Answer on Question #51517 – Math – Analytic Geometry

Find the polar equation of the line L perpendicular to the line angle=pi/3 at P(4,pi/3)



Fig.1

Take the equation of a line in the normal form

$$x\cos\alpha + y\sin\alpha - p = 0 \tag{1}$$

where $\alpha = \pi/3$ and p = 4.

Transformation formulas are given by

$$\begin{cases} x = r\cos\varphi \\ y = r\sin\varphi \end{cases}$$
(2)

Then

$$r\cos\varphi \cdot \cos\frac{\pi}{3} + r\sin\varphi \cdot \sin\frac{\pi}{3} - 4 = 0 \Longrightarrow r = \frac{4}{\cos\left(\varphi - \frac{\pi}{3}\right)}$$

Answer: $r = \frac{4}{\cos\left(\varphi - \frac{\pi}{3}\right)}$

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