

9.4.24

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Question:

A cottage industry produces a certain number of toys in a day. The cost of production of each toy (in rupees) was found to be 55 minus the number of toys produced in a day. On a particular day, the total cost of production was 750Rs. We would like to find out the number of toys produced on that day.

Solution:

Let number of toys produced per day = x

cost of each toy = $55 - x$

Total Cost of toys = $x(55 - x)$

On a particular day cost = 750

$$(55 - x)x = 750 \quad (0.1)$$

$$y = x^2 - 55x + 750 = 0 \quad (0.2)$$

which can be expressed as the conic

$$\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{V} \mathbf{x} + 2\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x} + f = 0 \quad (0.3)$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{55}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, f = 750 \quad (0.4)$$

find roots of (0.3), we find the points of intersection of the conic with the x -axis.

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{h} + k\mathbf{m} \quad (0.5)$$

$$\mathbf{h} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.6)$$

The values of k are given by:

$$k_i = \frac{1}{1} \left(\frac{55}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{55}{2} \right)^2 - 750} \right) \quad (0.7)$$

$$k_1 = 25, \quad k_2 = 30. \quad (0.8)$$

Hence the points of intersection are

$$\mathbf{h} + k\mathbf{m} = \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.9)$$

\therefore no. of toys produced that day can be either 25 or 30.

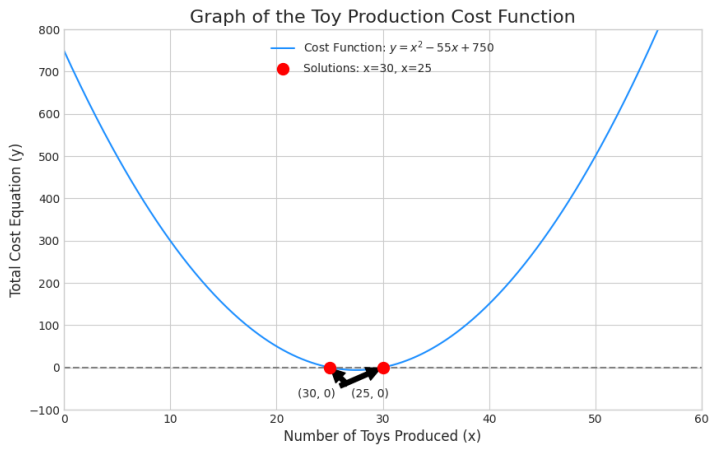


Fig. 0.1: points of intersection of parabola with X axis.