

Achievement standard 2.4  
Co-ordinate Geometry

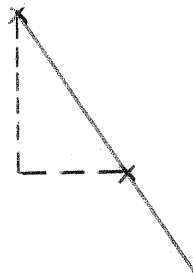
Gradient / slope

$$\text{Slope } m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

1) slope  $m = \frac{1}{2}$



2) Slope  $m = -\frac{3}{2}$



Slope between 2 points

Find the slope between  $A(-1, 5)$  and  $B(5, 2)$

$$\Delta x = 6$$

$$\Delta y = -3$$

$$\text{slope } m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{-3}{6} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

2) Find  $p$  if the gradient of the line joining  $A(3, p)$  to  $B(-1, 10)$  is  $m = -2$ .

$$\Delta x = -4$$

$$\Delta y =$$

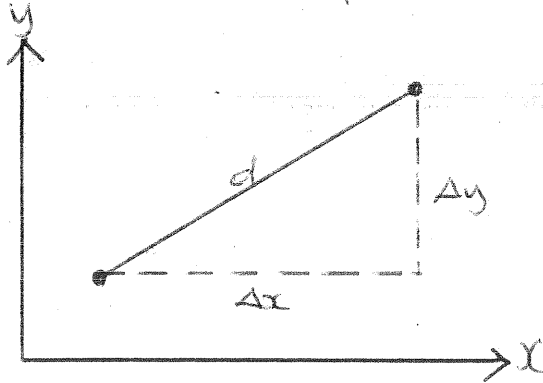
$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

$$-2 = \frac{\Delta y}{-4}$$

$$\Delta y = 8$$

$$\therefore p = 2$$

Distance between 2 points



The distance between 2 points is given by the formula

$$d = \sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2}$$

e.g. 1) Find the distance between  $(-1, 5)$  and  $(5, 2)$

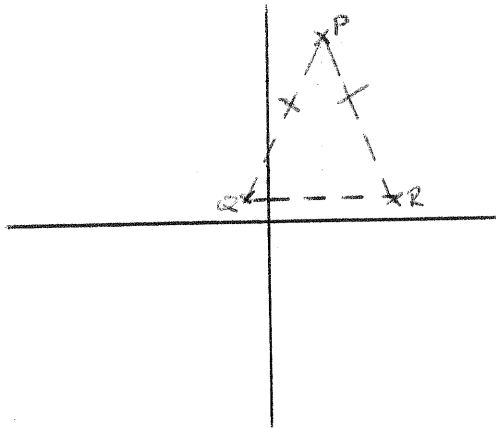
$$\Delta x = 6$$

$$\Delta y = -3$$

$$d = \sqrt{6^2 + (-3)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{45} \text{ or } 3\sqrt{5} \text{ or } 6.7$$

7) Show that  $\triangle PQR$  with vertices  $P(2, 7)$ ,  $Q(-1, 1)$  and  $R(5, 1)$  is isosceles. Name the pair of equal sides.



$$PQ: \Delta x = -3$$

$$\Delta y = -6$$

$$d = \sqrt{(-3)^2 + (-6)^2} = \sqrt{45}$$

$$PR: \Delta x = 3$$

$$\Delta y = -6$$

$$d = \sqrt{3^2 + (-6)^2} = \sqrt{45}$$

$\therefore \triangle PQR$  is isosceles

### Collinear Points

Points  $A, B$  and  $C$  are collinear if they lie on a straight line

Eg 1) Show that  $A(-3, 8)$  and  $B(1, 3)$  and  $C(13, -12)$  are collinear.

$$\text{For } AB: \Delta x = 4$$

$$\Delta y = -5$$

$$\text{slope } m = \frac{-5}{4}$$

$$\text{For } BC: \Delta x = 12$$

$$\Delta y = -15$$

$$\text{slope } m = \frac{-15}{12} = -\frac{5}{4}$$

$\therefore m_{AB} = m_{BC}$ , so points are collinear.

