Question:

The line *L* is given by $\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$ passes through the point (13, 32). The line *K* is parallel to the line *L* and has the equation $\frac{x}{c} + \frac{y}{3} = 1$. Then the distance between *L* and *K* is **Solution:**

The equation of line:

$$\mathbf{n}^{\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{x} = 1 \tag{0.1}$$

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Line L:

$$\left(\frac{1}{5} \quad \frac{1}{b}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{0.2}$$

Line L passes through $\begin{pmatrix} 13\\32 \end{pmatrix}$:

$$\left(\frac{1}{5} \quad \frac{1}{b}\right) \begin{pmatrix} 13\\32 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{0.3}$$

$$\frac{32}{b} = 1 - \frac{13}{5} \implies b = -20 \tag{0.4}$$

Line K:

$$\left(\frac{1}{c} \quad \frac{1}{3}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{0.5}$$

Since lines *L* and *K* are parallel:

$$\mathbf{n}_K = \lambda \mathbf{n}_L \tag{0.6}$$

$$\left(\frac{\frac{1}{9}}{\frac{1}{3}}\right) = \lambda \left(-\frac{\frac{1}{5}}{\frac{1}{20}}\right) \tag{0.7}$$

Thus,

$$\lambda = -\frac{20}{3} \quad c = -\frac{3}{4} \tag{0.8}$$

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.9}$$

The distance between parallel lines:

Distance =
$$\frac{|c_1 - c_2|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}$$
 (0.10)

Distance =
$$\frac{|20 - (-3)|}{\sqrt{4^2 + (-1)^2}}$$
 (0.11)

$$\therefore \text{ Distance} = \frac{23}{\sqrt{17}} \tag{0.12}$$

