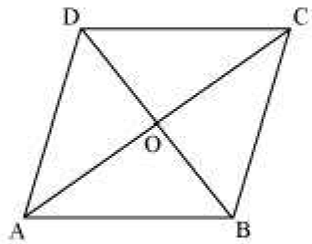
NCERT Miscellaneous Solutions

Question 1:

Three vertices of a parallelogram ABCD are A (3, −1, 2), B (1, 2, −4) andC (−1, 1, 2). Find the coordinates of the fourth vertex.

Answer

The three vertices of a parallelogram ABCD are given as A (3, −1, 2), B (1, 2, −4), and C (−1, 1, 2). Let the coordinates of the fourth vertex be D (*x*, *y*, *z*).



We know that the diagonals of a parallelogram bisect each other.

Therefore, in parallelogram ABCD, AC and BD bisect each other.

∴Mid-point of AC = Mid-point of BD

$$\Rightarrow\left(\frac{3-1}{2},\frac{-1+1}{2},\frac{2+2}{2}\right)=\left(\frac{x+1}{2},\frac{y+2}{2},\frac{z-4}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow(1,0,2)=\left(\frac{x+1}{2},\frac{y+2}{2},\frac{z-4}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow\frac{x+1}{2}=1,\ \frac{y+2}{2}=0,\ \text{and}\ \frac{z-4}{2}=2$$

⇒ x = 1, y = −2, and z = 8

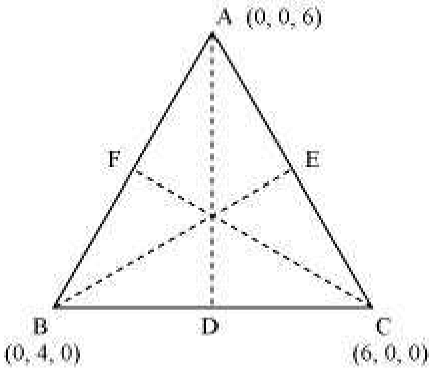
Thus, the coordinates of the fourth vertex are (1, −2, 8).

Question 2:

Find the lengths of the medians of the triangle with vertices A (0, 0, 6), B (0, 4, 0) and (6, 0, 0).

Answer

Let AD, BE, and CF be the medians of the given triangle ABC.



Since AD is the median, D is the mid-point of BC.

∴Coordinates of point D = $\left(\frac{0+6}{2}, \frac{4+0}{2}, \frac{0+0}{2}\right)$ = (3, 2, 0)

$$\text{AD} = \sqrt{(0-3)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (6-0)^2} = \sqrt{9+4+36} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

Since BE is the median, E is the mid-point of AC.

$$\therefore \text{Coordinates of point E} = \left(\frac{0+6}{2}, \frac{0+0}{2}, \frac{6+0}{2}\right) = (3,0,3)$$

$$\text{BE} = \sqrt{(3-0)^2 + (0-4)^2 + (3-0)^2} = \sqrt{9+16+9} = \sqrt{34}$$

Since CF is the median, F is the mid-point of AB.

$$\therefore \text{Coordinates of point F} = \left(\frac{0+0}{2}, \frac{0+4}{2}, \frac{6+0}{2}\right) = (0,2,3)$$

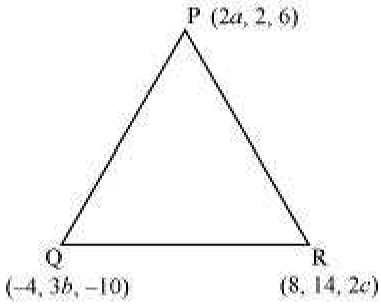
$$\text{Length of CF} = \sqrt{(6-0)^2 + (0-2)^2 + (0-3)^2} = \sqrt{36+4+9} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

Thus, the lengths of the medians of ΔABC are $7, \sqrt{34}, \text{and } 7$.

Question 3:

If the origin is the centroid of the triangle PQR with vertices P (2*a*, 2, 6), Q (−4, 3*b*, −10) and R (8, 14, 2*c*), then find the values of *a*, *b* and *c*.

Answer



It is known that the coordinates of the centroid of the triangle, whose vertices are (x_1, y_1, z_1), (x_2, y_2, z_2) and (x_3, y_3, z_3), are $\left(\frac{x_1+x_2+x_3}{3}, \frac{y_1+y_2+y_3}{3}, \frac{z_1+z_2+z_3}{3}\right)$.

