

# Coordinate Calculation for Point Dividing a Line Segment

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## Question:

Find the coordinate of the point which divides the line segment joining points  $A(4, -3)$  and  $B(8, 5)$  in the ratio  $3 : 1$  internally.

## Solution:

Let  $O$  be the origin. Then the position vectors

$$\overrightarrow{OA} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \overrightarrow{OB} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The point  $C$ , dividing the segment  $AB$  in the ratio  $3 : 1$  internally, has the position vector

$$\overrightarrow{OC} = \frac{3\overrightarrow{OB} + 1\overrightarrow{OA}}{3 + 1} = \frac{3 \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}}{4} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}}{4} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 28 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}}{4} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore, the coordinate of point  $C$  is  $\boxed{(7, 3)}$ .

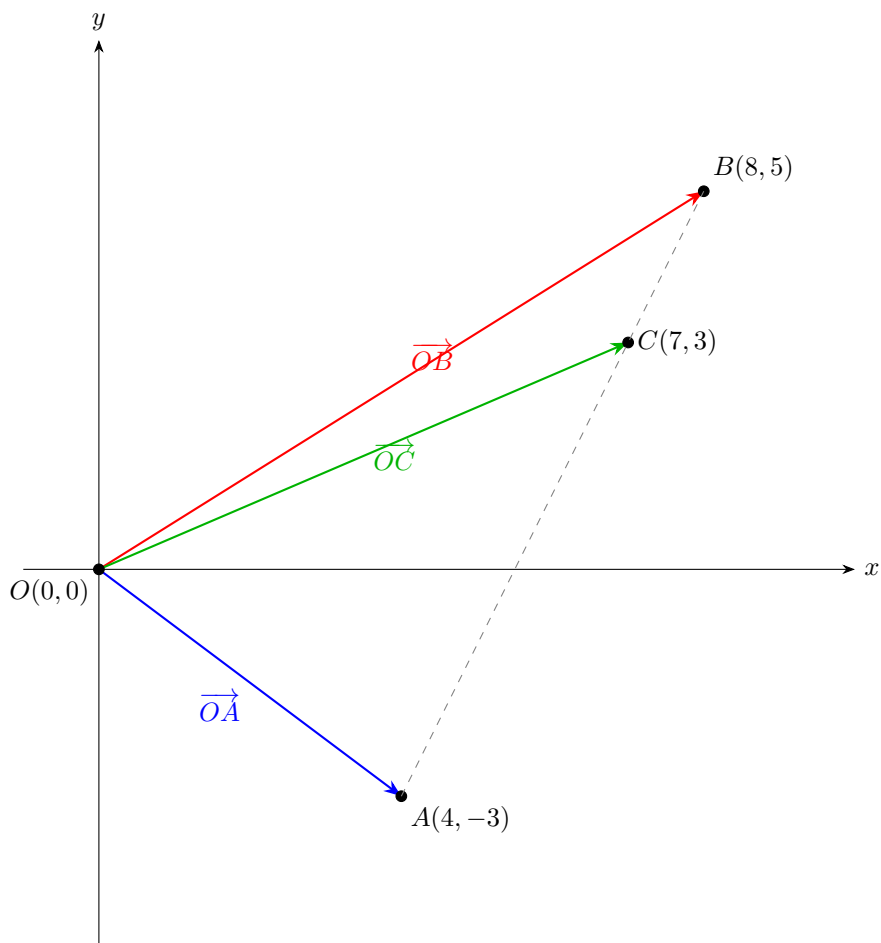


Fig. 1.