2) Points  $P(-5, 3)$  and  $Q(1, 1)$  and  $R(k, -3)$  are collinear.  
Find value of  $k$ .

$$PQ: \Delta x = 6$$

$$\Delta y = -2$$

$$\text{Slope } m = PQ = \frac{-2}{6} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$QR: \Delta x =$$

$$\Delta y = -4$$

$$m_{QR} = \frac{-4}{\Delta x}$$

$$-\frac{1}{3} = \frac{-4}{\Delta x}$$

$$-\frac{\Delta x}{3} = -4$$

$$-\Delta x = -12$$

$$\Delta x = 12$$

$$\therefore k = 13$$

### Midpoint

If  $A(x_1, y_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2)$  then the midpoint of  $AB$  is given by  $M\left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}\right)$

1) eg Find the midpoint of the line joining  $P(7, -4)$  and  $Q(1, 12)$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Midpoint is } M\left(\frac{7+1}{2}, \frac{-4+12}{2}\right) \\ = M(4, 4)\end{aligned}$$

2)  $\overline{AB}$  is the diameter of a circle. If  $A(3, 2)$  and  $B(9, -6)$ , find the equation of the circle.

$$\text{For } AB: \Delta x = 6$$

$$\Delta y = -8$$

$$d = \sqrt{6^2 + (-8)^2}$$

$$d = 10$$

$\therefore$  radius of circle is 5

$$\text{Midpoint of } AB \text{ is } \left(\frac{3+9}{2}, \frac{2+(-6)}{2}\right) = (6, -2)$$

$$\text{Equation of circle is } (x-6)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 25$$

## Gradient Intercept method

Recall  $y = mx + c$   
                    ↗                    ↖  
                    gradient or slope                    intercept

- i) Write the equation of a line whose slope is -2 and which cuts y axis at 5

$$y = -2x + 5$$

## General Equation of a straight line

All straight lines can be written in the general form  $ax + by + c = 0$  where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are integers (the  $x$  term should be positive)

eg Write  $y = \frac{5}{8}x + 3$  in the general form of straight line

$$8y = 5x + 24$$

$$\text{Equation is } 5x - 8y + 24 = 0$$

## Point - Slope Equation

If we know the slope  $m$  of a line, and we know that the line passes through point  $(x, y)$ , then the equation of the line is.

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

- 1) Find the equation of the line whose slope is 2, and which passes through the point  $(3, 8)$

$$\begin{aligned}y - y_1 &= m(x - x_1) \\y - 8 &= 2(x - 3) \\y - 8 &= 2x - 6 \\y &= 2x + 2\end{aligned}$$

- 2) Find the equation of the line whose slope is  $\frac{2}{3}$  and which passes through  $(5, -2)$

$$\begin{aligned}y - y_1 &= m(x - x_1) \\y - -2 &= \frac{2}{3}(x - 5) \\y + 2 &= \frac{2}{3}(x - 5) \\3y + 6 &= 2(x - 5) \\3y + 6 &= 2x - 10 \\2x - 3y - 16 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

- 3) Find the equation of the line joining  $(5, 1)$  and  $(9, 13)$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta x &= 4 \\ \Delta y &= 12 \\ m &= \frac{12}{4} = 3\end{aligned}$$

using  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

$$\begin{aligned}y - 1 &= 3(x - 5) \\y - 1 &= 3x - 15 \\y &= 3x - 14\end{aligned}$$

## Parallel lines

Parallel lines have the same slope

- 1) Find the equation of the line parallel to  $y = \frac{1}{2}x + 3$  and passing through point  $(-5, 4)$

