

4.7.57

EE25BTECH11060 - V.Namaswi

Question

Find distance of $(3, -5)$ from line $3x - 4y - 26 = 0$

Solution:

The given line is

$$3x - 4y - 26 = 0$$

This can be written in the form

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = c \quad (1)$$

where

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c = 26.$$

Let the point be

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The distance of point \mathbf{P} from the line is

$$d = \frac{|\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{P} - c|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}. \quad (2)$$

Substituting the values,

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$= 3(3) + (-4)(-5) \quad (4)$$

$$= 9 + 20 = 29. \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{P} - c \quad (6)$$

$$= 29 - 26 = 3. \quad (7)$$

$$\|\mathbf{n}\| = \sqrt{3^2 + (-4)^2} \quad (8)$$

$$= \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5. \quad (9)$$

$$\text{So, } d = \frac{|3|}{5} = \frac{3}{5}. \quad (10)$$

Refer fig

