Coordinate Geometry

1. **Problem statement :** Find a relation between x and y such that the point (x, y) is equidistant from the point (3, 6) and (-3, 4)

Solution:

Method I

The input parameters for this problem are given as

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1}$$

If P equidistant from the points A and B,

$$\|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A}\| = \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{B}\| \tag{2}$$

$$\implies \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{B}\|^2 \tag{3}$$

which can be expressed as

$$(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A})^{\top} (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{A}) = (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{B})^{\top} (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{B})$$
(4)

$$\implies \|\mathbf{P}\|^2 - 2\mathbf{P}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{A} + \|\mathbf{A}\|^2 \tag{5}$$

$$= \|\mathbf{P}\|^2 - 2\mathbf{P}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{B} + \|\mathbf{B}\|^2 \tag{6}$$

which can be simplified to obtain

$$\mathbf{P} = y\mathbf{e}_1 \tag{7}$$

where

$$y = \frac{\|\mathbf{A}\|^2 - \|\mathbf{B}\|^2}{2(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^\top \mathbf{e}_1}$$
 (8)

now substituting the A and B values in (8)

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{\top} = \left(\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \right)^{\top} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \tag{9}$$

$$\|\mathbf{A}\|^2 = 45\tag{10}$$

$$\left\|\mathbf{B}\right\|^2 = 25\tag{11}$$

upon substituting the values in (8) the value of y = 5. Hence, the desired point is \mathbf{P} is $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$.

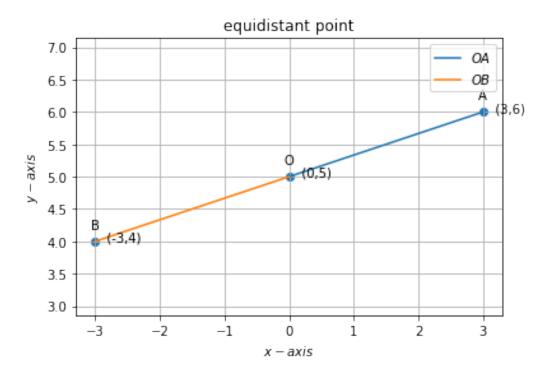


Figure 1