



**IIT Madras**  
ONLINE DEGREE

# Area of a Triangle using coordinates

**Goal: To find area of  $\triangle ABC$  with known coordinates.**

Let the coordinates of the vertices be A ( $x_1, y_1$ ), B( $x_2, y_2$ ) and C( $x_3, y_3$ ).

$$A(\triangle ABC) = A(\triangle ADFC) - A(\triangle ADEB) - A(\triangle BEFC)$$

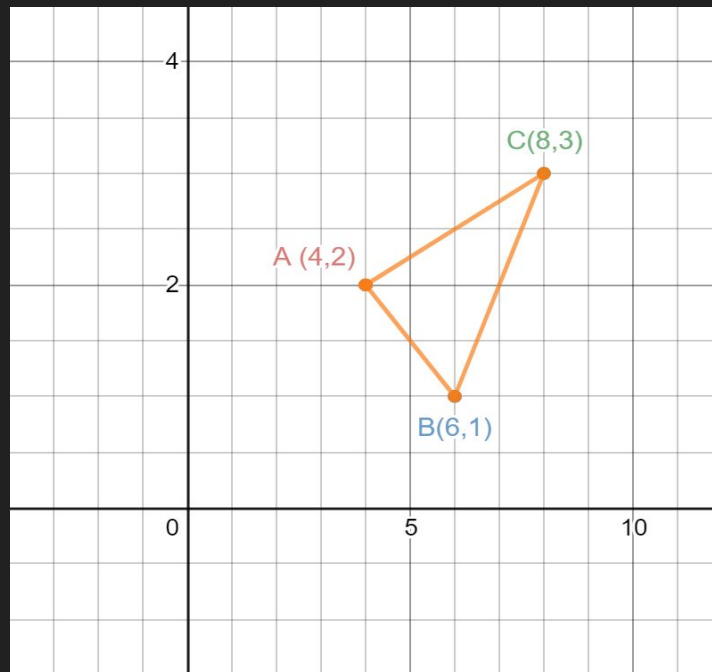
$$A(\triangle ADFC) = \frac{1}{2} (AD+CF) \times DF = \frac{1}{2} (y_1 + y_3)(x_3 - x_1)$$

$$A(\triangle ADEB) = \frac{1}{2} (AD+EB) \times DE = \frac{1}{2} (y_1 + y_2) (x_2 - x_1)$$

$$A(\triangle BEFC) = \frac{1}{2} (BE+CF) \times EF = \frac{1}{2} (y_2 + y_3)(x_3 - x_2)$$

$$A(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2}(2+3) \times 4 - \frac{1}{2}(2+1) \times 2 - \frac{1}{2}(1+3) \times 2$$

$$= 10 - 3 - 4 = 3 \text{ square units.}$$



$$A(\triangle ABC) = \frac{1}{2} |x_1(y_2 - y_3) + x_2(y_3 - y_1) + x_3(y_1 - y_2)|.$$