

1.4.26

Vector Section Formula

EE25BTECH11010 - Arsh Dhoke

Question

The position vector of the point which divides the join of points $2\mathbf{a} - 3\mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$ in the ratio $3 : 1$ is _____.

Theoretical Solution

$$\mathbf{P} = 2\mathbf{a} - 3\mathbf{b}, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}. \quad (2)$$

Now, the matrix form for \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{Q} is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P} & \mathbf{Q} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

Using section formula, the point **R** dividing **Q – P** in ratio 3 : 1 is:

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{3\mathbf{Q} + 1\mathbf{P}}{3 + 1} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{Q} & \mathbf{P} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} & 2\mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} & -3\mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

Calculation Steps

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{4} \left(3 \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} \\ \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2\mathbf{a} \\ -3\mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 5\mathbf{a} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5\mathbf{a}}{4} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5\mathbf{a}}{4} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}$$

Choosing values of a and b

Let $\mathbf{a} = 1$ and $\mathbf{b} = 0$.

C Code - Section formula

```
#include <stdio.h>

void sectionFormula(int m, int n, float a, float b, float *x) {
    *x = (m * b + n * a) / (float)(m + n);
}
```

Python Code

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Define values for a and b
a = 1 # Example value
b = 0 # Example value

# Define points as NumPy arrays
P = np.array([2*a, -3*b]) # Point P
Q = np.array([a, b]) # Point Q

# Ratio m:n
m = 3
n = 1

# Section formula for internal division
R = (m * Q + n * P) / (m + n)

# Print the result
```


Python Code

```
# Plotting
plt.figure(figsize=(6, 6))
plt.axhline(0, color='black', linewidth=0.8)
plt.axvline(0, color='black', linewidth=0.8)

# Plot P, Q, and R
plt.scatter(*P, color='blue', label='P (2a, -3b)')
plt.scatter(*Q, color='green', label='Q (a, b)')
plt.scatter(*R, color='red', label=f'R (ratio {m}:{n})')

# Draw line between P and Q
plt.plot([P[0], Q[0]], [P[1], Q[1]], color='gray', linestyle='--'
        )

# Annotate points
plt.text(P[0]+0.2, P[1]+0.2, 'P')
plt.text(Q[0]+0.2, Q[1]+0.2, 'Q')
plt.text(R[0]+0.2, R[1]+0.2, 'R')
```

```
plt.xlabel('X-axis')
plt.ylabel('Y-axis')
plt.title('Section Formula Visualization')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.savefig("/home/arsh-dhoke/ee1030-2025/ee25btech11010/matgeo
/1.4.26/figs/q1.png")
plt.show()
```

```
import ctypes
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Load the shared library
lib = ctypes.CDLL("./libsection_int.so")

# Define argument and return types
lib.sectionFormula.argtypes = [
    ctypes.c_int, ctypes.c_int,
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double), ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.
        c_double),
    ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double)
]
lib.sectionFormula.restype = None

# Values for a and b
a = 1
```

```
# Points P and Q
P = (ctypes.c_double * 2)(2 * a, -3 * b)
Q = (ctypes.c_double * 2)(a, b)
R = (ctypes.c_double * 2)(0.0, 0.0)

# Ratio m:n
m, n = 3, 1

# Call the C function
lib.sectionFormula(m, n, P, Q, R)

# Convert to NumPy arrays for plotting
P_np = np.array([P[0], P[1]])
Q_np = np.array([Q[0], Q[1]])
R_np = np.array([R[0], R[1]])

print("Position vector of the point R (from C):", R_np)
```

```
# Plotting
plt.figure(figsize=(6, 6))
plt.axhline(0, color='black', linewidth=0.8)
plt.axvline(0, color='black', linewidth=0.8)

# Plot P, Q, and R
plt.scatter(*P_np, color='blue', label='P (2a, -3b)')
plt.scatter(*Q_np, color='green', label='Q (a, b)')
plt.scatter(*R_np, color='red', label=f'R (ratio {m}:{n})')

# Draw line between P and Q
plt.plot([P_np[0], Q_np[0]], [P_np[1], Q_np[1]], color='gray',
         linestyle='--')

# Annotate points
plt.text(P_np[0]+0.2, P_np[1]+0.2, 'P')
plt.text(Q_np[0]+0.2, Q_np[1]+0.2, 'Q')
plt.text(R_np[0]+0.2, R_np[1]+0.2, 'R')
```

```
plt.xlabel('X-axis')
plt.ylabel('Y-axis')
plt.title('Section Formula Visualization (Using C & Python)')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.axis('equal')

# Save the plot
plt.savefig("/home/arsh-dhoke/ee1030-2025/ee25btech11010/matgeo
/1.4.26/figs/q1.png")

# Show plot
plt.show()
```

