

1.7.4

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Question

Using vectors, prove that the points $(2,-1,3)$, $(3,-5,1)$, and $(-1,11,9)$ are collinear.

Theoretical Solution

Solution:

Let $\mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ $\mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ $\mathbf{C} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 11 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$ be vectors

Points $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$ are defined to be collinear if

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

$$\text{Let } (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{D} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{rank} \mathbf{D} = \text{rank} \mathbf{D}^T \quad (3)$$

Theoretical Solution

$$\mathbf{D}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & -2 \\ -3 & 12 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$R_2 = R_2 + 3R_1 \quad (5)$$

$$\mathbf{D}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

which has rank 1. So we can conclude that the given points are collinear.

```
#include <stdio.h>

// Function to compute cross product of two vectors in 3D
void crossProduct(int v1[3], int v2[3], int cross[3]) {
    cross[0] = v1[1]*v2[2] - v1[2]*v2[1];
    cross[1] = v1[2]*v2[0] - v1[0]*v2[2];
    cross[2] = v1[0]*v2[1] - v1[1]*v2[0];
}

// Function to check if three points are collinear in 3D
int areCollinear(int A[3], int B[3], int C[3]) {
    int AB[3], AC[3], cross[3];
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        AB[i] = B[i] - A[i];
        AC[i] = C[i] - A[i];
    }
}
```

```
crossProduct(AB, AC, cross);
return (cross[0] == 0 && cross[1] == 0 && cross[2] == 0);
}

int main() {
    int A[3] = {2, -1, 3};
    int B[3] = {3, -5, 1};
    int C[3] = {-1, 11, 9};
    if (areCollinear(A, B, C))
        printf("The points are collinear.\n");
    else
        printf("The points are not collinear.\n");
    return 0;
}
```

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
import numpy as np

# Points
A = np.array([2, -1, 3])
B = np.array([3, -5, 1])
C = np.array([-1, 11, 9])

# Check collinearity (print for reference)
AB = B - A
AC = C - A

print("Vector AB:", AB)
print("Vector AC:", AC)
```

Python Code

```
# Verify if AC is a scalar multiple of AB
if np.allclose(AC, (AC[0]/AB[0]) * AB):
    print("Points are collinear")
else:
    print("Points are not collinear")

# 3D Plot
fig = plt.figure()
ax = fig.add_subplot(111, projection='3d')

# Plot points
ax.scatter(*A, color='red', label='A(2, -1, 3)')
ax.scatter(*B, color='green', label='B(3, -5, 1)')
ax.scatter(*C, color='blue', label='C(-1, 11, 9)')

# Plot line through A in direction of AB (which also passes
    through B and C)
```


Python Code

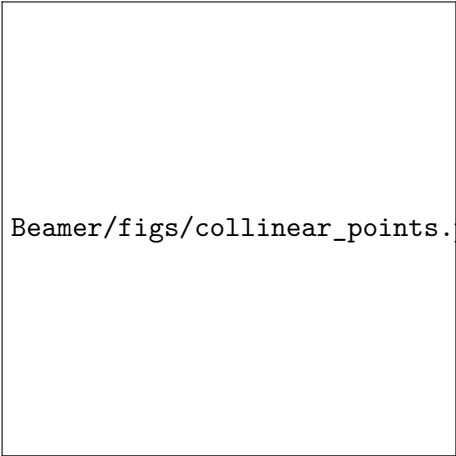
```
t = np.linspace(-2, 2, 100)
line = A[:, None] + np.outer(AB, t)

ax.plot(line[0], line[1], line[2], 'k--', label='Line through A,
      B, and C')

# Labels and legend
ax.set_xlabel('X')
ax.set_ylabel('Y')
ax.set_zlabel('Z')
ax.legend()
ax.set_title('Collinear Points in 3D')

# Save figure as PNG
plt.savefig("collinear_points.png")

# Show plot
plt.show()
```



Beamer/figs/collinear_points.png

Figure: