

Matrix Project

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1 problem

A variable line drawn through the intersection of the lines

$$(4 \ 3)X = 12$$

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meets the coordinate axes at A and B, then find the locus of the midpoint of AB.

2 solution

The given linear equations are

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} X = \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } P = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 12 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$PX = Q$$

$$X = P^{-1}Q$$

X is point of intersection

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1.714 \\ 1.714 \end{bmatrix}$$

Variable line passing through X is

$$[m \ -1] X = 1.714(m - 1)$$

where m is parameter for variable line

It meets coordinate axes at A and B respectively.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ b \end{bmatrix}$$

$a = 1.714 \frac{(m-1)}{m}$, $b = 1.714(1-m)$ The locus of midpoint of A and B is C

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

x,y are a/2 and b/2 respectively

$$x = \frac{0.8571(m-1)}{m}, y = 0.8571(1-m)$$

$$y/x = m$$

$$y = 0.8571(1 - \frac{y}{x})$$

$$xy = 0.8571(x-y)$$

Therefore the locus is a hyperbola whose equation is

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8571(m-1)/m \\ 0.8571(1-m) \end{bmatrix}$$

m is paramter.

FIGURES

The figure of this locus obtained from python code

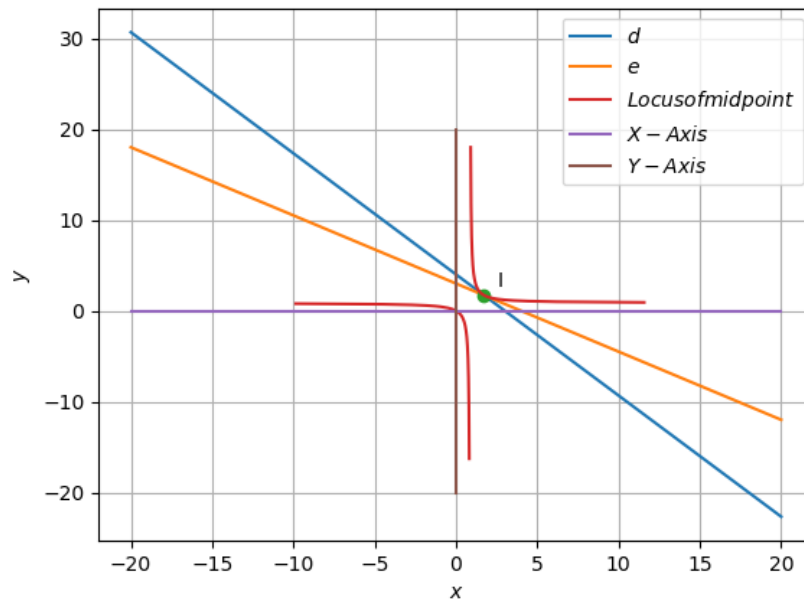


Figure 1: locus diagram

The figure of variable lines passing through X

