4.3.32

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September 18, 2025

Question

Find the slope of a line which cuts off intercepts of equal length on the axes is. Solve using matrices.

Theoretical Solution

Consider normal form of a line:

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = c$$
, where $\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \end{pmatrix}$ (1)

Consider normal form of a line:

$$\mathbf{n}^{\top}\mathbf{x} = 1 \tag{2}$$

Given that equal intercepts are cut off we get 2 cases:

On substituting the intercepts in place of x:

Case 1: The intercepts are equal (b = a)

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{3}$$

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ a \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{4}$$

(5)

Theoretical Solution

Case 2: The intercepts are negatives of each other (-b = a)

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{9}$$

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -a \end{pmatrix} = 1 \tag{10}$$

(11)

By (9), (10):

$$\mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & -a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{12}$$

$$\implies a\mathbf{n}^{\top} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{13}$$

Let
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

C Code

```
#include <stdio.h>
void calculate_slopes(double intercept_a,
    double* output_slopes) {
       // A line requires non-zero
           intercepts. If a is zero, we can
           't calculate a slope.
       if (intercept_a == 0.0) {
              output_slopes[0] = 0.0; // Or
                    some error value like
                  NAN
              output slopes[1] = 0.0;
              return;
       double slope1 = intercept a / (-
           intercept a);
       double slope2 = (-intercept a) / (-
           intercept a);
       // Fill the output array with the
           two calculated slopes
```

```
import ctypes
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# --- Step 1: Load the shared library ---
lib = ctypes.CDLL('./4.3.32.so')
# --- Step 2: Define the C function
    signature ---
calculate_slopes_func = lib.
    calculate slopes
calculate_slopes_func.argtypes = [
ctypes.c double,
np.ctypeslib.ndpointer(dtype=np.double,
   ndim=1, flags='C CONTIGUOUS')
calculate slopes func.restype
```

```
# --- Step 3: Prepare data and call the C function
intercept_a = 4.0
output_slopes = np.zeros(2, dtype=np.double)
calculate_slopes_func(intercept_a, output_slopes)
print(fC function called with intercept a = {
   intercept_a})
print(fCalculated slopes returned: {output_slopes
    [0] and {output_slopes[1]})
# --- Step 4: Plot the results with highlighted
   axes ---
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8, 8))
# Define x values for plotting the lines
x = np.linspace(-6, 6, 400)
```

```
# --- Line 1 (Slope = -1) ---
slope1 = output_slopes[0]
y_intercept1 = intercept_a
y1 = slope1 * x + y_intercept1
ax.plot(x, y1, 'r-', label=f'Line 1: y = {slope1}x
    + {v intercept1:.0f}')
ax.plot([intercept_a, 0], [0, y_intercept1], 'ro',
    markersize=8)
# --- Line 2 (Slope = 1) ---
slope2 = output slopes[1]
y intercept2 = -intercept a
y2 = slope2 * x + y intercept2
ax.plot(x, y2, 'b-', label=f'Line 2: y = {slope2}x
    - {y intercept2:.0f}')
ax.plot([intercept_a, 0], [0, y_intercept2], 'bo',
    markersize=8)
```

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```
# --- Highlighting the Coordinate Axes ---
# Remove the default box-like plot frame (
    spines)
ax.spines['right'].set_color('none')
ax.spines['top'].set_color('none')
# Move the bottom and left spines to the
    center (0,0)
ax.spines['bottom'].set_position('zero')
ax.spines['left'].set_position('zero')
# Make the new axes bold
ax.spines['bottom'].set linewidth(1.5)
ax.spines['left'].set linewidth(1.5)
```

```
# Add arrows to the end of the new axes
ax.plot(1, 0, >k, transform=ax.get yaxis transform
    (), clip on=False)
ax.plot(0, 1, ^k, transform=ax.get_xaxis_transform
    (), clip_on=False)
# --- End of Highlighting Section ---
# --- Plot Styling ---
ax.set_title('Lines with Intercepts of Equal
   Length', fontsize=16)
# Add axis labels at the end of the arrows
ax.set xlabel('X-axis', fontsize=12, loc='right')
ax.set ylabel('Y-axis', fontsize=12, loc='top',
   rotation=0)
```

```
ax.set_aspect('equal', adjustable='box')
ax.grid(True, linestyle=':')
ax.legend()
ax.set_xlim(-6, 6)
ax.set_ylim(-6, 6)
plt.savefig('slope_plot_highlighted.png')
plt.show()
```

Plot by python using shared output from c

