

Question-1-1.5-17

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Question:

The midpoint of line segment joining **A** $(2a, 4)$ and **B** $(-2, 3b)$ is **C** $(1, 2a + 1)$. Find the values of a and b .

Solution:

| Point | Coordinates |
|----------|---------------|
| A | $(2a, 4)$ |
| B | $(-2, 3b)$ |
| C | $(1, 2a + 1)$ |

TABLE 0: variables used

$$\mathbf{C} = \frac{\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}}{2} \quad (0.1)$$

Now substituting the values of **A**, **B** and **C**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2a + 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3b \end{pmatrix}}{2} \quad (0.2)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2a + 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a - 1 \\ 4 + \frac{3b}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.3)$$

$$a - 1 = 1 \quad (0.4)$$

$$\implies a = 2 \quad (0.5)$$

$$2a + 1 = a + \frac{3b}{2} \quad (0.6)$$

$$\implies b = 2 \quad (0.7)$$

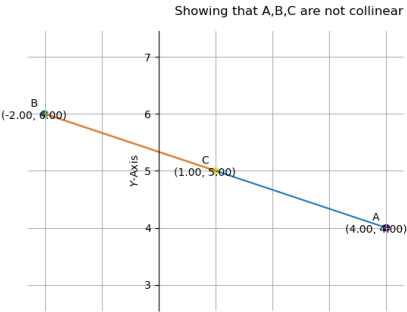


Fig. 0.1: Line **AB**