Question:

Find a vector of magnitude 5 units, and parallel to the resultant of the vectors $\mathbf{a} = 2\hat{i} + 3\hat{j} - \hat{k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + \hat{k}$.

Solution:

Let the required vector be \mathbf{R} ,

$$\mathbf{R} = k \frac{\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}}{\|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\|} \tag{1}$$

According to the question k = 5,

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

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

$$\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

So,

$$\mathbf{p} = 5 \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 3\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}}{\sqrt{3^2 + 1^2 + 0^2}} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (5)

$$\mathbf{p} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3\\1\\0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{6}$$

3D Plot: Vectors a, b, and Resultant Parallel of Mag 5

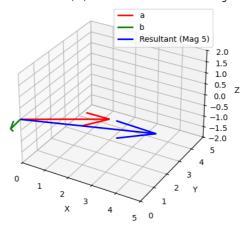


Fig. 0