12.18

EE25BTECH11004 - Aditya Appana

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Question

X is 1 km northeast of Y. Y is 1 km southeast of Z. W is 1 km west of Z. P is 1 km south of W. Q is 1 km east of P. What is the distance between X and Q in km?

- A) 1
- B) $\sqrt{2}$ C) $\sqrt{3}$
- D) 2

Solution

Let **X** be $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Every subsequent vector can be expressed as a translation by a unit vector, from the previous vector. The translation vector can be represented as:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\cos\theta\\
\sin\theta
\end{pmatrix}
\tag{1}$$

X is 1km north-east of **Y**, so **Y** is 1km south-west of **X**. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 225^{\circ} \\ \sin 225^{\circ} \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

$$\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

Y is 1km south-east of Z, so Z is 1km north-west of Y. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 135^{\circ} \\ \sin 135^{\circ} \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

$$\mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \tag{5}$$

W is 1km west of **Z**. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 180^{\circ} \\ \sin 180^{\circ} \end{pmatrix} \tag{6}$$

$$\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} -1\\0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{7}$$

P is 1km south of **W**. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 270^{\circ} \\ \cos 270^{\circ} \end{pmatrix} \tag{8}$$

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{9}$$

Q is 1km east of **P**. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 0^{\circ} \\ \sin 0^{\circ} \end{pmatrix} \tag{10}$$

$$\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{11}$$

Adding (3), (5), (7), (9), (11) together, we get $\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{2} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$.

The distance between $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{2} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ is:

$$||\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Q}|| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \tag{12}$$

$$\sqrt{(\sqrt{2})^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{3} \tag{13}$$

Therefore the correct option is ${\bf C}$.

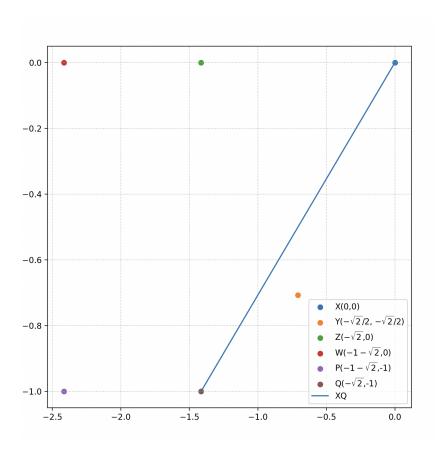


Figure 1: Plot