4.13.47

EE25BTECH11043 - Nishid Khandagre

September 30, 2025

Question

The ends A, B of a straight line segment of constant length c slide upon the fixed rectangular axes OX, OY respectively. If the rectangle OAPB be completed, then show that the locus of the foot of perpendicular drawn from P to AB is $x^{\frac{2}{3}} + y^{\frac{2}{3}} = c^{\frac{2}{3}}$.

Given

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ b \end{pmatrix} \tag{2}$$

Since OAPB is a rectangle, the opposite corner P is:

$$P = A + B \tag{3}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \tag{4}$$

 $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$ has fixed length of c

$$\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\|^2 = (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^{\top} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})$$
 (5)

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 (6)$$

Let **H** be the foot of the perpendicular from **P** to the line through **A** in the direction $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$.

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{A} + \lambda \left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \right) \tag{7}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\left(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A}\right)^{\top} \left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\right)}{\left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\right)^{\top} \left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\right)}$$
(8)

$$\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{A} \tag{9}$$

$$= \mathbf{B} \tag{10}$$

So,

$$\lambda = \frac{\mathbf{B}^{\top} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})}{(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^{\top} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})}$$
(11)

$$=\frac{\mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{B}-\mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{A}}{a^2+b^2} \tag{12}$$

We know

$$\mathbf{B}^{\top}\mathbf{A} = 0 \tag{13}$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{B} = b^2 \tag{14}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2} \tag{15}$$

Now compute **H**:

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{A} + \frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2} \left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \right) \tag{16}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2} \begin{pmatrix} -a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \tag{17}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a - \frac{ab^2}{a^2 + b^2} \\ \frac{b^3}{a^2 + b^2} \end{pmatrix} \tag{18}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a(a^2+b^2)-ab^2}{a^2+b^2} \\ \frac{b^3}{a^2+b^2} \end{pmatrix} \tag{19}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a^3}{a^2 + b^2} \\ \frac{b^3}{a^2 + b^2} \end{pmatrix} \tag{20}$$

Let
$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$
. Then,

$$x = \frac{a^3}{a^2 + b^2}$$
 (21)
$$y = \frac{b^3}{a^2 + b^2}$$
 (22)

$$y = \frac{b^3}{a^2 + b^2} \tag{22}$$

Using the constraint $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$:

$$a^3 = x(a^2 + b^2) = xc^2 (23)$$

$$b^3 = y(a^2 + b^2) = yc^2 (24)$$

Thus,

$$a = (xc^2)^{1/3} = c^{2/3}x^{1/3}$$
 (25)

$$b = (yc^2)^{1/3} = c^{2/3}y^{1/3}$$
 (26)

Substitute these into $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$:

$$(c^{2/3}x^{1/3})^2 + (c^{2/3}y^{1/3})^2 = c^2$$
(27)

$$c^{4/3}x^{2/3} + c^{4/3}y^{2/3} = c^2 (28)$$

$$c^{4/3}(x^{2/3} + y^{2/3}) = c^2 (29)$$

The locus is:

$$x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = c^{2/3} (30)$$

C Code

```
include <math.h>
// Function to calculate the foot of the perpendicular from
   \rightarrow point P to line segment AB
3 // P x, P y: coordinates of point P
4 // A_x, A_y: coordinates of point A
5 // B x, B y: coordinates of point B
6 // foot_x, foot_y: pointers to store the calculated

→ coordinates of the foot of the perpendicular

void calculateFootOfPerpendicular(double P_x, double P_y,
8 double A x, double A y,
9 double B_x, double B_y,
double *foot x, double *foot y) {
```

C Code

```
1 / Vector AB
double BA_x = B_x - A_x;
3 double BA y = B y - A y;
4
5 // Vector AP
6 double AP x = P x - A x;
_{7} double AP_y = P_y - A_y;
  // Calculate lambda using the projection formula:
\frac{10}{10} // lambda = (AP . AB) / |AB|^2
11 double dot product AP BA = AP x * BA x + AP y * BA y;
double length_sq_BA = BA_x * BA_x + BA_y * BA_y;
```

