



DISPLACEMENT AND POSITION VECTORS | KEY FACTS

- A vector that represents the **displacement between two points** is called a **displacement vector**.
- A vector that represents the **displacement from a fixed origin** is called a **position vector**.
- If points A and B have **position vectors** **a** and **b**, then $\overrightarrow{AB} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}$.

DISPLACEMENT AND POSITION VECTORS | EXAMPLE-PROBLEM PAIRS

(a) Find the distance between points A and B with position vectors

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) Point C has position vector $c = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ p \end{pmatrix}$.

Find the exact value of p such that $AC = 3AB$.

Points P and Q have position vectors $\overrightarrow{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\overrightarrow{OQ} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

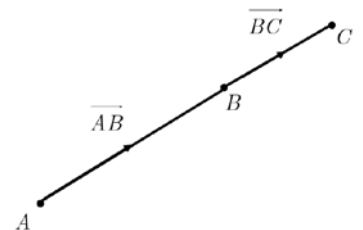
Find the distance PQ.

MIDPOINTS | KEY FACTS

- The midpoint of the line segment connecting with position vectors **a** and **b** is given by $\overrightarrow{OM} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b})$.

POINTS ON A STRAIGHT LINE | KEY FACTS

- If points A, B and C lie on a straight line, the vectors \overrightarrow{AB} and \overrightarrow{AC} must be parallel.
 - Therefore $\overrightarrow{AB} = k\overrightarrow{AC}$
 - If points lie on a straight line, they are **collinear**.
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PARALLELOGRAMS AND RHOMBI | KEY FACTS

- If $\overrightarrow{AB} = \overrightarrow{DC}$ then ABCD is a parallelogram.
- If in addition, $|\overrightarrow{AB}| = |\overrightarrow{BC}|$ then ABCD is a rhombus.

