

Assignment - 2

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PROBLEM

Perpendiculars PL, PM are drawn from P (h, k) on the axes OL, OM. Show that the length of the perpendicular from P on the LM is $hk \sin^2 \omega / \sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + 2hk \cos \omega}$ and that the equation of the perpendicular is $h(x - h) = k(y - k)$

SOLUTION

Let PQ be the perpendicular from P on LM, then
Area of $\triangle PLM$ is given as ,

$$\frac{1}{2} \|L - M\| \|P - Q\| \quad (1)$$

Again, taking PM as base and L as vertex, Area of $\triangle PLM$ is given as ,

$$\frac{1}{2} \|P - M\| \|P - L\| \sin \angle LPM \quad (2)$$

As $\angle LPM = 180^\circ - \omega$, by (1) and (2) we get,

$$\frac{1}{2} \|L - M\| \|P - Q\| = \frac{1}{2} \|P - M\| \|P - L\| \sin \angle LPM \quad (3)$$

Here,

$$\|L - M\| = \sin \omega \sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + 2hk \cos \omega}$$

$$\|P - M\| = k \sin \omega$$

$$\|P - L\| = h \sin \omega$$

$$(\sin \omega \sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + 2hk \cos \omega}) \|P - Q\| = k \sin \omega \ h \sin \omega \ \sin (180^\circ - \omega)$$

$$\|P - Q\| = \frac{hk \sin^2 \omega}{\sqrt{h^2 + k^2 + 2hk \cos \omega}} \quad (4)$$

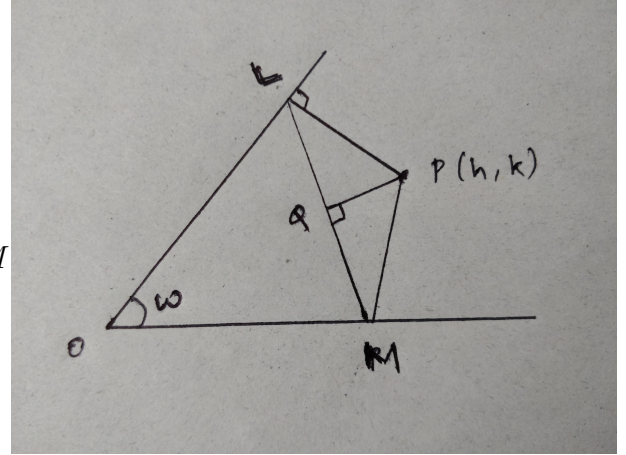


Fig. 1. Diagram