

# Que: 10.10.1.3

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## 1 PROBLEM

A tangent  $\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{Q}$  at a point  $\mathbf{P}$  of a circle of radius  $r = 5\text{cm}$  meets a line through the center  $\mathbf{O}$  at a point  $\mathbf{Q}$  so that  $\mathbf{O}-\mathbf{Q} = 12\text{cm}$ . Find length  $\mathbf{P}-\mathbf{Q}$ .

## 2 SOLUTION

Let the circle be

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 = 25 \quad (2.0.1)$$

and the point  $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

The tangent at  $\mathbf{P}$ , that  $\mathbf{Q}$  lies on, is given by

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.3)$$

also,

$$\|\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{O}\| = 12 \quad (2.0.4)$$

$$\|\mathbf{Q}\| = 12 \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$\|\mathbf{Q}\|^2 = 144 \quad (2.0.6)$$

for  $\mathbf{Q}$

$$\lambda^2 + 25 = 144 \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\lambda^2 = 119 \quad (2.0.8)$$

$$\lambda = \pm \sqrt{119} \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{119} \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.10)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\sqrt{119} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.11)$$

$$\|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}\| = \sqrt{119} \quad (2.0.12)$$

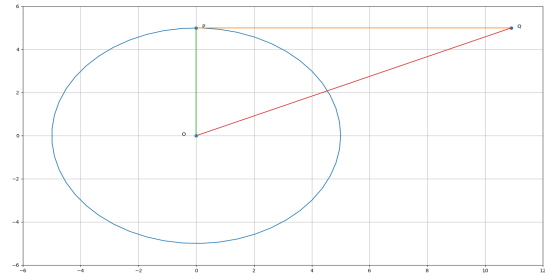


Fig. 0: Figure 1