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

$$m_{//} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y - 4 = \frac{1}{2}(x - (-5))$$

$$2y - 8 = x + 5$$

$$0 = x - 2y + 13$$

- 2) Find the equation of the line parallel to  $3x - 2y + 5 = 0$  and passing through  $(10, 1)$

$$\text{For } 3x - 2y + 5 = 0$$

$$3x + 5 = 2y$$

$$\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{5}{2} = y$$

$$m = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$m_{//} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$y - 1 = \frac{3}{2}(x - 10)$$

$$2y - 2 = 3(x - 10)$$

$$2y - 2 = 3x - 30$$

$$3x - 2y - 28 = 0$$

## Perpendicular lines

If a line has slope  $m = \frac{a}{b}$ , then a perpendicular line has slope

$$m_{\perp} = -\frac{b}{a}$$

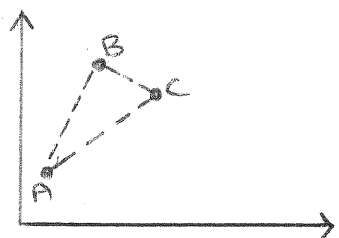
Eg 1) Find the equation of a line perpendicular to  $y = \frac{2}{3}x + 1$  and passing through  $(8, 3)$

$$m = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$m_{\perp} = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Using } y - y_1 &= m(x - x_1) \\ y - 3 &= -\frac{3}{2}(x - 8) \\ 2y - 6 &= -3(x - 8) \\ 2y - 6 &= -3x + 24 \\ 3x + 2y - 30 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

2) If 2 lines are perpendicular to each other, then  $m_1 \times m_2 = -1$



ABC is a  $\Delta$  with vertices  $A(2,1)$ ,  $B(6,3)$  and  $C(5,5)$   
Show that  $\Delta ABC$  is a right angled triangle.

$$\text{For } AB = \Delta x = 4$$

$$\Delta y = 2$$

$$m_{AB} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{For } BC = \Delta x = -1$$

$$\Delta y = 2$$

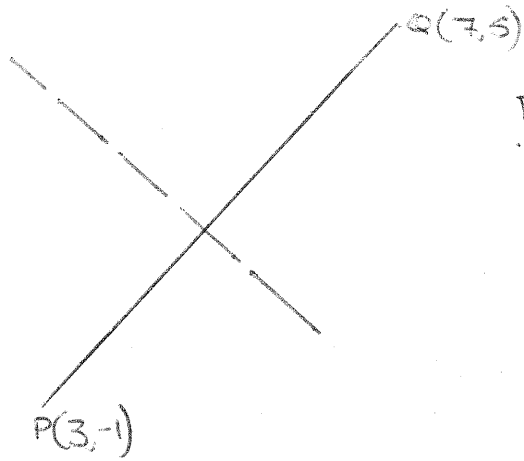
$$m_{BC} = \frac{2}{-1} = -2$$

$$\begin{aligned}m_{AB} \times m_{BC} &= \frac{1}{2} \times -2 \\ &= -1\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  sides AB and BC are  $\perp$

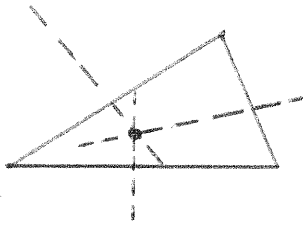


3)



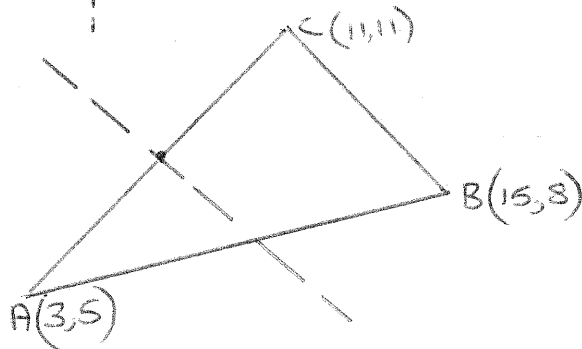
Find the equation

## Perpendicular bisector



The 3 perpendicular bisectors of a  $\Delta$  meet at the circumcentre

Ex



Find the equation of the perpendicular bisector of AC

$$\text{Midpoint of AC} = (7, 8)$$

$$\Delta x = 8$$

$$\Delta y = 6$$

$$m_{AC} = \frac{6}{8} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$m_{\perp} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

