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Abstract—This manual introduces matrix computations using python and the properties of a triangle.

1 LINE

1.1 Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

Find the direction vector and the normal vector for AB

Solution: The direction vector of AB is

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (2)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 - (-2) \\ 3 - (-2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

1.2 Find the *normal* vector of AB .

Solution: The normal vector \mathbf{n} is defined as

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{m} = 0 \quad (5)$$

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and can be obtained as

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \quad (6)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \times 3 + 1 \times 5 \\ -1 \times 3 + 0 \times 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

1.3 Find the equation of AB .

Solution: The desired equation is obtained as

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + \lambda (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) \quad (9)$$

$$= -\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

1.4 Draw the line AB

Solution: The following code plots AB in Fig. 1.4

```
#Plotting AB
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

#if using termux
import subprocess
import shlex
#end if

A = np.array([-2,-2])
B = np.array([1,3])
len = 10

x_AB = np.zeros((2,len))
lam = np.linspace(0,1,len)
for i in range(len):
    temp1 = A + lam[i]*(B-A)
    x_AB[:,i]= temp1.T

plt.plot(x_AB[0,:],x_AB[1:],label='$AB$')
```

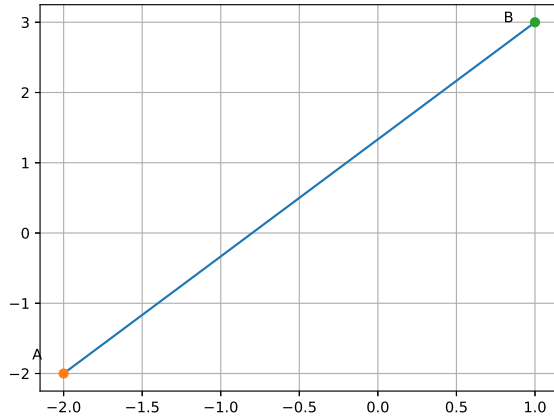


Fig. 1.4

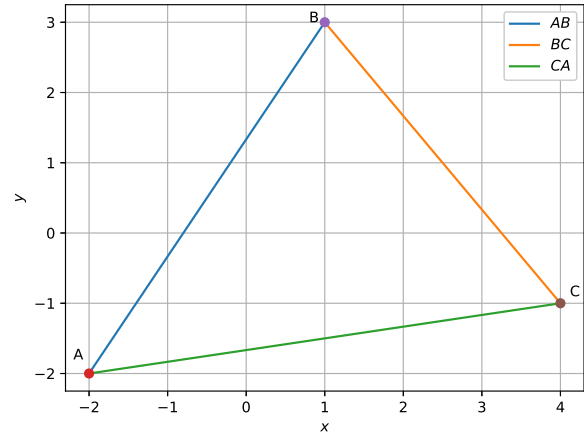


Fig. 1.5

```
plt.grid() # minor

plt.plot(A[0], A[1], 'o')
plt.text(A[0] * (1 + 0.1), A[1] * (1 - 0.1), 'A')
plt.plot(B[0], B[1], 'o')
plt.text(B[0] * (1 - 0.2), B[1] * (1), 'B')

#if using termux
plt.savefig('../figs/draw_line.pdf')
plt.savefig('../figs/draw_line.eps')
subprocess.run(shlex.split('termux-open.../figs/draw_line.pdf'))
#else
#plt.show()
```

1.5 Draw $\triangle ABC$.

Solution: The following codes yields the desired plot in Fig. 1.5

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python_2d/codes/coeffs.py

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python_2d/codes/draw_triangle.py

1.6 Find the equation of the line in terms of the normal vector.

Solution: The desired equation is

$$\mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B}) = 0 \quad (11)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = -\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = -4 \quad (12)$$

1.7 Find the equations of BC and CA .

2 ALTITUDES OF A TRIANGLE

2.1 In $\triangle ABC$, Let \mathbf{P} be a point on BC such that $AP \perp BC$. Then AP is defined to be an *altitude* of $\triangle ABC$.

