

Answer on Question #46185 - Math - Vector Calculus

Find co-ordinates of the points on the line $(x+2)/3 = (y+1)/2 = (z-3)/2$ at a distance $3\sqrt{2}$ from the point $(1, 2, 3)$

Solution.

(x', y', z') - point that we want to find.

Distance between points (x', y', z') and $(1, 2, 3)$:

$$\sqrt{(x' - 1)^2 + (y' - 2)^2 + (z' - 3)^2} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

Then

$$(x' - 1)^2 + (y' - 2)^2 + (z' - 3)^2 = 18$$

Point (x', y', z') must satisfy the equation of the line, that why

$$\frac{x' + 2}{3} = \frac{y' + 1}{2} = \frac{z' - 3}{2}$$

So we have system of equations

$$\begin{cases} (x' - 1)^2 + (y' - 2)^2 + (z' - 3)^2 = 18 \\ \frac{x' + 2}{3} = \frac{y' + 1}{2} = \frac{z' - 3}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{y' + 1}{2} = \frac{z' - 3}{2} \quad z' - 3 = y' + 1$$

$$\frac{x' + 2}{3} = \frac{y' + 1}{2} \quad x' + 2 = \frac{3(y' + 1)}{2} \quad x' - 1 = \frac{3(y' + 1)}{2} - 3 = \frac{3}{2}(y' - 1)$$

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{3}{2}(y' - 1)\right)^2 + (y' - 2)^2 + (y' + 1)^2 = 18 \\ \frac{x' + 2}{3} = \frac{y' + 1}{2} = \frac{z' - 3}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{17}{4}y'^2 - \frac{13}{2}y' - \frac{43}{4} = 0 \\ \frac{x' + 2}{3} = \frac{y' + 1}{2} = \frac{z' - 3}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{17}{4}y'^2 - \frac{13}{2}y' - \frac{43}{4} = 0$$

$$17y'^2 - 26y' - 43 = 0 \quad D = 26^2 + 4 \cdot 17 \cdot 43 = 3600$$

$$y'_1 = \frac{26 + \sqrt{D}}{2 \cdot 17} = \frac{43}{17}$$

$$y'_2 = \frac{26 - \sqrt{D}}{2 \cdot 17} = -1$$

$$x'_1 = \frac{3}{2}(y'_1 - 1) + 1 = \frac{56}{17} \quad x'_2 = \frac{3}{2}(y'_2 - 1) + 1 = -2$$

$$z'_1 = y'_1 + 4 = \frac{111}{17} \quad z'_2 = y'_2 + 4 = 3$$

Our points : $\left(\frac{56}{17}, \frac{43}{17}, \frac{111}{17}\right)$ and $(-2, -1, 3)$.

Answer: $\left(\frac{56}{17}, \frac{43}{17}, \frac{111}{17}\right)$ and $(-2, -1, 3)$.