1.11.18

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1 Problem

2 Solution

Plot

Problem Statement

Find the direction cosines of the line joining points ${\bf P}$ (4,3,-5) and ${\bf Q}$ (-2,1,8).

Solution

| Point | Coordinate |
|-------|------------|
| Р | (4, 3, -5) |
| Q | (-2, 1, 8) |

Table: Coordinates

Solution

Let the unit vector in the direction of the vector PQ be \hat{a} . Then

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P}}{||\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P}||}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$
(2)

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} -2\\1\\8 \end{pmatrix} \tag{3}$$

$$\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -2 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

$$||\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{P}|| = \sqrt{(-6)^2 + (-2)^2 + 13^2}$$

= $\sqrt{209}$ (5)

Solution

From the above equations,

$$\hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-6}{\sqrt{209}} \\ \frac{-2}{\sqrt{209}} \\ \frac{13}{\sqrt{209}} \end{pmatrix} \tag{6}$$

The direction cosines of the the line joining **A** and **B** are the components of \hat{a} i.e. $\frac{-6}{\sqrt{209}}$, $\frac{-2}{\sqrt{209}}, \frac{13}{\sqrt{209}}$

Plot

The codes in

https://github.com/Pratheek39/EE1030/tree/c703931a5fffd529b14ab319f

plot the following figure

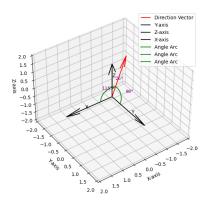


Figure: Line joining ${f P}$ and ${f Q}$