

1.7.7

EE24BTECH11026 - G Srihaas

QUESTION

For what value of P the points (2, 1), (P, -1) and (-1, 3) are collinear. (10, 2019).

SOLUTION

Variable name	Description	Formula
$A=(2, 1)$	The point in 2-D plane with coordinates	$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$
$B = (P, -1)$	The point with unknown coordinate	$\begin{pmatrix} P \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$
$M = (-1, 3)$	The point in 2-D plane with coordinates	$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

Three points **A**, **B** and **C** are said to be collinear if

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A})^T = 1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 - P & 4 \\ P - 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \xleftrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + 2R_2} \quad (0.1)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} P - 5 & 0 \\ P - 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.2)$$

For the rank of the matrix to be one, $P - 5 = 0$.

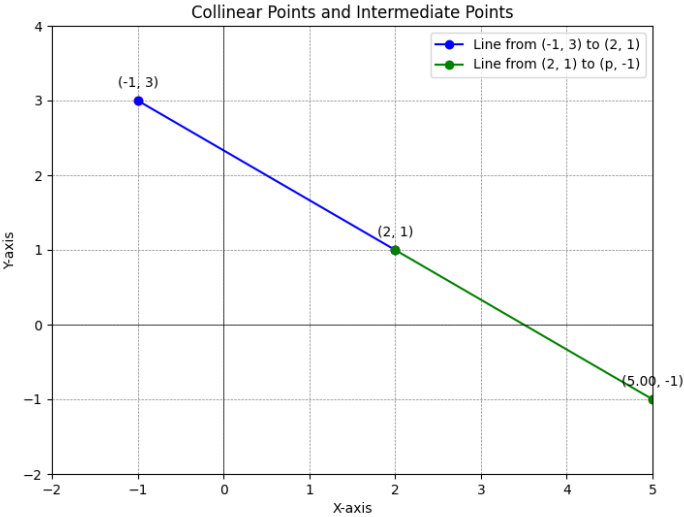


Fig. 0.1: A plot of the given question.