

2.2.24

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Question Show that the points $(1, 7)$, $(4, 2)$, $(-1, -1)$ and $(-4, 4)$ are the vertices of a square.

Solution Given details:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

Find the sides

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

First let's check whether the given opposite sides of the polygon are parallel to each other. For the sides to be parallel

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D} \quad (5)$$

$$(6)$$

Since:

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (8)$$

Therefore the opposite sides are parallel to each other and thus the given polygon can be classified as a **Parallelogram**.

Now put these sides as columns of a 2×4 matrix \mathbf{V} :

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D} \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -5 & -3 & 5 \\ -5 & -3 & 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Compute the 4×4 Gram matrix $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{V}$. Its entries are all possible inner products

Adjacent inner products of the Gram matrix would be (off-diagonals for consecutive sides):

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}^T)(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}) = 3(-5) + (-5)(-3) = -15 + 15 = 0 \quad (11)$$

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{B}^T)(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}) = (-5)(-3) + (-3)(5) = 15 - 15 = 0, \quad (12)$$

$$(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{C}^T)(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D}) = (-3)(5) + 5(3) = -15 + 15 = 0, \quad (13)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D}^T)(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) = 5(3) + 3(-5) = 15 - 15 = 0. \quad (14)$$

Since all are zero, it means all the sides are perpendicular to each other. Therefore the given parallelogram can be classified as a **Rectangle**.

In the matrix \mathbf{G} self inner-products would be (diagonal of \mathbf{G}):

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^T (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}) = 3^2 + (-5)^2 = 34 \quad (15)$$

$$(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C})^T (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{C}) = (-5)^2 + (-3)^2 = 34 \quad (16)$$

$$(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{D})^T (\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{D}) = (-3)^2 + 5^2 = 34 \quad (17)$$

$$(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A})^T (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{A}) = 5^2 + 3^2 = 34 \quad (18)$$

since all are equal to 34 , it means all the side lengths are equal , therefore the given rectangle can be classified as a **Square**.

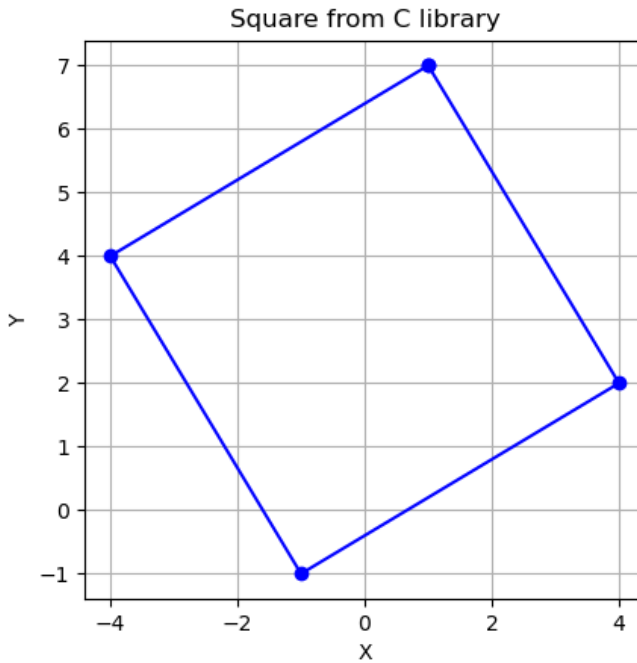


Fig. 0. Sqaure