

Student Outcomes

- Students use parallelograms to interpret the sum of two points in \mathbb{R}^2 geometrically. Students make a similar interpretation for the sum of two points in \mathbb{R}^3 .
- Students recognize that scalar multiplication of points in \mathbb{R}^2 corresponds to a dilation. Students make a similar interpretation for scaling points in \mathbb{R}^3 .

Lesson Notes

In the Opening Exercise, students perform addition and scalar multiplication, first on complex numbers and then on ordered pairs. This leads into the discussion portion of the lesson, in which students explore geometric interpretations for these operations, first for points in \mathbb{R}^2 and then for points in \mathbb{R}^3 . This lesson focuses on MP.3 and MP.7 as students construct arguments and make use of structure while studying points in space.

This is the first of several lessons that will have students graph in three-dimensional space. This may be difficult for some students to visualize, but you can make it easier by using a corner of your room. Allow the wall seam to be the z-axis, and one seam between the wall and the floor to be the x-axis while the other is the y-axis. You can even set up a tape with a number line in each direction. Have students experiment with plotting different points to get the feel of what graphing in 3-D looks like. It is important for students to understand that since we live in a 3-D world, we must have a way to explain points, objects, etc., in this 3-D space. There are many computer graphics programs that are available free of charge that can support student learning on 3-D graphing such as GeoGebra. Additionally, blank 3-D coordinate axes are supplied at the end of this lesson for use throughout this module.

The study of vectors will form a vital part of this course; notation for vectors varies across different contexts and curricula. These materials will refer to a vector as v (lowercase, bold, non-italicized) or $\langle 4, 5 \rangle$ or in column format, $\binom{4}{5}$ or $\begin{bmatrix} 4\\5 \end{bmatrix}$.

We will use "let $\mathbf{v} = \langle 4, 5 \rangle$ " to establish a name for the vector $\langle 4, 5 \rangle$.

This curriculum will avoid stating $\mathbf{v} = \langle 4, 5 \rangle$ without the word "let" preceding the equation when naming a vector unless it is absolutely clear from the context that we are naming a vector. However, we will continue to use the "=" to describe vector equations, like $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{v}$, as we have done with equations throughout all other grades.

We will refer to the vector from A to B as "vector \overline{AB} " – notice, this is a ray with a full arrow. This notation is consistent with the way vectors are introduced in Grade 8 and is also widely used in post-secondary textbooks to describe both a ray and a vector depending on the context. To avoid confusion in this curriculum, the context will be provided or strongly implied, so it will be clear whether the full arrow indicates a vector or a ray. For example, when referring to a ray from A passing through B, we will say "ray \overline{AB} " and when referring to a vector from A to B, we will say "vector \overline{AB} ". Students should be encouraged to think about the context of the problem and not just rely on a hasty inference based on the symbol.

The magnitude of a vector will be signified as $\|\mathbf{v}\|$ (lowercase, bold, non-italicized).







Classwork

In the Opening Exercise, students practice adding and multiplying complex numbers then ordered pairs displayed as matrices. This allows students to review previously taught skills and then explore the geometric interpretation of these operations in the lesson.

Opening Exercise (2 minutes)



Discussion (8 minutes): Addition Viewed Geometrically

Here are two questions to ponder:

- When we add two points x and y, we produce a third point z = x + y. How do you think z is related geometrically to x and y?
- . When we multiply a point x by a scalar (say 3), we produce another point y = 3x. How do you think y is related to x geometrically?
- Take a moment to write down any conjectures you may have about these questions, and then share your thinking with a partner. We'll explore these questions in detail in the upcoming discussion.
- Let $x = \binom{6}{3}$ and let $y = \binom{1}{5}$. Compute z = x + y. $= z = \binom{6}{3} + \binom{1}{5} = \binom{7}{8}$

- To help students visualize the results, have them color code each vector always having the resulting vector a standard color. For example, the first vector could always be blue, the second vector green, and so on, but the resulting vector always red. This will help students visualize.
- When plotting in 3-D, continue color coding. Give students only positive values, and use the corners of the classroom to represent 3-D space having students create the 3 number lines, x, y, and Z.
- For advanced learners, once they have shown understanding of 2-D, allow them to move to 3-D graphing, and try it without scaffolding. Challenge them to create a physical model of 3-D space using a shoe box or something in the classroom - this can be used later for all students.



