| |y_1 - y_2| \right)$$

$$\text{where } \begin{cases} k = 1, 0 \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| \leq \tan \frac{\pi}{3} \\ k = 2, \tan \frac{\pi}{3} \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| < \infty \text{ or } x_1 = x_2 \end{cases}$$

or

$$d_{\pi_3}(A, B) = \begin{cases} |x_1 - x_2| + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} |y_1 - y_2|, & 0 \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| \leq \sqrt{3} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} |y_1 - y_2|, & \sqrt{3} \leq \left| \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right| < \infty \text{ or } x_1 = x_2. \end{cases}$$

2 Distance and Area in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$

Now we give the shortest distance of a point to the line and area of a triangle to the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$.

Theorem 1. The shortest distance of a point $P_0 = (x_0, y_0)$ to the line l given by

$$ax + by + c = 0$$

in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is

$$d_{\pi_3}(P_0, l) = \rho\left(\frac{-1}{m}\right) d_E(P_0, l).$$

Proof. Let X be the point where the line segment drawn from the point P_0 to the line l touches the line l . The line segment $[PX]$ length is the shortest distance from the point P_0 to line l . Also, if the slope of the line l is m then the slope of the line segment $[PX]$ is $\left(\frac{-1}{m}\right)$. The shortest distance from the point P_0 to the line l in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is

$$d_{\pi_3}(P_0, l) = \rho\left(\frac{-1}{m}\right) d_E(P_0, l).$$

If calculations are made for this equation, the shortest distance from the point P_0 to the line l in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is

$$d_{\pi_3}(P_0, l) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-1}{m}\right)^2}} + \frac{\left|\frac{-1}{m}\right|}{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-1}{m}\right)^2}} \frac{|ax_0 + by_0 + c|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \right), & 0 \leq \left|\frac{-1}{m}\right| \leq \sqrt{3} \\ \frac{2 \left|\frac{-1}{m}\right|}{\sqrt{3} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{-1}{m}\right)^2}}, & \sqrt{3} \leq \left|\frac{-1}{m}\right| \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, & \left|\frac{-1}{m}\right| \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}.$$

Theorem 2. Let the base and height of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ be c_1 and h_1 . Let the base and length of the same triangle in \mathbb{R}^2 be c and h . Let the slope of the base of the triangle in \mathbb{R}^2 be m , then the area of the triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is

$$S = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} c_1 h_1, & m = 0 \\ \frac{3\sqrt{1+m^2}}{4(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)} c_1 h_1, & m = \infty \\ \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4(\sqrt{3}+|m|)} c_1 h_1, & 0 < m \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{3(1+m^2)}{2(\sqrt{3}+|m|)(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)} c_1 h_1, & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} < |m| \leq \sqrt{3} \\ \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4|m|(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)} c_1 h_1, & \sqrt{3} \leq |m|, m \neq \infty. \end{cases}$$

Proof. According to the position of m the following eight main cases are possible:

Case 1) If the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is parallel to the x -axis, that is, $m = 0$, the slope of the height is ∞ . In this case;

$$S = \frac{1}{2} ch = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} c_1 h_1$$

is found.

Case 2) If the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ is parallel to the y -axis, that is, $m = \infty$, the slope of the height is 0.

In this case;

$$c_1 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} + \frac{|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{1}{2}ch \\ &= \frac{3\sqrt{1+m^2}}{4(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)}c_1h_1 \end{aligned}$$

is found.

Case 3) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ is $0 < m \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $0 < \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{6}$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta \leq \frac{2\pi}{3}$) in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+m^2}} + \frac{|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} + \frac{|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{1}{2}ch \\ &= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4|m|(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)}c_1h_1, \end{aligned}$$

is found.

Case 4) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} < m \leq \sqrt{3}$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $\frac{\pi}{6} < \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{3}$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\frac{2\pi}{3} < \theta \leq \frac{5\pi}{6}$) in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+m^2}} + \frac{|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{2|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \frac{1}{2}ch \\ &= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4(\sqrt{3}+|m|)}c_1h_1 \end{aligned}$$

is found.

Case 5) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi 3}^2$ is $\sqrt{3} < m < \infty$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $\frac{\pi}{3} < \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\frac{5\pi}{6} < \theta \leq \pi$) in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{2|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} + \frac{|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1 + (\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2}ch$$

$$= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4|m|(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)}c_1h_1$$

is found.

Case 6.) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is $\infty < m < -\sqrt{3}$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $\frac{\pi}{2} < \theta \leq \frac{2\pi}{3}$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\pi < \theta \leq \frac{7\pi}{6}$) in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{2|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\frac{-1}{m})^2}} + \frac{|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+(\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2}ch$$

$$= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4|m|(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)}c_1h_1$$

is found.

Case 7.) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is $-\sqrt{3} < m < \frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}}$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $\frac{2\pi}{3} < \theta \leq \frac{5\pi}{6}$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\frac{7\pi}{6} < \theta \leq \frac{4\pi}{3}$) in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}+|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\frac{-1}{m})^2}} + \frac{|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+(\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2}ch$$

$$= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{2(\sqrt{3}+|m|)(\sqrt{3}|m|+1)}c_1h_1$$

is found.

Case 8.) If the slope of the base of a triangle in the plane $\mathbb{R}_{\pi_3}^2$ is $-\frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}} < m < 0$ (the angle θ between the base and the x -axis is $\frac{5\pi}{6} < \theta \leq \pi$ and the angle θ between the height and the x -axis is $\frac{4\pi}{3} < \theta \leq \frac{3\pi}{2}$), in this case;

$$c_1 = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+m^2}} + \frac{|m|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+m^2}} \right) c \text{ and } h_1 = \left(\frac{2|\frac{-1}{m}|}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{1+(\frac{-1}{m})^2}} \right) h,$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2}ch$$

$$= \frac{3(1+m^2)}{4(\sqrt{3}+|m|)}c_1h_1$$

is found.

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