Therefore, coordinates of the centroid of ΔPQR

$$=\left(\frac{2a-4+8}{3}, \frac{2+3b+14}{3}, \frac{6-10+2c}{3}\right)=\left(\frac{2a+4}{3}, \frac{3b+16}{3}, \frac{2c-4}{3}\right)$$

It is given that origin is the centroid of ΔPQR.

$$\therefore (0,0,0)=\left(\frac{2a+4}{3}, \frac{3b+16}{3}, \frac{2c-4}{3}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2a+4}{3}=0, \frac{3b+16}{3}=0 \text{ and } \frac{2c-4}{3}=0$$

$$\Rightarrow a=-2, b=-\frac{16}{3} \text{ and } c=2$$

Thus, the respective values of *a*, *b*, and *c* are $-2, -\frac{16}{3}$, and 2.

Question 4:

Find the coordinates of a point on *y*-axis which are at a distance of $5\sqrt{2}$ from the point P (3, −2, 5).

Answer

If a point is on the *y*-axis, then *x*-coordinate and the *z*-coordinate of the point are zero.

Let A (0, *b*, 0) be the point on the *y*-axis at a distance of $5\sqrt{2}$ from point P (3, −2, 5).

Accordingly, $AP = 5\sqrt{2}$

$$\therefore AP^2 = 50$$
$$\Rightarrow (3-0)^2 + (-2-b)^2 + (5-0)^2 = 50$$
$$\Rightarrow 9 + 4 + b^2 + 4b + 25 = 50$$
$$\Rightarrow b^2 + 4b - 12 = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow b^2 + 6b - 2b - 12 = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow (b+6)(b-2) = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow b = -6 \text{ or } 2$$

Thus, the coordinates of the required points are (0, 2, 0) and (0, –6, 0).

Question 5:

A point R with *x*-coordinate 4 lies on the line segment joining the pointsP (2, –3, 4) and Q (8, 0, 10). Find the coordinates of the point R.

[**Hint** suppose R divides PQ in the ratio *k*: 1. The coordinates of the point R are given by

$$\left(\frac{8k+2}{k+1}, \frac{-3}{k+1}, \frac{10k+4}{k+1}\right)]$$

Answer

The coordinates of points P and Q are given as P (2, –3, 4) and Q (8, 0, 10).

Let R divide line segment PQ in the ratio *k*:1.

Hence, by section formula, the coordinates of point R are given by

$$\left(\frac{k(8)+2}{k+1}, \frac{k(0)-3}{k+1}, \frac{k(10)+4}{k+1}\right) = \left(\frac{8k+2}{k+1}, \frac{-3}{k+1}, \frac{10k+4}{k+1}\right)$$

It is given that the *x*-coordinate of point R is 4.

$$\therefore \frac{8k+2}{k+1} = 4$$
$$\Rightarrow 8k + 2 = 4k + 4$$
$$\Rightarrow 4k = 2$$
$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, the coordinates of point R are $\left(4, \frac{-3}{\frac{1}{2}+1}, \frac{10\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)+4}{\frac{1}{2}+1}\right) = (4, -2, 6)$

Question 6:

If A and B be the points (3, 4, 5) and (−1, 3, −7), respectively, find the equation of the set of points P such that $PA^2 + PB^2 = k^2$, where k is a constant.

Answer

The coordinates of points A and B are given as (3, 4, 5) and (−1, 3, −7) respectively.

Let the coordinates of point P be (x, y, z).

On using distance formula, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{PA}^2 &= (x-3)^2 + (y-4)^2 + (z-5)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 9 - 6x + y^2 + 16 - 8y + z^2 + 25 - 10z \\ &= x^2 - 6x + y^2 - 8y + z^2 - 10z + 50\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{PB}^2 &= (x+1)^2 + (y-3)^2 + (z+7)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 2x + y^2 - 6y + z^2 + 14z + 59\end{aligned}$$

Now, if $PA^2 + PB^2 = k^2$, then

$$\left(x^2 - 6x + y^2 - 8y + z^2 - 10z + 50\right) + \left(x^2 + 2x + y^2 - 6y + z^2 + 14z + 59\right) = k^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 - 4x - 14y + 4z + 109 = k^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\left(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z\right) = k^2 - 109$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z = \frac{k^2 - 109}{2}$$

Thus, the required equation is $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - 2x - 7y + 2z = \dfrac{k^2 - 109}{2}$.