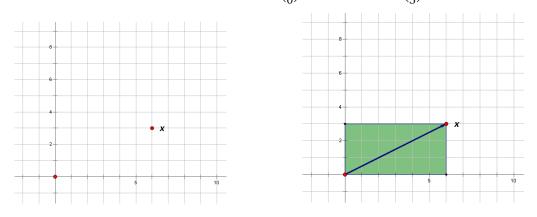
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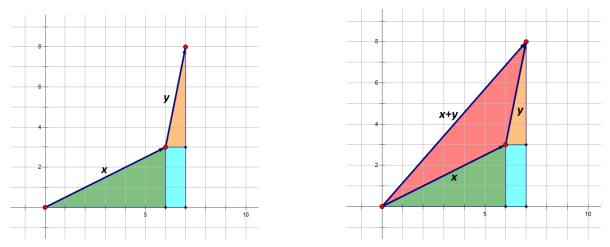


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• To discover the geometric relationships between x, y, and z, it's helpful to picture the box shown below. Note that the width of this rectangle is 6, which is the first coordinate of x, and the height of the rectangle is 3, which is the second coordinate of x. We can associate x with the diagonal of this box. In fact, we might even go so far as to say that the diagonal is x. In some contexts it's useful to think of an ordered pair as a vector, which in this case means an arrow that originates at $\binom{0}{0}$ and terminates at $\binom{6}{3}$.



When we add y to x, we are effectively performing a translation. Let's draw a picture of this:



• So the question still remains: how exactly are these three arrows related? Take a moment to discuss your thoughts with a partner, and then we'll continue.



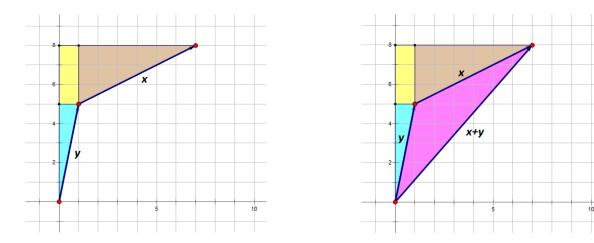
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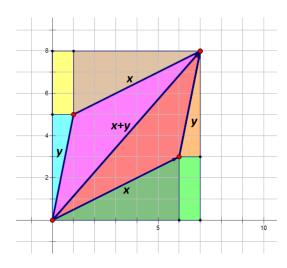


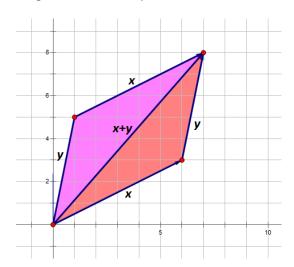
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Let's see what happens when we perform the addition the other way around; that is, when we compute **y** + **x**:

• To really see what's going on, let's look at x + y and y + x together in the same picture:





- Now a clear picture is starting to emerge. Make a conjecture and share it with a partner. What strikes you about this figure?
 - It looks as though the points in the figure form a parallelogram.
- Can you make an argument showing that this is indeed a parallelogram?
 - The upper and lower sides both have a rise-to-run ratio of 3: 6, which means they must be parallel.
 - The left and right sides both have a rise-to-run ratio of 5: 1, which means they must also be parallel.
 - Since both pairs of opposite sides of the figure are parallel, the figure is indeed a parallelogram.



