

2.7.2

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Question: The area of a triangle with vertices A(-1,1), B(0,5) and C(3,2) is

Solution:

Given: A(-1, 1), B(0, 5), C(3, 2).

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 - (-1) \\ 5 - 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 - (-1) \\ 2 - 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\|(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) \times (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A})\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} |\mathbf{A}_{23} & \mathbf{B}_{23}| \\ |\mathbf{A}_{31} & \mathbf{B}_{31}| \\ |\mathbf{A}_{12} & \mathbf{B}_{12}| \end{pmatrix} \right\| = 7.5$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} \|(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) \times (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A})\| = 7.5$$

$\text{Area of Triangle ABC} = 7.5 \text{ sq.units}$

(0.1)

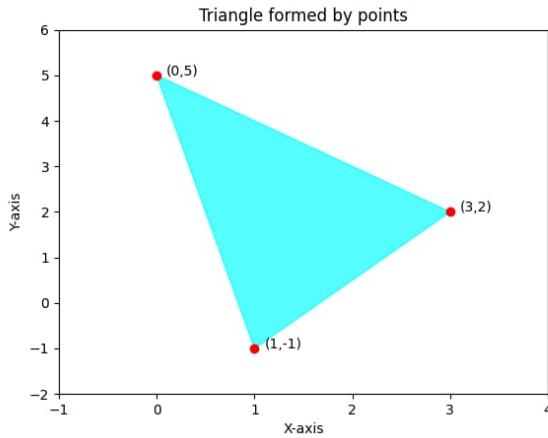


Fig. 0.1: Vector Representation