## 9.4.45

Kartik Lahoti - EE25BTECH11032

October 2, 2025

# Question

A motor boat whose speed is  $18\,km/h$  in still water takes 1 hour more to go  $24\,km$  upstream than to return downstream to the same spot. Find the speed of the stream.

Let speed of boat be v and of stream be u.

Now, if x - axis represents time t for downstream and y - axis represents time t for upstream,

$$\mathbf{n}^{\top}\mathbf{x} = c \tag{1}$$

where c is distance (Given = 24) and

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

If Line 1 cuts x - axis at  $t_1$  and y - axis at  $t_2$ , then Given,

$$t_1 = t_2 - 1 (3)$$

To solve,

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t_2 - 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 24 \tag{4}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & u \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ t_2 \end{pmatrix} = 24 \tag{5}$$

From 5

$$t_2 = \frac{24}{v - u} \tag{6}$$

Putting 6 in 4, we get

$$u^2 + 48u - 324 = 0 (7)$$

$$\implies y = x^2 + 48x - 324 = 0 \tag{8}$$

which can be expressed as the conic

$$\mathbf{x}^{\top}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^{\top}\mathbf{x} + f = 0 \tag{9}$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 24 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, f = -324. \tag{10}$$

To find the roots of 9, we find the points of intersection of the conic with the x-axis

$$\mathbf{x_i} + \mathbf{h} + k_i \mathbf{m} \tag{11}$$

$$\mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{12}$$

Using,

$$k_{i} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{m}^{\top}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{m}} \left( -\mathbf{m}^{\top} \left( \mathbf{V}\mathbf{h} + \mathbf{u} \right) \pm \sqrt{\left[ \mathbf{m}^{\top} \left( \mathbf{V}\mathbf{h} + \mathbf{u} \right) \right]^{2} - g\left( \mathbf{h} \right) \left( \mathbf{m}^{\top}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{m} \right)} \right)$$
(13)

$$k_i = \frac{1}{1} \left( -24 \pm \sqrt{24^2 + 324} \right) \tag{14}$$

$$\implies k_1 = 6, k_2 = -54$$
 (15)

the points of intersection are

$$\mathbf{h} + k\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -54 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{16}$$

Since u cannot be negative,

$$u = 6 \, km/h \tag{17}$$