C Code

```
ouble lambda = dot_product_AP_BA / length_sq_BA;

// The foot of the perpendicular F lies on the line AB:
// F = A + lambda * (B - A)

*foot_x = A_x + lambda * BA_x;

*foot_y = A_y + lambda * BA_y;
}
```

```
1 mport ctypes
import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 lib_geometry = ctypes.CDLL("./code9.so")
# Define the argument types and return type for the C

    function

6 lib geometry.calculateFootOfPerpendicular.argtypes = [
7 ctypes.c_double, # P_x
8 ctypes.c_double, # P_y
g ctypes.c_double, # A_x
10 ctypes.c_double, # A y
11 ctypes.c_double, # B_x
  ctypes.c_double, # B_y
  ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double), # foot_x
14 ctypes.POINTER(ctypes.c_double) # foot_y
  ]
15
```

```
ib_geometry.calculateFootOfPerpendicular.restype = None
  def generate locus image():
   11 11 11
  Generates an image showing the locus of the foot of the
   \rightarrow perpendicular
6 from P to AB, using a C function for calculation.
   11 11 11
  # Define the length of the line segment
  c = 5.0 # Let's choose a value for c, e.g., 5.0
  # Create a range of angles for the line segment AB
# These angles will determine the positions of A and B
# Avoid 0 and pi/2 to prevent division by zero for some
   \hookrightarrow calculations or degenerate cases
theta_vals = np.linspace(0.01, np.pi/2 - 0.01, 100)
```

```
Initialize lists to store the coordinates of the foot of the
   \rightarrow perpendicular
_{2} locus x = []
  locus v = []
  # Ctypes variables to hold the results from the C function
  foot_x_result = ctypes.c_double()
  foot y result = ctypes.c double()
  for theta in theta vals:
       # Coordinates of A and B
8
       # A lies on OY (x=0), B lies on OX (y=0)
9
       # Length AB = c
10
       A x = 0.0
11
      A y = c * np.sin(theta)
12
       B_x = c * np.cos(theta)
13
       B y = 0.0
14
```

```
Complete the rectangle OAPB
       # P will have coordinates (B x, A y)
       P x = B x
3
       P y = A y
4
       # Call the C function to find the foot of the
5
       \hookrightarrow perpendicular
       lib_geometry.calculateFootOfPerpendicular(
6
7
           Px, Pv,
           Ax, Av,
8
           B x, B y,
9
           ctypes.byref(foot_x_result),
10
           ctypes.byref(foot y result)
11
12
       locus_x.append(foot_x_result.value)
13
       locus y.append(foot y result.value)
14
```

```
1 --- Plotting ---
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
g plt.plot(locus_x, locus_y, color='blue', linewidth=2,
   → label='Locus from C calculation')
5 # For illustrative purposes, let's plot one instance of the
       rectangle and the foot of the perpendicular
6 # Choose a specific angle for demonstration
7 \text{ demo t} = \text{np.pi/4}
8 A_y_demo = c * np.sin(demo_t)
9 B x demo = c * np.cos(demo t)
10 A_demo = np.array([0, A_y_demo])
B_{\text{demo}} = \text{np.array}([B_x_{\text{demo}}, 0])
P demo = np.array([B x demo, A y demo])