2.2 Find the equation of AP .

Solution: The normal vector of AP is $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}$. From (11), the equation of AP is

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}) = 0 \quad (13)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = -\begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = -2 \quad (14)$$

2.3 Find the equation of the altitude BQ .

Solution: The desired equation is

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A})^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B}) = 0 \quad (15)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = 9 \quad (16)$$

2.4 Find the equation of the altitude CR .

2.5 Find the point of intersection of AP and BQ .

Solution: (13) and (15) can be stacked together into the matrix equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (17)$$

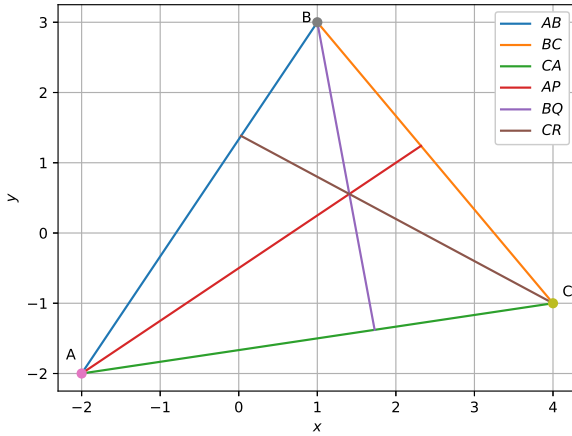


Fig. 2.9

The following code computes the point of intersection.

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python\_2d/codes/orthocentre.py
```

2.6 Find the point of intersection of BQ and CR . Comment.

2.7 Find **P**

Solution: The following code finds the required points.

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python\_2d/codes/alt\_foot.py
```

2.8 Find **Q** and **R**.

2.9 Draw AP , BQ and CR and verify that they meet at a point **H**.

Solution: The following code plots the altitudes in Fig. 2.9

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python\_2d/codes/alt\_draw.py
```

3 CIRCUMCIRCLE

3.1 Let **A**, **B** and **C** be points on a circle with centre **O** and radius r .

3.2 Find **O**.

Solution: The equation of the circle is

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{O}\| = R \quad (18)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{O}\|^2 = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{O})^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{O}) = R^2 \quad (19)$$

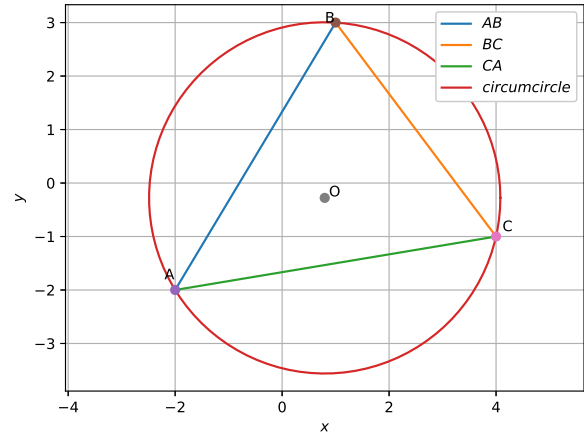


Fig. 3.4

From (18),

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{O}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}\|^2 = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{O})^T (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{O}) \\ - (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O})^T (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{O}) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

which can be simplified as

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^T \mathbf{O} = \frac{\|\mathbf{A}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{B}\|^2}{2} \quad (22)$$

Similarly,

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^T \mathbf{O} = \frac{\|\mathbf{B}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{C}\|^2}{2} \quad (23)$$

The following code computes **O** using the above two equations.

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python\_2d/codes/circumcentre.py
```

3.3 Find the radius R .

3.4 Plot the *circumcircle* of $\triangle ABC$.

Solution: The following code plots Fig. 3.4

```
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python\_2d/codes/circumcircle.py
```

4 MEDIANS OF A TRIANGLE

4.1 Find the coordinates of **D**, **E** and **F** of the mid points of AB , BC and CA respectively for $\triangle ABC$.

- 4.2 Find the equations of AD , BE and CF . These lines are the *medians* of $\triangle ABC$
- 4.3 Find the point of intersection of AD and CF .
- 4.4 Verify that \mathbf{G} is the point of intersection of BE , CF as well as AD , BE . \mathbf{G} is known as the *centroid* of $\triangle ABC$.
- 4.5 Graphically show that the medians of $\triangle ABC$ meet at the centroid.
- 4.6 Verify that

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}}{3} \quad (24)$$

5 INCIRCLE

- 5.1 Consider a circle with centre \mathbf{I} and radius r that lies within $\triangle ABC$ and touches BC , CA and AB at \mathbf{U} , \mathbf{V} and \mathbf{W} respectively.
- 5.2 Show that $IU \perp BC$.

Solution: Let $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ be two points on the circle such that $x_1 x_2 \parallel BC$. Then

$$\|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{I}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{I}\|^2 = 0 \quad (25)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2)^T \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2}{2} - \mathbf{I} \right) = 0 \quad (26)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^T \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2}{2} - \mathbf{I} \right) = 0 \quad (27)$$

For $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{U}$, $x_1 x_2$ merges into BC and the above equation becomes

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^T (\mathbf{U} - \mathbf{I}) = 0 \Rightarrow OD \perp BC \quad (28)$$

- 5.3 Find an expression for r if \mathbf{I} is known.

Solution: Let \mathbf{n} be the normal vector of BC . The equation for BC is then given by

$$\mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B}) = 0 \quad (29)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{U} - \mathbf{B}) = 0 \quad (30)$$

since \mathbf{U} lies on BC . Since $IU \perp BC$,

$$\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{U} + \lambda \mathbf{n} \quad (31)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{U} = \lambda \mathbf{n} \quad (32)$$

$$\text{or } r = \|\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{U}\| = |\lambda| \|\mathbf{n}\| \quad (33)$$

From (30) and (31)

$$\mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{B} + \lambda \mathbf{n}^T \mathbf{n} \quad (34)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B}) = \lambda \|\mathbf{n}\|^2 \quad (35)$$

$$\Rightarrow r = |\lambda| \|\mathbf{n}\| = \frac{|\mathbf{n}^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B})|}{\|\mathbf{n}\|} \quad (36)$$

from (33). Letting

$$\|\mathbf{n}_1\| = \frac{\mathbf{n}}{\|\mathbf{n}\|}, \quad (37)$$

$$r = |\mathbf{n}_1^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B})| \quad (38)$$

- 5.4 Find \mathbf{I} .

Solution: Since $r = IU = IV = IW$, from (38),

$$|\mathbf{n}_1^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B})| = |\mathbf{n}_2^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C})| = |\mathbf{n}_3^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})| \quad (39)$$

where $\mathbf{n}_2, \mathbf{n}_3$ are unit normals of CA, AB respectively. (39) can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{n}_1^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{B}) = k_1 \mathbf{n}_2^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C}) \quad (40)$$

$$\mathbf{n}_2^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C}) = k_2 \mathbf{n}_3^T (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) \quad (41)$$

where $k_1, k_2 = \pm 1$. The above equations can be expressed as the matrix equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1 - k_1 \mathbf{n}_2 & \mathbf{n}_2 - k_2 \mathbf{n}_3 \end{pmatrix}^T \mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{n}_1^T \mathbf{B} - k_1 \mathbf{n}_2^T \mathbf{C} \\ \mathbf{n}_2^T \mathbf{C} - k_2 \mathbf{n}_3^T \mathbf{A} \end{pmatrix} \quad (42)$$

- 5.5 Show that \mathbf{I} lies inside $\triangle ABC$ for $k_1 = k_2 = 1$

- 5.6 Compute \mathbf{I} and r .

Solution:

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python_2d/codes/incircle.py

- 5.7 Plot the incircle of $\triangle ABC$

Solution: The following code plots the incircle in Fig. 5.7

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/gadepall/school/master/linalg/2D/python_2d/codes/incircle.py

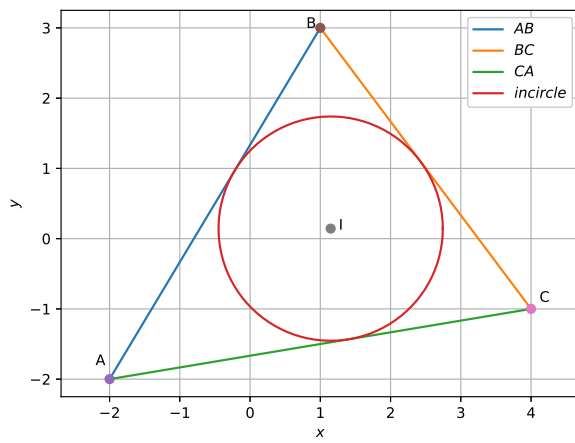


Fig. 5.7