

# 1-1.6-14

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## Question:

Points **A**(3, 1), **B**(12, -2) and **C**(0, 2) cannot be vertices of a triangle.

## Solution:

If **A**, **B** and **C** are collinear then they are not vertices of triangle.

Points **A**, **B**, **C** are defined to be collinear if

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{A}) = 1 \quad (0.1)$$

The collinearity matrix is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9 & -3 \\ -12 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow -3R_2 + 4R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 9 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (0.2)$$

By applying row reductions we get rank of matrix as 1. So, **A**, **B**, **C** are collinear.

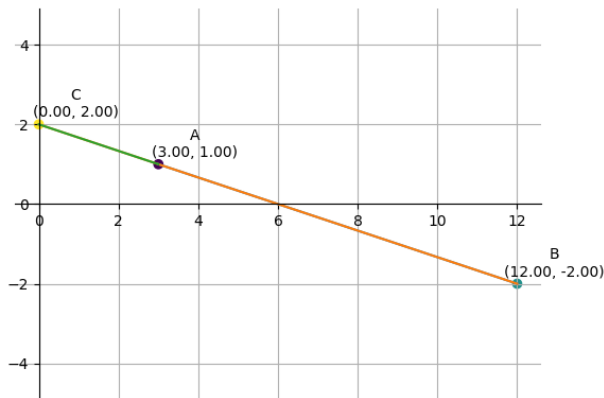


Fig. 0.1: Plot of **A**, **B**, **C**