1-1.2-18

AI24BTECH11008- Sarvajith

Question:

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

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

The centroid (G) of a triangle with the vertices $(P),(Q),(R)$ is given by

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{3}\left(\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{R}\right) \tag{0.1}$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{3}\left(\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{R}\right) = \frac{1}{3}\left(\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \\ z_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ y_3 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \\ z_1 + z_2 + z_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{3}\begin{pmatrix} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 \\ y_1 + y_2 + y_3 \\ z_1 + z_2 + z_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1+x_2+x_3}{3} \\ \frac{y_1+y_2+y_3}{3} \\ \frac{z_1+z_2+z_3}{3} \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.2}$$

Given that, the centroid of the triangle **PQR** is origin $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

From 0.2, substituting the values in the above proven formula:

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

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

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

on comparing we get that

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

$$a = -2 \tag{0.3}$$

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

$$b = -6 \tag{0.4}$$
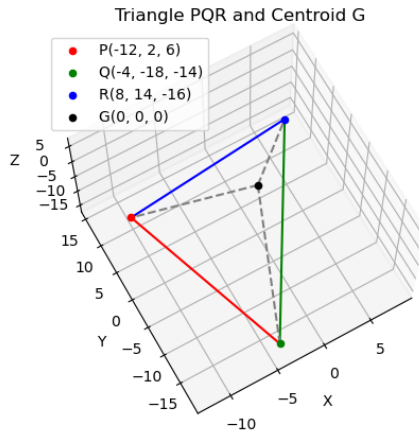
$$6 + 10 + 2c = 0$$

$$c = -8 \tag{0.5}$$

$\therefore$ the values of a,b,c are -2,-6,-8 respectively.

Fig. 0.1: plot for triangle