```

```
Recalculate foot for demo using C function
  lib geometry.calculateFootOfPerpendicular(
      P demo[0], P demo[1],
3
      A demo[0], A demo[1],
4
      B demo[0], B demo[1],
5
       ctypes.byref(foot_x_result),
6
7
       ctypes.byref(foot y result)
  F_demo = np.array([foot_x_result.value,
      foot y result.value])
10
  # Plot the axes
  plt.axhline(0, color='gray', linewidth=0.8)
  plt.axvline(0, color='gray', linewidth=0.8)
```

```
Plot the demo rectangle and points

plt.plot([0, B_x_demo], [0, 0], 'k--', linewidth=0.7) # 0X

plt.plot([0, 0], [0, A_y_demo], 'k--', linewidth=0.7) # 0Y

plt.plot([0, B_x_demo], [A_y_demo, A_y_demo], 'k--',

linewidth=0.7) # PA parallel to 0X

plt.plot([B_x_demo, B_x_demo], [0, A_y_demo], 'k--',

linewidth=0.7) # PB parallel to 0Y

plt.plot([A_demo[0], B_demo[0]], [A_demo[1], B_demo[1]],

'k-', label='Line segment AB (demo)')

plt.plot([P_demo[0], F_demo[0]], [P_demo[1], F_demo[1]],

'r--', label='Perpendicular PF (demo)')
```

```
1 lt.scatter([0, B x demo, 0, B x demo, F demo[0]], [0, 0,

→ A y demo, A y demo, F demo[1]],
               s=50, color='black', zorder=5)
g plt.text(0.1, 0.1, '0', fontsize=12)
4 plt.text(B_x_demo + 0.1, 0.1, 'B', fontsize=12)
5 plt.text(0.1, A_y_demo + 0.1, 'A', fontsize=12)
6 plt.text(P demo[0] + 0.1, P demo[1] + 0.1, 'P', fontsize=12)
7 plt.text(F demo[0] + 0.1, F demo[1] + 0.1, 'F', fontsize=12)
8 # Plot the analytical solution for comparison (Astroid:
   \rightarrow x^{(2/3)} + y^{(2/3)} = c^{(2/3)}
9 # Parametric form: x = c * cos^3(t), y = c * sin^3(t)
t astroid = np.linspace(0, np.pi/2, 200) # Only first

→ quadrant

11 x analytic = c * np.cos(t astroid)**3
y_analytic = c * np.sin(t_astroid)**3
```

```
lt.plot(x_analytic, y_analytic, 'g--', linewidth=1.5,
            label=f'Analytical Locus: x^{{2/3}} + y^{{2/3}} =
            \rightarrow c^{{2/3}}$ (c={c})')
g plt.xlabel('x')
plt.ylabel('y')
5 plt.title('Locus of the foot of perpendicular from P to AB')
6 plt.legend()
7 plt.grid(True)
8 plt.axis('equal')
9 plt.xlim(-0.1, c + 1)
10 plt.ylim(-0.1, c + 1)
plt.savefig("fig1.png")
plt.show()
13 generate_locus_image()
```

```
mport numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
  def generate_locus_image():
  # Define the length of the line segment
_{6} c = 5 # Let's choose a value for c, e.g., 5
  # Create a range of angles for the line segment AB
  # These angles will determine the positions of A and B
theta = np.linspace(0.01, np.pi/2 - 0.01, 100) # Avoid 0 and

→ pi/2 to prevent division by zero

11
12 # Initialize lists to store the coordinates of the foot of
   \rightarrow the perpendicular
locus x = []
14 locus_y = []
```

```
or t in theta:
       # Coordinates of A and B
       # A lies on OY (x=0), B lies on OX (y=0)
3
       # Length AB = c
4
       A y = c * np.sin(t)
5
       B x = c * np.cos(t)
6
7
       A = np.array([0, A y])
       B = np.array([B_x, 0])
9
