21-S-2-7-AG-054

Point A is located at the coordinates $A = 0\hat{\imath} + Y\hat{\jmath} + Z\hat{k}$. Point B is located at $B = A\hat{\imath} + 0\hat{\jmath} + C\hat{k}$. A rope is stretched between points A and B with a tension force of F N. What are the directional components of the tension force as seen from point A?

ANSWER:

The directional vector at point A is,

$$\mathbf{A} = (x_B - x_A)\hat{\mathbf{i}} + (y_B - y_A)\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (z_B - z_A)\hat{\mathbf{k}} = A\hat{\mathbf{i}} - Y\hat{\mathbf{j}} + (C - Z)\hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

The directional components of the tension force are then,

$$F_{x} = \frac{F}{\sqrt{A^{2} + Y^{2} + (C - Z)^{2}}} \cdot A$$

$$F_{y} = \frac{F}{\sqrt{A^{2} + Y^{2} + (C - Z)^{2}}} \cdot -Y$$

$$F_{z} = \frac{F}{\sqrt{A^{2} + Y^{2} + (C - Z)^{2}}} \cdot (C - Z)$$