

Problem 1.1.5

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question: The area of $\triangle ABC$ is defined as

$$\frac{1}{2} \|(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\|$$

where

$$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B} \triangleq \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \text{ find the area of } \triangle ABC.$$

Solution:

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

now we go further

$$\frac{1}{2} \|(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{C}\| = \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -7 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \right\| \quad (4)$$

$$= 24 \quad (5)$$

hence the area of $\triangle ABC$ is 24