

4.3.32

Nipun Dasari - EE25BTECH11042

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:

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

Consider normal form of a line:

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{x} = 1 \quad (2)$$

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

On substituting the intercepts in place of \mathbf{x} :

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

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^T \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \quad (3)$$

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^T \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ a \end{pmatrix} = 1 \quad (4)$$

$$(5)$$

from (3) and from (4)

Theoretical Solution

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

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{n}^\top \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \quad (9)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{n}^\top \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -a \end{pmatrix} = 1 \quad (10)$$

$$(11)$$

By (9), (10):

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

$$\Rightarrow a\mathbf{n}^\top \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

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

For this matrix $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}$

```
#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
```

Python Code using shared output

```
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 = None
```

Python Code using shared output

```
# --- 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)
```

Python Code using shared output

```
# --- 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
      + {y_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)
```


Python Code using shared output

```
# --- 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)
```

Python Code using shared output

```
# 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)
```

Python Code using shared output

```
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

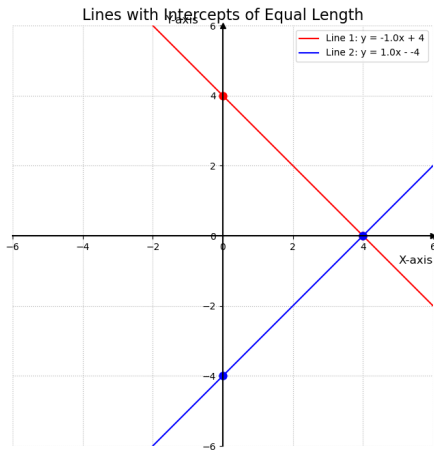


Figure: *