

Point A has coordinates  $(a, 6)$  and point B has coordinates  $(5, b)$ .

The line  $8x - 6y + 3 = 0$  is the perpendicular bisector of AB.

Find  $a$  and  $b$ .

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Write equation in  $y = mx + c$  form

$$8x - 6y + 3 = 0$$

$$8x + 3 = 6y$$

$$y = \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{1}{2}$$

Gradient of line =  $\frac{4}{3}$

AB is perpendicular to this line

Gradient of AB =  $-\frac{3}{4}$

Use coordinates to find gradient of AB in terms of  $a$  and  $b$

$$\text{Gradient of AB} = \frac{b-6}{5-a}$$

Equate two expressions for gradient of AB

$$-\frac{3}{4} = \frac{b-6}{5-a}$$

$$-3(5-a) = 4(b-6)$$

$$-15 + 3a = 4b - 24$$

$$3a - 4b = -9$$

Find midpoint of AB

$$\left( \frac{a+5}{2}, \frac{6+b}{2} \right)$$

This point must lie on the perpendicular bisector  $8x - 6y + 3 = 0$

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$$8\left(\frac{a+5}{2}\right) - 6\left(\frac{6+b}{2}\right) + 3 = 0$$

$$4(a+5) - 3(6+b) + 3 = 0$$

$$4a + 20 - 18 - 3b + 3 = 0$$

$$4a - 3b = -5$$

We now have 2 simultaneous equations in  $a$  and  $b$  to solve

$$3a - 4b = -9$$

$$4a - 3b = -5$$

$$9a - 12b = -27$$

$$16a - 12b = -20$$

$$7a = 7$$

$$a = 1$$

$$b = 3$$

