Assignment 1

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Question:

A(-1, 3), B(4,2) and C(3,-2) are the vertices of a triangle.

- (a) Find the coordinates of the centroid G of the triangle
- (b) Find the equation of the line through G and parallel to AC.

Solution:

1. Using centroid formula, the desired point G is given by:

$$G = \frac{A+B+C}{3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\{(-1,3)+(4,2)+(3,-2)\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}(6,3)$$

$$= (2,1)$$

2. Let L be the line that passes through G such that $L \parallel AC$ Then, slope of L is equal to slope of AC.

$$m = \frac{y_C - y_A}{x_C - x_A}$$
$$= \frac{-2 - 3}{3 - (-1)}$$
$$= \frac{-5}{4}$$

G satisfies the line.

$$y_G = mx_G + c$$

$$c = y_G - mx_G$$

$$= 1 - \frac{(-5)}{4} \times 2$$

$$= 1 + \frac{5}{2}$$

$$= \frac{7}{2}$$

Thus, line L is $y = \frac{-5}{4}x - \frac{7}{2}$