

Line Assignment

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September 2022

Problem Statement - The perpendicular from the Origin to a line meets it at the point (-2,9). Find the equation of the line?

Solution

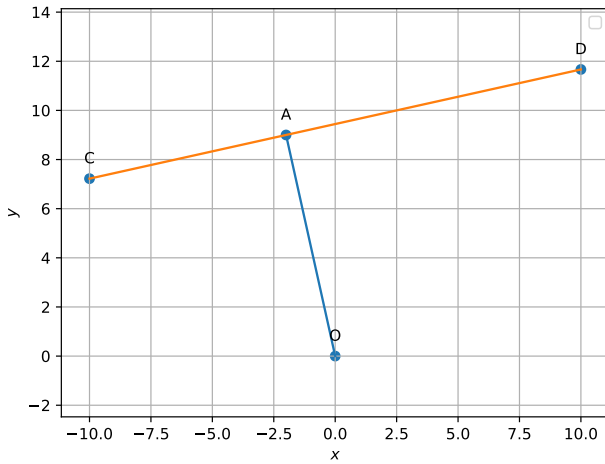


Figure 1:

Construction

The input parameters of figure

Symbol	value
O	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
A	$\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$
D	$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

Table 1:

Solution:

Given vector points :

$$\mathbf{O} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

let D be a point on the required line :

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} x + 2 \\ y - 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

directional vector:

$$\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{O} - \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

General form for the equation of line is :

$$\mathbf{n}^T(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A}) = 0$$

$$(2 \ -9) \left(\begin{pmatrix} x + 2 \\ y - 9 \end{pmatrix} \right) = -85$$

$$2x - 9y + 85 = 0 \quad (4)$$