MP.3

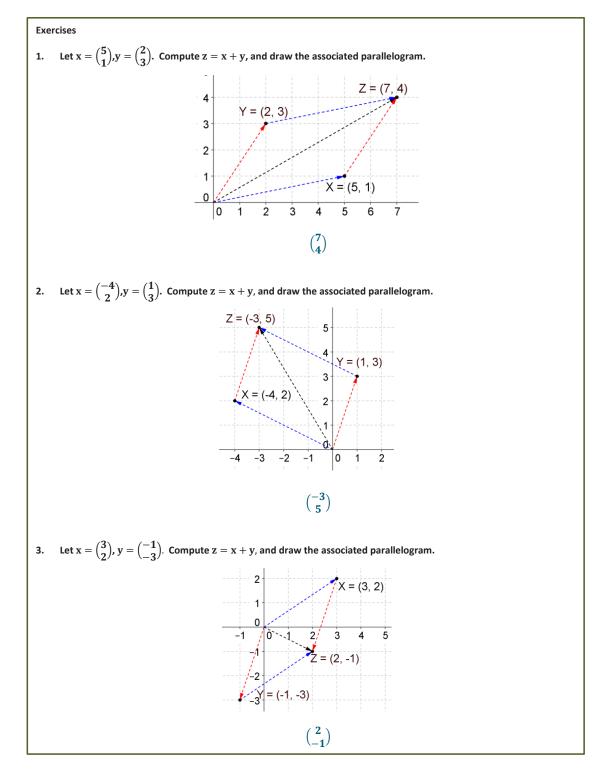
& MP.7

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Exercises 1–3 (3 minutes)





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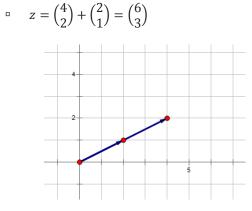
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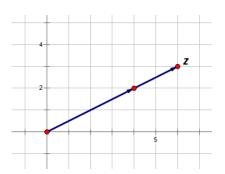


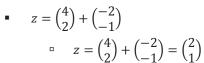
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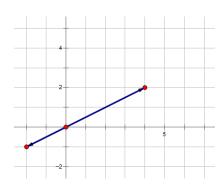
Example 1 (3 minutes): Degenerate Parallelograms

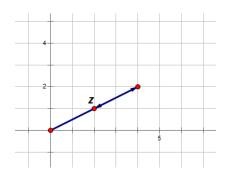
- We've seen that adding two points gives a third point which lies at the vertex of a parallelogram. Can you think of a case where no parallelogram is produced? Think for a moment about this.
 - Answers will vary. Take two points that lie on a line through the origin. These cases do not produce proper parallelograms.
- We call these "degenerate parallelograms."
- Let's try a few examples. For each problem below, compute the sum of the given points, and draw the
 associated picture.
- $z = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$













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• $z = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ $z = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ Ζ

Discussion (6 minutes): Scalar Multiplication

- Now let's turn our attention to scalar multiplication. What is the geometric effect of taking $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and scaling it by a factor of 3? Compute $\mathbf{z} = 3 \binom{2}{1}$, and then plot \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{z} in the plane.
 - We have $\mathbf{z} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$. 3x 2 x 5 -2
 - Describe the relationship between \mathbf{x} and $3\mathbf{x}$.
 - It appears that x and 3x lie on a line through the origin and that the length of the arrow to 3x is 3 times as long as the arrow to x.



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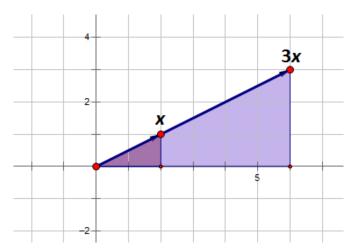


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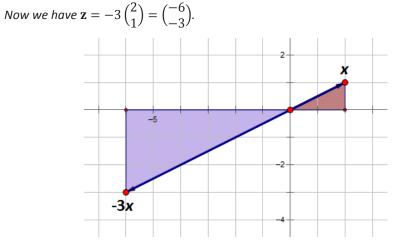
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Does the picture below add to your understanding of the nature of scalar multiplication? Discuss what you see with a partner. Try to make connections between the picture and the underlying arithmetic involved in computing $3\binom{2}{1}$.



