

Probability Assignment

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Question : Check the collinearity of **A, B, C**

Solution: Given that,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Given that **A, B, C** are collinear if

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} < 3 \quad (2)$$

Let

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & -3 \\ -1 & 6 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

The matrix **R** can be row reduced as follows,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & -3 \\ -1 & 6 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 + R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_1 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

$$\xleftrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - \frac{2}{5}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{48}{5} \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

There are no zero rows. So,

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix} = 3 \quad (7)$$

Hence, from (2) the points **A, B, C** are not collinear.