

2.4.31

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Question

Check if the point **A**(2, 7) lies on the perpendicular bisector of line segment joining the points **P**(6, 5) and **Q**(0, -4).

Solution

The equation of the perpendicular bisector of PQ is

$$\left(\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2}\right)^T (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

The given points are,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Solution

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}}{2} \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}{2} \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (11)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6.5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$\left(\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} \right)^{\top} (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

$$\left(\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} \right)^{\top} (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}) = (-1)(6) + (6.5)(9) \quad (14)$$

$$\left(\mathbf{A} - \frac{\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q}}{2} \right)^{\top} (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}) = 52.5 \neq 0 \quad (15)$$

The equation of perpendicular bisector is not satisfied. Therefore, point **A** does not lie on the perpendicular bisector of line segment joining the points **P** and **Q**.

Plot

Geometric Visualization of Points A, P, and Q

