Linear Forms

11^{th} Maths - Chapter 10

The following problem is question 15 from exercise 10.3:

1. The perpendicular from the origin to the line y = mx + c meets it at the point (-1, 2). Find the values of m and c.

Solution:

Given Equation,

$$(y = mx + c) (1)$$

The direction vector d = (1, m)Vector from Origin to point p(-1, 2) is

$$\mathbf{OP} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

If the lines are perpendicular then,

$$\mathbf{OP.d} = \mathbf{0} \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1\\2 \end{pmatrix} (1,m) = 0$$

$$-1 + 2m = 0 \tag{3}$$

$$m = \frac{1}{2} \tag{4}$$

(5)

Equation(1) $\Longrightarrow 2 = \frac{1}{2} (-1) + c$

$$c = \frac{5}{2}$$

therefore, Values of m and c are $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{5}{2}$

The equation becomes $y = \frac{1}{2}(x) + c$

$$\frac{-1}{2}(x) + y = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$therefore, \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} (xy) = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$(6)$$

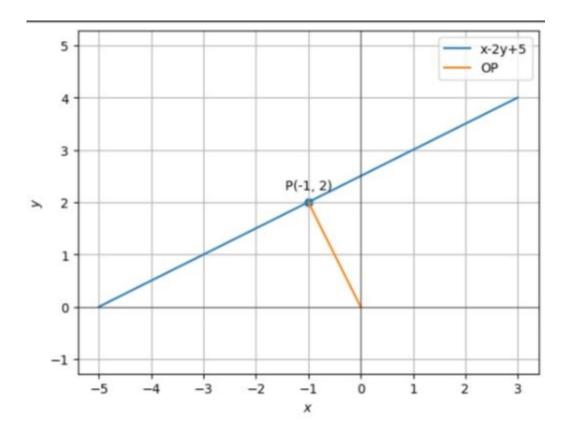


Figure 1: Graph