- The *x*-coordinate is scaled from 2 to $2 \cdot 3 = 6$, so the widths of the triangles are in a 3:1 ratio.
- The y-coordinate is scaled from 1 to $1 \cdot 3 = 3$, so the heights of the triangles are also in a 3:1 ratio.
- Since both of these triangles have a right angle, they are similar to each other by the SAS principle. This means that the lengths of the arrows to 3x and to x are indeed in a 3:1 ratio and that 0, x, and 3x do lie on a common line.
- What do you suppose would happen if we scaled $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ by -3 instead? Plot \mathbf{x} and $-3\mathbf{x}$ in the plane, and then describe the geometric relationship between these two vectors.



- The vector $\mathbf{z} = -3\mathbf{x}$ is 3 times as long as \mathbf{x} , but it lies on the opposite side of the origin.
- We call the new vector produced the resultant. Can you state the previous result using the word "resultant"?
 - The resultant is 3 times as long as \mathbf{x} , but it lies on the opposite side of the origin.



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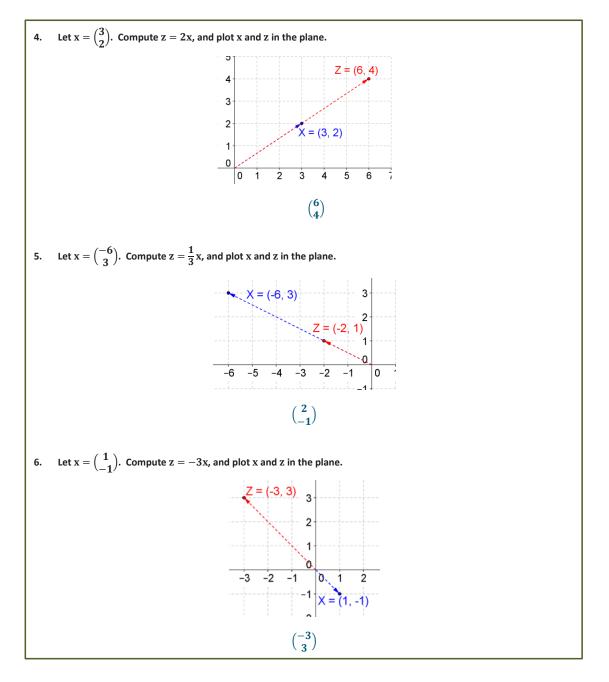
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Exercises 4–6 (2 minutes)





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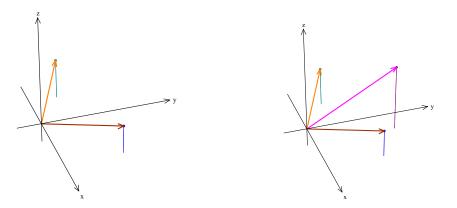


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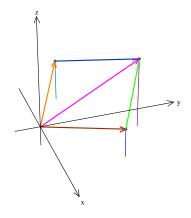
Example 2 (5 minutes): 3D Addition Viewed Geometrically

Now that we've discussed the geometric interpretation of adding and scaling points in \mathbb{R}^2 , let's turn our attention to \mathbb{R}^3 . What do you think adding points in \mathbb{R}^3 will mean from a geometric point of view? What will scaling points mean? Make a conjecture, and then quickly share your thinking with a partner. We'll pursue these questions in detail in the upcoming discussion. If graphing software is available, demonstrate plotting points in 3-D space for the class, and then allow students to try. Being able to visualize points in 3-D space is difficult for students, and they will need lots of practice. Blank 3-D axes are included for teacher and student use at the end of this lesson.

• Let
$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$. Compute $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$, and then plot each of these three points.



