## Question

Find the equation of the plane through $(2,3,-4)$ and $(1,-1,3)$ and parallel to $x$-axis?

## Solution

Assume that $A x+B y+C z+D=0$ is an equation of the plane.
The plane is parallel to $x$ - axis, hence

$$
A=0 \text { (1) }
$$

The points $(2,3,-4),(1,-1,3)$ lie on the plane, hence

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
3 B-4 C+D=0, \\
-B+3 C+D=0 . \\
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
D=4 C-3 B \\
D=B-3 C
\end{array}\right. \\
4 C-3 B=B-3 C, \\
-4 B=-7 C, \\
C=\frac{4}{7} B,(2)
\end{array}\right. \\
D=4 C-3 B=4 * \frac{4}{7} B-3 B=\frac{16}{7} B-3 B=\frac{16-21}{7} B=-\frac{5}{7} B, \\
D=-\frac{5}{7} B,(3) \\
B y+c z+d=0, \\
B y+\frac{4}{7} B z-\frac{5}{7} B=0, \text { (4) }
\end{gathered}
$$

If

$$
B=0,(5)
$$

then it follows from (2), (3), (5) that

$$
\begin{equation*}
C=0, D=0 \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

In case of (5) taking (1), (5), (6) into account one gets that all coefficients in the equation

$$
A x+B y+C z+D=0
$$

are zero, which is impossible, therefore

$$
B \neq 0(7)
$$

Using (7) divide the equation (4) through by $B \neq 0$.
Then

$$
7 y+4 z-5=0
$$

is the equation of the plane through $(2,3,-4),(1,-1,3)$ and parallel to $x$ - axis.
Answer: $7 y+4 z-5=0$.