       P = np.array([B_x, A_y])
10
11
       # Vector B-A
12
       BA = B - A \# (B x, -A y)
13
```

```
Vector A-P
       AP = A - P \# (-B x, 0)
3
       # Calculate lambda for projection
4
       lambda val = -np.dot(AP, BA) / np.dot(BA, BA)
5
6
7
       # Coordinates of F (foot of the perpendicular)
       F = A + lambda val * BA
8
       locus x.append(F[0])
       locus_y.append(F[1])
10
11
  # Plotting
  plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
14 plt.plot(locus x, locus y, color='blue', label='Locus of the
   → foot of perpendicular')
```

```
1 For illustrative purposes, let's plot one instance of the

→ rectangle and the foot of the perpendicular

# Choose a specific angle for demonstration
3 demo t = np.pi/4
4 A y demo = c * np.sin(demo t)
5 B_x_demo = c * np.cos(demo_t)
6 A demo = np.array([0, A y demo])
7 B_{demo} = np.array([B_x_demo, 0])
8 P demo = np.array([B x demo, A y demo])
9
10 BA demo = B demo - A demo
  AP demo = A demo - P demo
12 lambda_val_demo = -np.dot(AP_demo, BA_demo) /
   → np.dot(BA_demo, BA_demo)
F_demo = A_demo + lambda_val_demo * BA_demo
```

```
Plot the axes
plt.axhline(0, color='gray', linewidth=0.8)
g plt.axvline(0, color='gray', linewidth=0.8)
4
# Plot the demo rectangle and points
6 plt.plot([0, B x demo], [0, 0], 'k--', linewidth=0.7) # OX
7 plt.plot([0, 0], [0, A_y_demo], 'k--', linewidth=0.7) # OY
8 plt.plot([0, B x demo], [A y demo, A y demo], 'k--',

→ linewidth=0.7) # PA parallel to OX

9 plt.plot([B_x_demo, B_x_demo], [0, A_y_demo], 'k--',
   → linewidth=0.7) # PB parallel to OY
plt.plot([A_demo[0], B_demo[0]], [A_demo[1], B_demo[1]],

    'k-', label='Line segment AB (demo)')

plt.plot([P_demo[0], F_demo[0]], [P_demo[1], F_demo[1]],

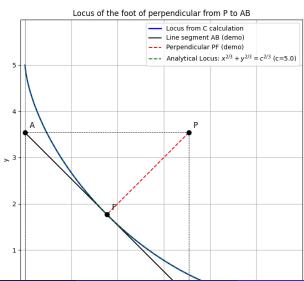
    'r--', label='Perpendicular PF (demo)')
```

```
plt.scatter([0, B_x_demo, 0, B_x_demo, F_demo[0]], [0, 0,

→ A_y_demo, A_y_demo, F_demo[1]],
               s=50, color='black', zorder=5)
2
3 plt.text(0.1, 0.1, '0', fontsize=12)
\frac{4}{4} plt.text(B x demo + 0.1, 0.1, 'B', fontsize=12)
plt.text(0.1, A_y_{demo} + 0.1, 'A', fontsize=12)
6 plt.text(B x demo + 0.1, A y demo + 0.1, 'P', fontsize=12)
7 plt.text(F demo[0] + 0.1, F demo[1] + 0.1, 'F', fontsize=12)
8
9 # Plot the analytical solution for comparison (x^2/3) +
   \rightarrow y^{(2/3)} = c^{(2/3)}
10 # Parametrically: x = c * cos^3(theta), y = c * sin^3(theta)
x_{analytic} = (c * np.cos(theta)**3)
y analytic = (c * np.sin(theta)**3)
```

```
1 lt.plot(x_analytic, y_analytic, 'g--', label=f'Analytical
   \rightarrow Locus: x^{\{2/3\}} + y^{\{2/3\}} = c^{\{2/3\}} (c=\{c\})'
plt.xlabel('x')
g plt.ylabel('y')
4 plt.title('Locus of the foot of perpendicular from P to AB')
5 plt.legend()
6 plt.grid(True)
7 plt.axis('equal')
8 plt.xlim(-0.1, c + 1)
9 plt.ylim(-0.1, c + 1)
plt.savefig("fig2.png")
plt.show()
12 generate_locus_image()
```

Plot by Python using shared output from C



Plot by Python only

