AI25BTECH11023 - Pratik R

Question:

If the points $\mathbf{A} = (k+1, 2k)$, $\mathbf{B} = (3k, 2k+3)$, and $\mathbf{C} = (5k-1, 5k)$ are collinear, then find the value of k.

Solution:

Given that

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} k+1\\2k \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3k\\2k+3 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 5k-1\\5k \end{pmatrix}.$$

A, B and C are collinear therefore

$$rank (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = 1 \tag{0.1}$$

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2k - 1\\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.2}$$

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = \begin{pmatrix} 4k - 2\\ 3k \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.3}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A} \end{pmatrix}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 2k - 1 & 3\\ 4k - 2 & 3k \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.4}$$

 $R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - (R_1 \times 2)$:

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2k-1 & 3\\ 0 & 3k-6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.5}$$

For rank = 1,

$$3k - 6 = 0 \implies k = 2 \tag{0.6}$$

Hence, the value of k is 2.

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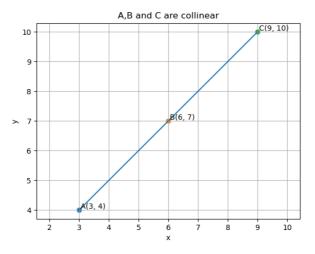


Fig. 0.1