$$y - 8 = -\frac{4}{3}(x - 7)$$

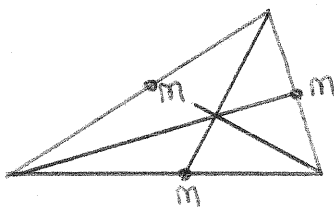
$$3y - 24 = -4(x - 7)$$

$$3y - 24 = -4x + 28$$

$$4x + 3y - 52 = 0$$

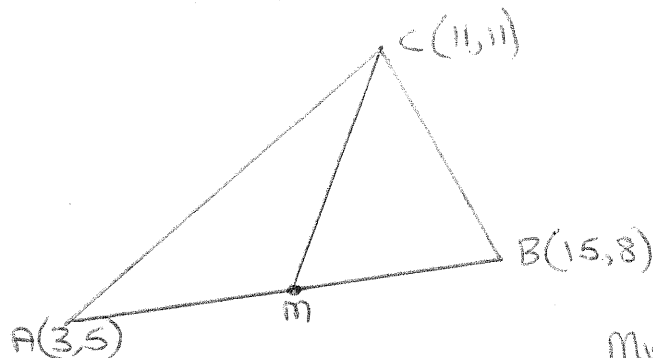
## Medians

A median is a line from a vertex to the midpoint of the opposite side.



The 3 medians intersect at the centroid

eg



Find the equation  
of the median through  
point C

Midpoint of AB is  $(9, 6.5)$

Slope of line through  $M(9, 6.5)$   
and  $C(11, 11)$

$$\Delta x = 2$$

$$\Delta y = 4.5$$

$$m = \frac{4.5}{2} = \frac{9}{4}$$

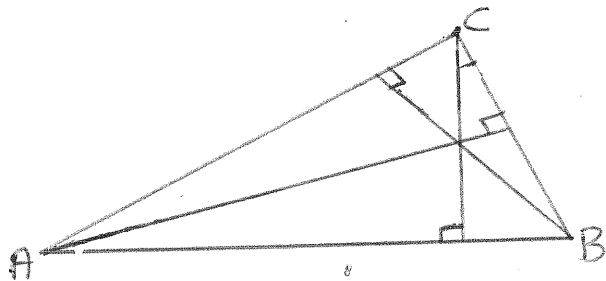
Using  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

$$y - 11 = \frac{9}{4}(x - 11)$$

$$4y - 44 = 9x - 99$$

$$0 = 9x - 4y - 55$$

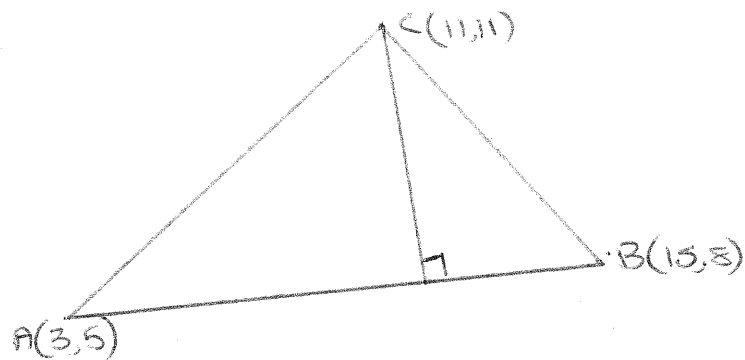
### Altitudes



An altitude runs from  
a vertex to meet the  
opposite side at  $90^\circ$

The 3 altitudes must  
meet at the orthocent

eq



Find the equation of the altitude through point  $C$ .

$$\text{For } AB = \Delta x = 12$$

$$\Delta y = 3$$

$$m = \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$m_{\perp} = -\frac{4}{1}$$

$$\text{Using } y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - 11 = -4(x - 11)$$

$$y - 11 = -4x + 44$$

$$y = -4x + 55$$