1.8.23

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Question

If the point A(2, -4) is equidistant from P(3, 8) and Q(-10, y), find the values of y. Also find distance PQ.

Symbol	Value	Description
Α	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$	equidistant point
Р	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$	First point
Q	$\begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$	Second point

Parameters for the problem

Theoretical Solution

Since A is equidistant from P and Q,

$$\left\| \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{P} \right) \right\| = \left\| \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q} \right) \right\| \tag{1}$$

$$\left\| \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{P} \right) \right\|^2 = \left\| \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q} \right) \right\|^2 \tag{2}$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{P})^{\top} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{P}) = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q})^{\top} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q})$$
(3)

$$||\mathbf{A}||^2 - 2\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{P} + ||\mathbf{P}||^2 = ||\mathbf{A}||^2 - 2\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{Q} + ||\mathbf{Q}||^2$$
 (4)

$$(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q})^{\top} \mathbf{A} = \frac{||\mathbf{P}||^2 - ||\mathbf{Q}||^2}{2}$$
 (5)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 - (-10) \\ 8 - y \end{pmatrix}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{73 - (-10)^2 - y^2}{2}$$
 (6)

$$y^2 + 8y + 15 = 0 (7)$$

Therefore,

$$y = -5, -3$$
 (8)

$$\mathbf{Q_1} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{Q_2} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{9}$$

Distance

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q_1} \end{pmatrix} \right\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \right\|$$

$$= \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 13 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \right\|$$
(11)

$$\left\| \left(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}_2 \right) \right\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \tag{13}$$

$$= \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 13\\11 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \tag{14}$$

$$=\sqrt{290}\tag{15}$$

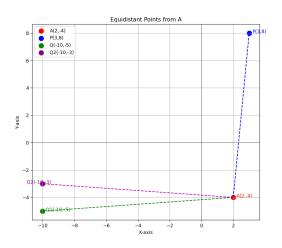


 $= 13\sqrt{2}$

(12)

Python, C, Python+C codes

codes permalink



Equidistant Points from A