

Math Document Template

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Abstract—This is a simple document explaining how to calculate the distance between two points.

Download all and latex-tikz codes from

svn co <https://github.com/gadepall/school/trunk/ncert/geometry/figs>

1 PROBLEM

Find the distance between the points $\mathbf{P} = (1 \ -3 \ 4)^T$ and $\mathbf{Q} = (-4 \ 1 \ 2)^T$

2 CONSTRUCTION

2.1. List the design parameters for construction

Solution: See Table. 2.1.

Parameters	Values
\mathbf{P}	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
\mathbf{Q}	$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

TABLE 2.1: Values of the points

2.2. Generating the points and distance between them using python.

Solution: The following Python code generates Fig. 2.2

codes/point_distance.py

2.3. Verification of the solution by using python code

Solution: The following Python code verifies the solution.

codes/verify_distance.py

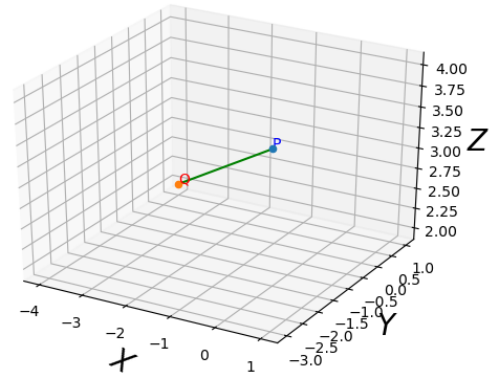


Fig. 2.2: Two points and distance between them.

3 SOLUTION

From the problem statement, we got the two points:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.1)$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.2)$$

The distance between the two points is given by:

$$d = \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}\|$$

or,

$$d = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \quad (3.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \sqrt{5^2 + (-4)^2 + 2^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 3\sqrt{5}$$