

Given the points $P(1, -1, 2)$, $Q(2, 3, 4)$, $B(0, 1, -1)$, find:

1. the equation of the sphere for which PQ is a diameter;

Ans: Mid point between P and Q is $(\frac{1+2}{2}, \frac{-1+3}{2}, \frac{2+4}{2}) = (\frac{3}{2}, 1, 3)$.

Radius = $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(2-1)^2 + (3+1)^2 + (4-2)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{21}}{2}$. Equation of the sphere:

$$\left(x - \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + (y - 1)^2 + (z - 3)^2 = \frac{21}{4}.$$

2. (3 points) the vectors \vec{PB} , \vec{PQ} and $\vec{PB} \times \vec{PQ}$;

Ans: $\vec{PB} = \langle -1, 2, -3 \rangle$, $\vec{PQ} = \langle 1, 4, 2 \rangle$, $\vec{PB} \times \vec{PQ} = \langle 16, -1, -6 \rangle$

3. the direction cosines for \vec{PB} .

Ans: $\|\vec{PB}\| = \sqrt{14}$. $\cos \alpha = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{14}}$, $\cos \beta = \frac{2}{\sqrt{14}}$, $\cos \gamma = -\frac{3}{\sqrt{14}}$.

4. (3 points) the degree measure of the acute angle \widehat{BPQ} ;

Ans: $\cos \theta = \frac{|\vec{PB} \cdot \vec{PQ}|}{\|\vec{PB}\| \|\vec{PQ}\|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{14}\sqrt{21}} = \frac{1}{7\sqrt{6}}$. $\theta = 86.57^\circ$.

5. the area of the triangle BPQ ;

Ans: $\Delta PBQ = \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{PB} \times \vec{PQ}\| = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{293}$.

6. the height of the triangle BPQ when PQ is the base;

Ans: $h = \frac{2\Delta PBQ}{\|\vec{PQ}\|} = \frac{\sqrt{293}}{\sqrt{21}} = 3.74$

7. a decomposition of the vector \vec{PB} into two vectors, one in the direction of \vec{PQ} and the other orthogonal to it.

Ans: $\text{Proj}_{\vec{PQ}} \vec{PB} = \frac{\vec{PB} \cdot \vec{PQ}}{\|\vec{PQ}\|^2} \vec{PQ} = \frac{1}{21} \langle 1, 4, 2 \rangle = \langle \frac{1}{21}, \frac{4}{21}, \frac{2}{21} \rangle$.

Component orthogonal to $\vec{PQ} = \vec{PB} - \text{Proj}_{\vec{PQ}} \vec{PB} = \langle -1, 2, -3 \rangle - \langle \frac{1}{21}, \frac{4}{21}, \frac{2}{21} \rangle = \langle -\frac{22}{21}, \frac{38}{21}, -\frac{65}{21} \rangle$.

8. parametric equations of the line that passes through P and Q ;

Ans: $x = 1 + t$, $y = -1 + 4t$, $z = 2 + 2t$.

9. all points C on the line through P and Q such that the triangle PBC has a right angle;

Ans: Since C is on PQ , $C = (1 + t, -1 + 4t, 2 + 2t)$ and $\vec{BC} = \langle 1 + t, -2 + 4t, 3 + 2t \rangle$. We have two possibilities: either angle $C = 90^\circ$, or angle $B = 90^\circ$. In the

first case, $\overrightarrow{BC} \cdot \overrightarrow{PQ} = 0$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1+t, -2+4t, 3+2t \rangle \cdot \left\langle \frac{1}{21}, \frac{4}{21}, \frac{2}{21} \right\rangle &= 0 \\ -1+21t &= 0 \\ t &= \frac{1}{21} \\ C &= \left(\frac{22}{21}, -\frac{17}{21}, \frac{44}{21} \right). \end{aligned}$$

In the second case, $\overrightarrow{BC} \cdot \overrightarrow{PB} = 0$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 1+t, -2+4t, 3+2t \rangle \cdot \langle -1, 2, -3 \rangle &= 0 \\ -14+t &= 0 \\ t &= 14 \\ C &= (15, 55, 30). \end{aligned}$$

10. the distance between the point B and the line through P and Q ;

Ans: You may notice that the answer is the same as problem 6. Alternatively, you may use problem 9 to compute $\|\overrightarrow{BC}\|$ at $t = \frac{1}{21}$. In either case you get 3.74.