Can you tell how **x**, **y**, and **z** are related? This picture should help:



In the resultant, the x-value of 5 is translated in the x direction -3 units, the x-value of 4 is translated in the y direction 2 units, and the x-value of 2 is translated in the z direction 3 units. $\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ \end{pmatrix}$



MP.7

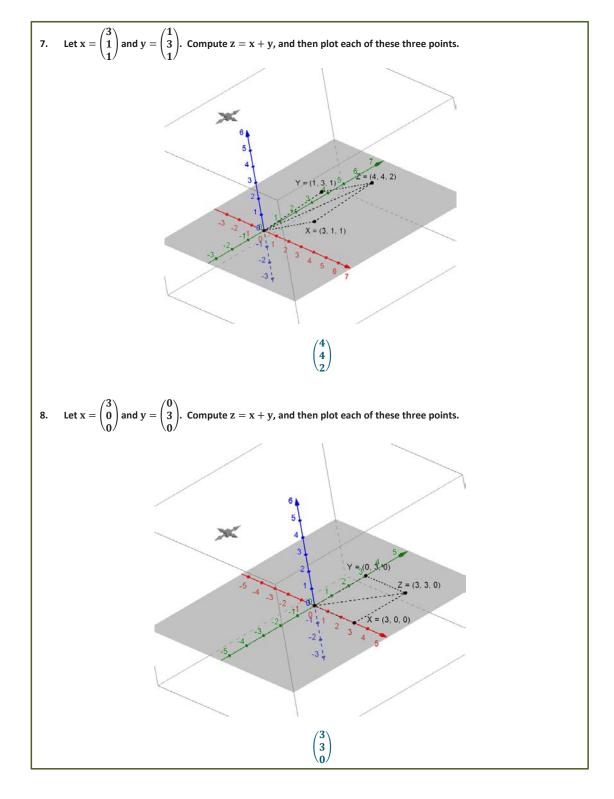
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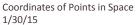




Exercises 7–8 (2 minutes)





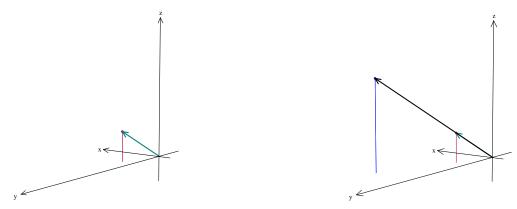




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Example 3 (5 minutes): Scalar Multiplication in 3D

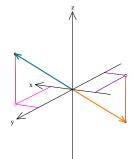
- What do you suppose it means to perform scalar multiplication in a three-dimensional setting? Make a conjecture and briefly share it with a partner.
- Let $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Compute $\mathbf{z} = 3\mathbf{x}$, and then plot each of these points. Describe what you see.

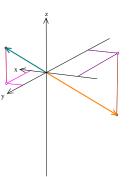


- The resultant was dilated by a factor of 3. The resultant lies on the same line through the origin as the vector.
- What do you suppose would happen if we scaled $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ by a factor of -1? What if the scale factor

were -2?

- When we scale by -1, we get $-1 \cdot \mathbf{x} = -1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$. The resultant is the same length as \mathbf{x} , but it points in the opposite direction.
- When we scale by -2, we get $-2 \cdot \mathbf{x} = -2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -6 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$. The resultant is twice as long as \mathbf{x} , but again it points in the opposite direction.







