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Geometry

# 1-3 Distance and Midpoints

Objective(s): • Find the distance between two points

• Find the midpoint between two points

\* The distance between two points is the length of the segment with those points as its endpoints.

\* We will use the distance formula to find the distance between two points.

$$d(x,y) = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$$

$(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$   $\leftarrow$  ordered pairs

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Ex) Find the distance between  $E(-5, 6)$   
 and  $F(8, -4)$ .

$x_1 \quad y_1$   
 $x_2 \quad y_2$

Solution:  $d_{EF} = \sqrt{(8-(-5))^2 + (-4-6)^2}$

$\nearrow$

$$= \sqrt{(8+5)^2 + (-4-6)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(13)^2 + (-10)^2} \quad -10^2 \text{ vs } (-10)^2$$

$$= \sqrt{169 + 100}$$

$$= \sqrt{269} \approx 16.40 \text{ units}$$

$\uparrow$   
 approximate

The distance  
 between E  
 and F.

Ex) Find the distance between  $J(4, 3)$  and  
 $K(-3, -1)$

$x_1 \quad y_1$   
 $x_2 \quad y_2$

$$d_{JK} = \sqrt{(-3-4)^2 + (-1-3)^2} \quad \text{OR}$$

$$d_{JK} = \sqrt{(4-(-3))^2 + (3-(-1))^2}$$

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You could also use

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

Ex) Find the distance between  
E(-5, 6) and F(8, -4)

$$x_1 \ y_1 \qquad \qquad x_2 \ y_2$$

Solution:  $d_{EF} = \sqrt{(8 - (-5))^2 + (-4 - 6)^2}$

$$= \sqrt{(13)^2 + (-10)^2}$$

*the distance  
between E and F*

$$= \sqrt{169 + 100}$$

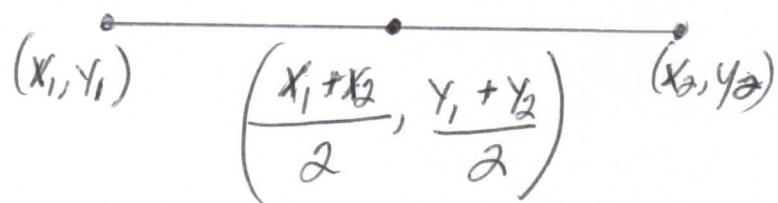
$$= \sqrt{269} \approx 16.40 \text{ units}$$

*approximate*

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## Midpoint of a Segment

- The midpoint of a segment is the point halfway between the endpoints of the segment.



- We will use the midpoint formula to find the midpoint of a segment.
- The midpoint can also be referred to as the segment bisector.

$$M = \left( \frac{x_1+x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1+y_2}{2} \right)$$

Note: This will always be an ordered pair.

Ex) Find the midpoint between

E(-8, 6) and F(-5, 10)

$x_1$   $y_1$

$x_2$   $y_2$

Solution:  $M = \left( \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$

$$M = \left( \frac{-8 + (-5)}{2}, \frac{6 + 10}{2} \right)$$

$$M = \left( \frac{-13}{2}, \frac{16}{2} \right)$$

$$M = \left( \frac{-13}{2}, 8 \right)$$

Ex) Find the midpoint between

P(-1, 3) and G(5, 6)

Ex) Find the midpoint between  
E(-8, 6) and F(-5, 10)

$$M = \left( \frac{-8 + (-5)}{2}, \frac{6 + 10}{2} \right)$$

$$= \left( \frac{-13}{2}, \frac{16}{2} \right)$$

$$\boxed{M = \left( -\frac{13}{2}, 8 \right)}$$

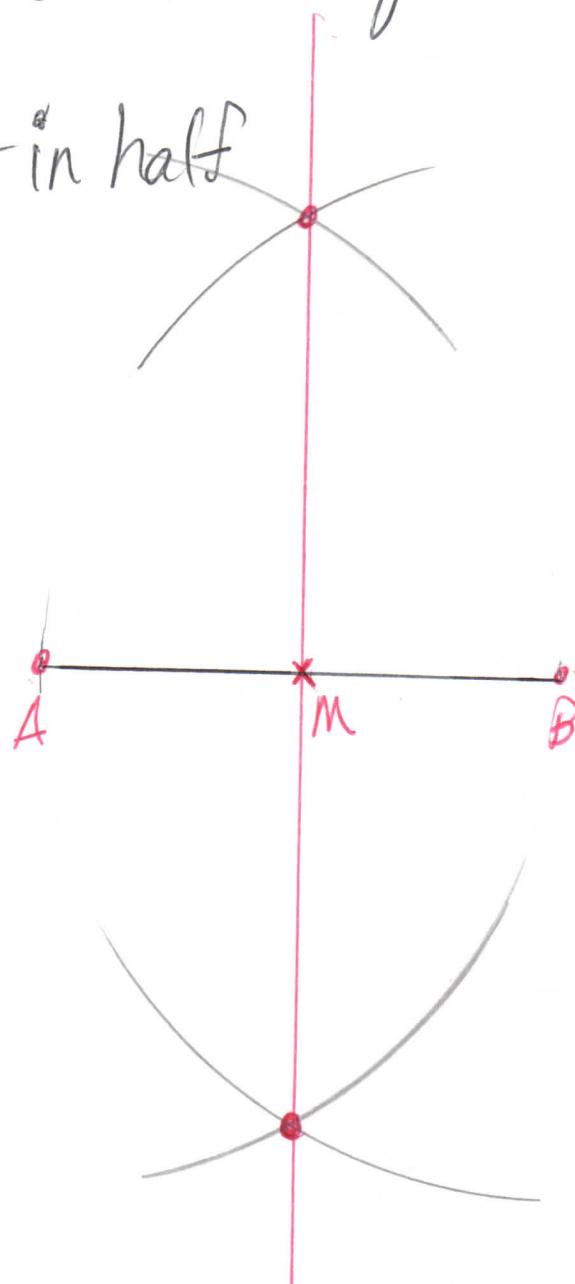
Ex) Find the ~~distance~~ midpoint  
between P(-1, 3) and G(5, 6)

$$M = \left( 2, \frac{9}{2} \right)$$

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# Construction of the segment bisector

bisect = cut in half



- ① Begin with segment AB.
- ② Draw arcs above and below the line from point A, the length of AB.
- ③ Draw arcs above and below the line from point B, the length of AB.
- ④ Make points where the arcs intersect.

5) Draw a line through the two new points (points of intersection).