2.5.5

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Question

If (-5, 3) and (5, 3) are two vertices of an equilateral triangle, then the coordinates of the third vertex, given that the origin lies inside the triangle (take $\sqrt{3}=1.7$), are

Given Information

Let the two given points be represented as vectors, ${\boldsymbol A}$ and ${\boldsymbol B}$, respectively

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -5\\3 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 5\\3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

Let us assume the third point be **C**.

Solution

 ${f C}$ must be equidistant from both ${f A}$ and ${f B}$, and it lies on the perpendicular bisector to both ${f A}$ and ${f B}$.

The distance between A and B, is given by

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} -10\\0 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \tag{2}$$

We know that the norm of a vector is given by

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\|^2 = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^\mathsf{T} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) \implies \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 100 \quad (3)$$

As the norm of a vector is always greater than or equal to zero. From 3 we get

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = 10 \tag{4}$$

The midpoint to the line segment AB is given by

$$\frac{\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}}{2} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -5\\3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 5\\3 \end{pmatrix}}{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{5}$$

Slope of line segment **AB** is given by

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ m \end{pmatrix}$$
, where m is the slope of the line segment (6)

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies m = 0 \tag{7}$$

Therefore the perpendicular bisector for this line segment is a vertical line passing through the midpoint (0, 3).

In parametric form

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ t+3 \end{pmatrix}$$
 , where t is the distance between the point \mathbf{C} and the line segment

(8)

Final Answer

We know for an equilateral triangle, distance between a point and the opposite edge is $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ times the length of an edge of that triangle.

$$t = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| \implies t = \pm 5\sqrt{3}$$
 (9)

Therefore the required points for C are given by

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ \pm 5\sqrt{3} + 3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{10}$$

C code

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<math.h>
double norm(double *A, int m){
       double norm = 0;
       for(int i=0; i<m; i++){</pre>
               norm += A[i] * A[i];
       }
       norm = sqrt(norm);
       return norm;
```

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import ctypes
import os
import sys
norm = ctypes.CDLL('./norm.so')
norm.norm.argtypes = [
       ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double),
       ctypes.c_int
```

```
norm.norm.restype = ctypes.c_double

A=np.array([-5, 3], dtype=np.float64)
B=np.array([5, 3], dtype=np.float64)
m=len(A)

D=B-A

fig, ax=plt.subplots()
```

```
def line_gen_num(A,B,num):
    dim = A.shape[0]
    x_AB = np.zeros((dim,num))
    lam_1 = np.linspace(0,1,num)
    for i in range(num):
        temp1 = A + lam_1[i]*(B-A)
        x_AB[:,i]= temp1.T
    return x_AB
```

```
x_AB = line_gen_num(A, B, 20)
x_BC1 = line_gen_num(C1, B, 20)
x_BC2 = line_gen_num(C2, B, 20)
x_AC1 = line_gen_num(A, C1, 20)
x_AC2 = line_gen_num(A, C2, 20)
```

```
plt.grid()
plt.title('2.9.2')
plt.plot(x_AB[0, :], x_AB[1, :], 'r--', label='Line from A to B')
plt.plot(x_BC1[0, :], x_BC1[1, :], 'r--')
plt.plot(x_BC2[0, :], x_BC2[1, :], 'r--')
plt.plot(x_AC1[0, :], x_AC1[1, :], 'r--')
plt.plot(x_AC2[0, :], x_AC2[1, :], 'r--')
```

```
plt.plot(A[0], A[1], 'go', label='Point A')
plt.annotate('(-5,3)', xy=(A[0],A[1]), fontsize=12)
plt.plot(B[0], B[1], 'go', label='Point B')
plt.annotate('(5,3)', xy=(B[0],B[1]), fontsize=12)
plt.plot(C1[0], C1[1], 'bo', label='Point C1')
plt.annotate('(0,11.5)', xy=(C1[0],C1[1]), fontsize=12)
plt.plot(C2[0], C2[1], 'bo', label='Point C2')
plt.annotate('(5,-5.5)', xy=(C2[0],C2[1]), fontsize=12)
```

```
for axis in ['bottom', 'left']:
    ax.spines[axis].set_color('black')
    ax.spines[axis].set_linewidth(2)
```

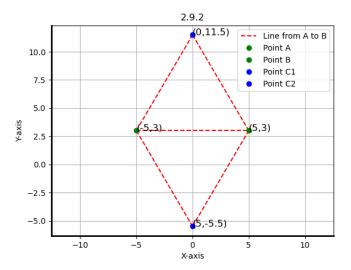


Figure: 2D Plot