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Assignment 1

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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:

let P be the position vector of point P

so,
$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

M and N be the position vector of point M and N respectively

Since M and N are points on x and y axis respectively

So, let
$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{N} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

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

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

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

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

So,

$$3x = 15 \quad 2y = 10$$
$$\rightarrow x = 5 \quad \rightarrow y = 5$$

So, the points M and N would be (5,0) and (0,5) respectively.

So,the vector
$$MN = \begin{pmatrix} 0 - 5 \\ 5 - 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now,we know that the slope of any vector is $\frac{y-component}{x-component}$

So,

$$slope = \frac{5}{-5}$$
$$= -1$$