## **Question:**

If the origin is the centroid of the triangle PQR with vertices

$$\mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \\
\mathbf{Q} \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3b \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} \\
\mathbf{R} \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 14 \\ 2a \end{pmatrix}$$

then find the values of a, b and c.

**Solution:** 

proof:

points	values
P	$\begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$
Q	$\begin{pmatrix} -4\\3b\\-10 \end{pmatrix}$
R	$\begin{pmatrix} 8\\14\\2c \end{pmatrix}$
G	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

TABLE 1 0: values of the geometrical points in given question

PROOF OF THE CENTROID FORMULA USING MATRIX NOTATION

Triangle with vertices 
$$A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
,  $B \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $C \begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ y_3 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , the centroid  $G \begin{pmatrix} x_g \\ y_g \\ z_g \end{pmatrix}$ 

The centroid (G) is the average of the coordinates of the vertices (A), (B), and (C):

1

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{3} \left( \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C} \right)$$

Matrix Addition and Scalar Multiplication First, add the vectors (A), (B), and (C):

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ y_3 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \\ z_1 + z_2 + z_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Next, multiply by the scalar  $(\frac{1}{3})$ :

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \\ z_1 + z_2 + z_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{3} \\ \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3} \\ \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Conclusion

Thus, the coordinates of the centroid  $G(x_g, y_g, z_g)$  are given by:

$$x_g = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{3}, \quad y_g = \frac{y_1 + y_2 + y_3}{3}, \quad z_g = \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3}$$

This proves the centroid formula using matrix notation.

$$\mathbf{P} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.1}$$

$$\mathbf{Q} \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.2}$$

$$\mathbf{R} \begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ y_3 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 14 \\ 2c \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.3}$$

Given that, the centroid of the triangle **PQR** is origin(0,0,0). Centroid(G).

From the proof

$$G = \frac{1}{3} (\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{R})$$

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 14 \\ 2c \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}$$

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 2a - 4 + 8 \\ 4 + 3 + 14 \\ 6 + 10 + 2c \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}$$

$$G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

on comparing we get that

$$2a - 4 + 8 = 0$$

$$a = -2$$

$$4 + 3b + 14 = 0$$

$$b = -6$$

$$6 + 10 + 2c = 0$$

$$c = -8$$

$$(0.4)$$

$$(0.5)$$

: the values of a,b,c are -2,-6,-8 respectively.

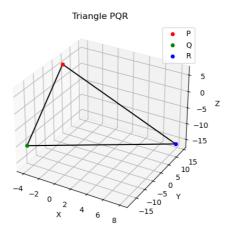


Fig. 0.1: plot for triangle