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Assignment 1

Himanshu Kumar Gupta(AI21BTECH11012)

Problem 3b, ICSE 10 2019:

M and N are two points on the X axis and Y axis respectively. P (3, 2) divides the line segment MN in the ratio 2: 3.

Find:

- 1) The coordinates of M and N
- 2) Slope of the line MN

Solution:

The various parameters involved in this question are listed in Table (I):

Parameter	Symbol	Value
standard vector 1	$\mathbf{e_1}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
standard vector 2	$\mathbf{e_2}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$
position vector of point P	P	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$
position vector of point M	М	$\begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
position vector of point N	N	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ q \end{pmatrix}$

TABLE I

from section formula in vector form, we know that

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1 \times \mathbf{M} + k \times \mathbf{N}}{1 + k} \tag{1}$$

where k:1 is ratio in which point P divides the line joining M and N

Since P(3,2) divides M and N in ratio 2:3

So,
$$k = \frac{2}{3}$$

Now, by applying section formula given in equation (1) to P on line MN, we get

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1 \times \mathbf{M} + \frac{2}{3} \times \mathbf{N}}{1 + \frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1 \times \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{2}{3} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ q \end{pmatrix}}{\frac{5}{3}}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{3 \times \begin{pmatrix} p \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ q \end{pmatrix}}{5}$$

So.

$$3p = 15 \quad 2q = 10$$

$$\rightarrow p = 5 \quad \rightarrow q = 5 \tag{3}$$

So,the vectors $\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{N} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ therefore the points M and N would be (5,0) and (0,5) respectively.

So, the vector

$$MN = N - M (4)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 - 5 \\ 5 - 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{5}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -1\\1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{6}$$

$$= -1 \times \mathbf{e_1} + 1 \times \mathbf{e_2} \tag{7}$$

Now, we know that the slope of any vector is

$$= \frac{\text{coefficient of } e_2}{\text{coefficient of } e_1}$$
 (8)

So, slope of MN,

$$slope = \frac{5}{-5} \tag{9}$$

$$= -1 \tag{10}$$