

1.3.10

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Question

Find the ratio in which the point $\mathbf{P}(8, y)$ divides the line segment joining the points $\mathbf{A}(1, 2)$ and $\mathbf{B}(2, 3)$. Also, find the value of y .

Theoretical Solution

Let the vectors be

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Equation

If \mathbf{P} divides $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$ in the ratio $k : 1$, then

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{k\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}}{k + 1}$$

Substitution

From the x-coordinate:

$$8 = \frac{2k + 1}{k + 1}$$

$$8(k + 1) = 2k + 1 \implies 8k + 8 = 2k + 1 \implies 6k = -7 \implies k = -\frac{7}{6}$$

From the y-coordinate:

$$y = \frac{3k + 2}{k + 1}$$

Substitute $k = -\frac{7}{6}$:

$$y = \frac{3(-\frac{7}{6}) + 2}{-\frac{7}{6} + 1} = \frac{-\frac{7}{2} + 2}{-\frac{1}{6}} = \frac{-\frac{3}{2}}{-\frac{1}{6}} = 9$$

$$\text{Ratio} = -7 : 6 \quad (\text{external division}), \quad y = 9$$

```
#include <stdio.h>

void find_y_and_ratio() {
    double x1=1, y1=2, x2=2, y2=3;
    double xp=8, yp;
    double k;

    // solve for ratio using x-coordinate
    k = (xp - x1) / (x2 - x1);

    // solve for y-coordinate
    yp = (k*y2 + y1) / (k+1);

    printf("Ratio = %.2f : 1\n", k);
    printf("y = %.2f\n", yp);
}
```

```
int main() {  
    find_y_and_ratio();  
    return 0;  
}
```


Python Code

```
def find_y_and_ratio():  
    A = (1,2)  
    B = (2,3)  
    Px = 8  
  
    # solve for ratio using x-coordinate  
    k = (Px - A[0]) / (B[0] - Px)  
  
    # solve for y-coordinate  
    y = (k*B[1] + A[1]) / (k+1)  
  
    print("Ratio = {:.2f} : 1".format(k))  
    print("y =", y)  
  
find_y_and_ratio()
```

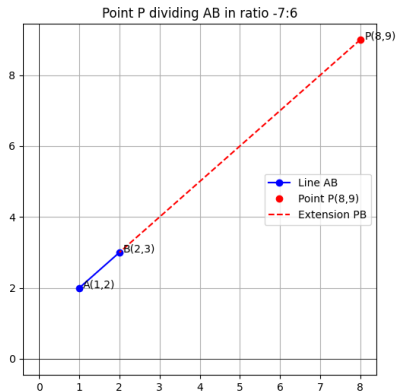


Figure: