
GEOMETRY

Through Algebra

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Chapter 1

Triangle

Consider a triangle with vertices

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1)$$

1.1. Vectors

1.1.1. the direction vector of AB is defined as

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (1.1.1.1)$$

Find the direction vectors of AB , BC and CA .

Solution:

(a) The Direction vector of AB is

$$= \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (1.1.1.2)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -2 - (0) \\ -4 - (-5) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.3)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.4)$$

(b) The Direction vector of BC

$$= \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} \quad (1.1.1.5)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -5 - (-2) \\ -4 - (-4) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.6)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.7)$$

(c) The Direction vector of CA

$$= \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} \quad (1.1.1.8)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 - (-5) \\ -5 - (-4) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.9)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.1.10)$$

1.1.2. The length of side AB , BC and AC is

Solution: Given,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.1.2.1)$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.1.2.2)$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.2.3)$$

Now solving for AB ,

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = \sqrt{(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^\top (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})} \quad (1.1.2.4)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.2.5)$$

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = \sqrt{\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}} \quad (1.1.2.6)$$

$$= \sqrt{(2)^2 + (-1)^2} \quad (1.1.2.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = \sqrt{5} \quad (1.1.2.8)$$

Now solving for BC ,

$$\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^\top (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})} \quad (1.1.2.9)$$

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.2.10)$$

$$\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} \quad (1.1.2.11)$$

$$= \sqrt{(3)^2 + (0)^2} \quad (1.1.2.12)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{9} \quad (1.1.2.13)$$

Now solving for AC ,

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})^\top (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})} \quad (1.1.2.14)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.2.15)$$

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{\begin{pmatrix} -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}} \quad (1.1.2.16)$$

$$= \sqrt{(-5)^2 + (1)^2} \quad (1.1.2.17)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{26} \quad (1.1.2.18)$$

1.1.3. Points $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$ are defined to be collinear if

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} = 2 \quad (1.1.3.1)$$

Solution:

Given that,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.3.2)$$

Given that $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$ are collinear if

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} < 3 \quad (1.1.3.3)$$

Let

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 \\ -5 & -4 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.3.4)$$

The matrix \mathbf{R} can be row reduced as follows,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 \\ -5 & -4 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + (5+R_2)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 \\ 0 & -1 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.3.5)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow -2R_3 + R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.3.6)$$

There are no zero rows. So,

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} = 3 \quad (1.1.3.7)$$

Hence, from (1.1.3.3) the points $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$ are not collinear.

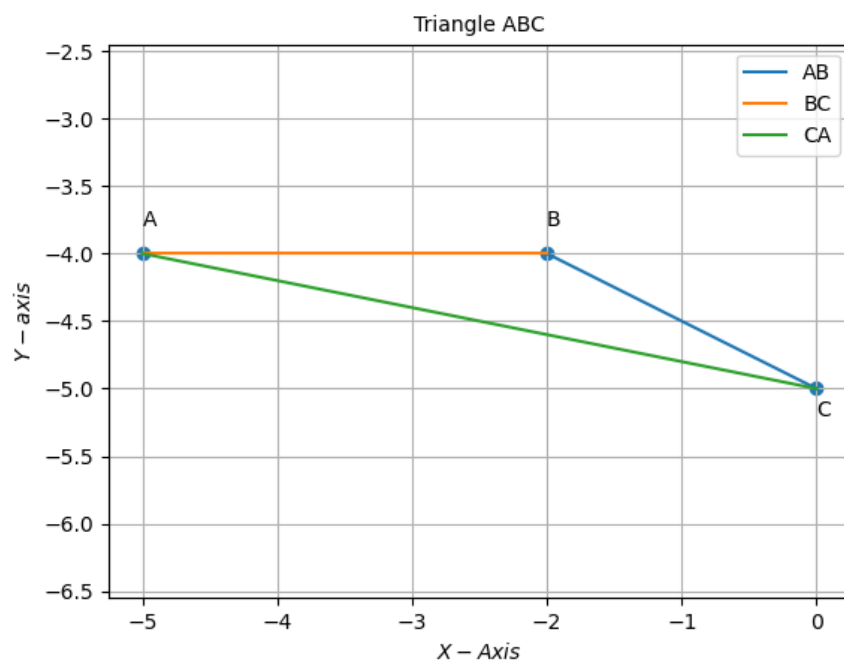


Figure 1.1: **A, B, C** plot

From Fig. 1.1, We can see that **A, B, C** are not collinear .

1.1.4. The parametric form of the equation of AB is

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{m} \quad (1.1.4.1)$$

where

$$\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (1.1.4.2)$$

is the direction vector of AB . Find the parametric equations of AB , BC and CA .

Solution:

The parametric equation for AB is given by

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A} + k\mathbf{m} \quad (1.1.4.3)$$

$$\text{where, } \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad (1.1.4.4)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.4.5)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.4.6)$$

Hence we get,

$$\mathbf{AB} : \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.4.7)$$

Similarly,

$$\mathbf{BC} : \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.4.8)$$

$$\mathbf{CA} : \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + k \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.4.9)$$

1.1.5. The normal form of the equation of \mathbf{AB} is

$$\mathbf{n}^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}) = 0 \quad (1.1.5.1)$$

where

$$\mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{n}^\top (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) = 0 \quad (1.1.5.2)$$

or,

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \quad (1.1.5.3)$$

then find the normal form of the equations of \mathbf{AB} \mathbf{BC} and \mathbf{CA}

Solution: :

The normal equation for the side AB is

$$\mathbf{n}^\top (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}) = 0 \quad (1.1.5.4)$$

$$\implies \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{n}^\top \mathbf{A} \quad (1.1.5.5)$$

Now our task is to find the \mathbf{n} so that we can find \mathbf{n}^\top . As given.

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{m} \quad (1.1.5.6)$$

Here $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$ for side \mathbf{AB}

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.5.7)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.5.8)$$

Now as we have obtained vector \mathbf{m} .we can use this to obtain vector \mathbf{n}

$$\mathbf{n} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.5.9)$$

The transpose of \mathbf{n} is

$$\mathbf{n}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.5.10)$$

Hence the normal equation of side AB is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.5.11)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = -10 \quad (1.1.5.12)$$

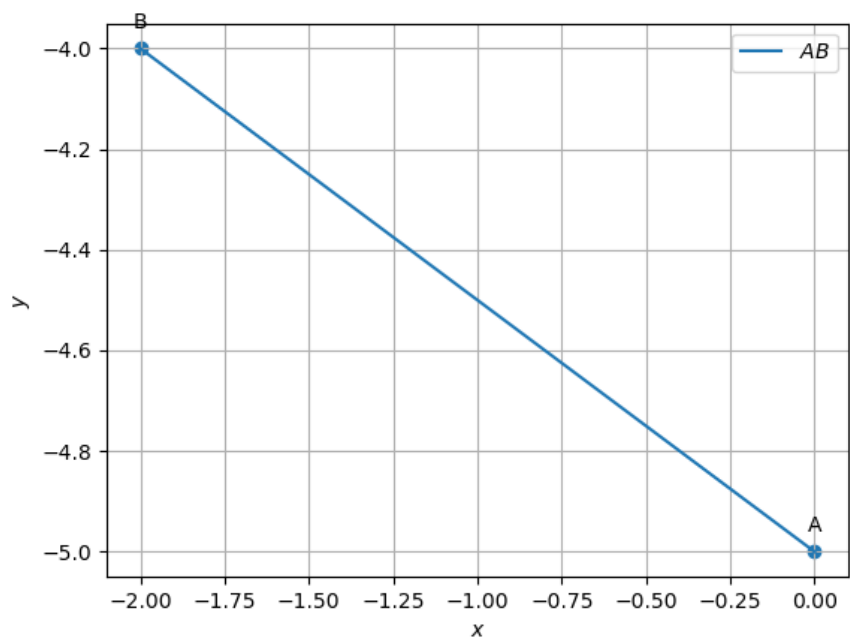


Figure 1.2: The line **AB** plotted

Similarly

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{BC} : \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = -12 \quad (1.1.5.13)$$

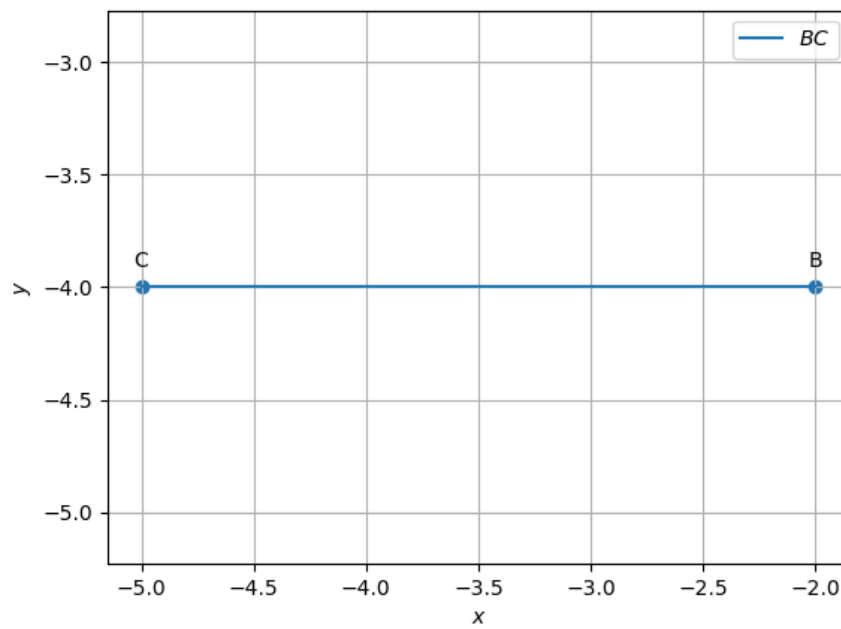


Figure 1.3: The line **BC** plotted

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{CA} : \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = 25 \quad (1.1.5.14)$$

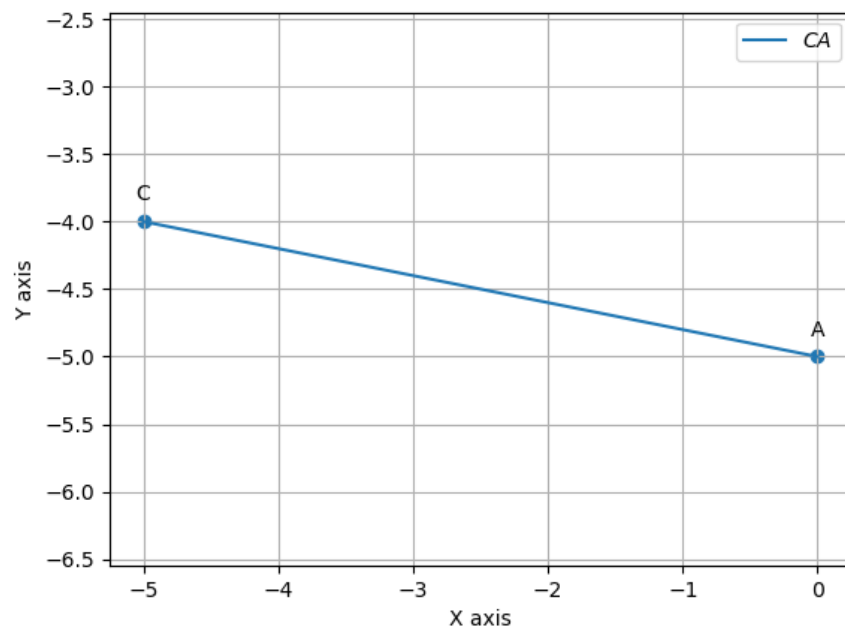


Figure 1.4: The line **CA** plotted

1.1.6. Find the area of the $\triangle ABC$

Solution:

Given,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}; \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}; \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.6.1)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.6.2)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.6.3)$$

$$\therefore (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) \times (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 5 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \quad (1.1.6.4)$$

$$= 2 \times -1 - 5 \times (-1) \quad (1.1.6.5)$$

$$= -2 + 5 \quad (1.1.6.6)$$

$$= 3 \quad (1.1.6.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \|(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) \times (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})\| = \frac{1}{2} \|3\| = \frac{3}{2} \quad (1.1.6.8)$$

1.1.7. Find the angles A, B, C if

$$\cos A \triangleq \frac{(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^\top \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}}{\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\| \|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}\|} \quad (1.1.7.1)$$

Solution:

From the given values of $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$,

(a) Finding the value of angle A

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.2)$$

and

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.3)$$

also calculating the values of norms

$$\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}\| = \sqrt{5} \quad (1.1.7.4)$$

$$\|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}\| = \sqrt{26} \quad (1.1.7.5)$$

and by doing matrix multiplication we get,

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^\top (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 11 \quad (1.1.7.6)$$

So, we get

$$\cos A = \frac{11}{\sqrt{5}\sqrt{26}} \quad (1.1.7.7)$$

$$= \frac{11}{\sqrt{130}} \quad (1.1.7.8)$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \cos^{-1} \frac{11}{\sqrt{130}} \quad (1.1.7.9)$$

(b) Finding the value of angle B

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.10)$$

and

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.11)$$

also calculating the values of norms

$$\|\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}\| = \sqrt{9} = 3 \quad (1.1.7.12)$$

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\| = \sqrt{5} \quad (1.1.7.13)$$

and by doing matrix multiplication we get,

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B})^\top (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = -6 \quad (1.1.7.14)$$

So, we get

$$\cos B = \frac{-6}{3\sqrt{5}} \quad (1.1.7.15)$$

$$= \frac{-2}{\sqrt{5}} \quad (1.1.7.16)$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \cos^{-1} \frac{-2}{\sqrt{5}} \quad (1.1.7.17)$$

(c) Finding the value of angle C

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.18)$$

and

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1.7.19)$$

also calculating the values of norms

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{26} \quad (1.1.7.20)$$

$$\|\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}\| = \sqrt{9} = 3 \quad (1.1.7.21)$$

and by doing matrix multiplication we get,

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C})^\top (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 15 \end{aligned} \quad (1.1.7.22)$$

so

$$\cos C = \frac{15}{3\sqrt{26}} \quad (1.1.7.23)$$

$$= \frac{5}{\sqrt{26}} \quad (1.1.7.24)$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \cos^{-1} \frac{5}{\sqrt{26}} \quad (1.1.7.25)$$

