

PDF 8.020 Cartesian Equation of a Line in R^2

If the slope of a line is $\frac{b}{a}$, then the direction vector is $\overrightarrow{(a, b)}$

If the Cartesian equation of a line is $Ax + By + C = 0$, then the slope of the line is $-A/B$.

If $Ax + By + C = 0$, then the normal vector is (A, B) .

Example 1

Determine the equivalent vector and parametric equations of the line $y = \frac{3}{4}x + 2$.

Example 2

Given the line $r = (3, -6) + s(-1, -4)$, $s \in R$, determine the equivalent slope y-intercept form and Cartesian equation.

Example 3

Determine the Cartesian equation of the line passing through A (4, -2) that has the vector (5,3) as its normal.

Example 4

For what value of k are the line $kx + 4y - 4 = 0$ and $3x - 2y - 3 = 0$ perpendicular?

Example 5

Determine the acute angle formed at the intersection of the following pair of lines.

$$L_1: (x,y) = (2,2) + s(-1, 3) \quad \text{and} \quad L_2: (x,y) = (5,1) + t(3,4)$$

Example 6

Determine the acute and obtuse angle between the lines

$$3x - 2y + 7 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x + 4y - 17 = 0$$

Example 7

The line segment joining $A(2, 0)$ and $B(5,3)$ is the hypotenuse of a right triangle. The third vertex, C , lies on the line $\vec{r} = \vec{(3,1)} + t\vec{(1,-2)}$. Determine the coordinates of C (there might be more than one answer)