## 1.7.10

Al25BTECH11024 - Pratyush Panda

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## Question:

Find the relation between x and y if the points  $\mathbf{A}(x,y)$ ,  $\mathbf{B}(-5,7)$  and  $\mathbf{C}(-4,5)$  are collinear.

## Solution:

Given:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}; \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}; \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now we have to form the Matrix,

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} A - C & B - C \end{pmatrix}^T \tag{0.1}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} x+4 & y-5 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \tag{0.2}$$

Now to get the RREF of this Matrix we can apply the following row operations:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x+4 & y-5 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \longleftrightarrow R_2 + \frac{1}{x+4}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} x+4 & y-5 \\ 0 & 2 + \frac{y-5}{x+4} \end{pmatrix}$$
(0.3)

For this matrix to have  ${\it rank}=1$ , the second element of the second row should also be 0 Therefore, we get

$$2 + \frac{y - 5}{x + 4} = 0 \tag{0.4}$$

On simplifying,

$$y = -2x - 3 (0.5)$$