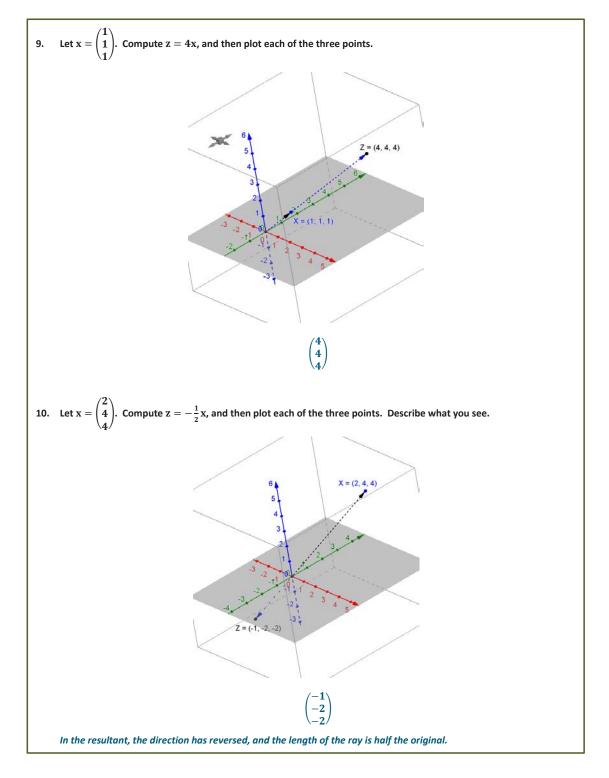
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Exercises 9–10 (2 minutes)





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Closing (2 minutes)

Write a brief response to the following questions in your notebook, and then share your responses with a partner.

- What did you learn about the geometry of vector addition in \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3 ?
 - ^a We can use the diagonal of a parallelogram to visualize the resultant vector of the sum of two vectors.
- What did you learn about the geometry of scalar multiplication of vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 and \mathbb{R}^3 ?
 - Multiplying a vector by a scalar produces a resultant that is a dilation of the original vector.

Exit Ticket (5 minutes)



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Exit Ticket

- 1. Find the sum of the following, and plot the points and the resultant. Describe the geometric interpretation.
 - a. $\binom{3}{1} + \binom{1}{3}$

b.
$$\binom{2}{1} + \binom{3}{2}$$

c. $\binom{-2}{4} + \binom{3}{-2}$

d.
$$-\binom{3}{1}$$

2. Find the sum of the following.

a.
$$\begin{pmatrix} 3\\1\\3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1\\3\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$

b.
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2\\0\\1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0\\2\\1 \end{pmatrix}$$





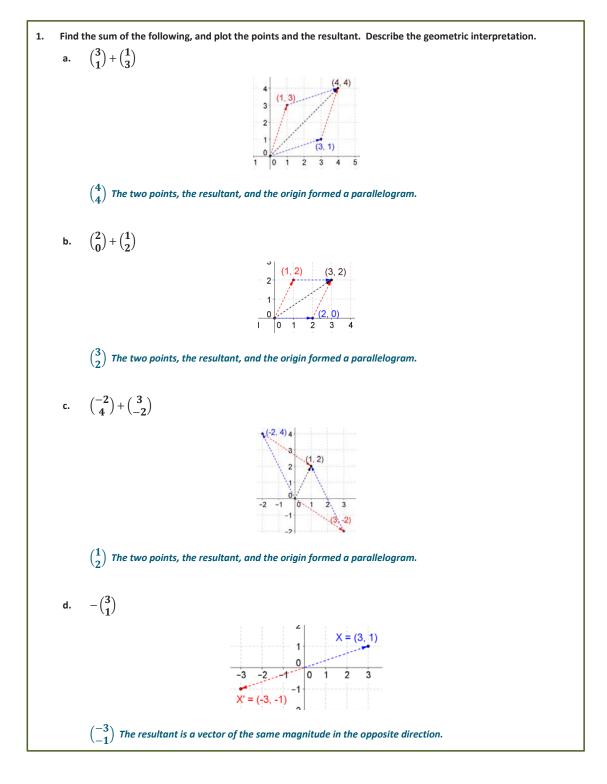
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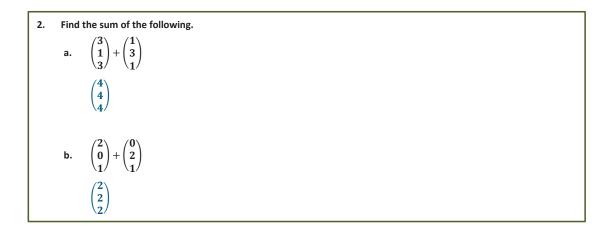
Exit Ticket Sample Solutions



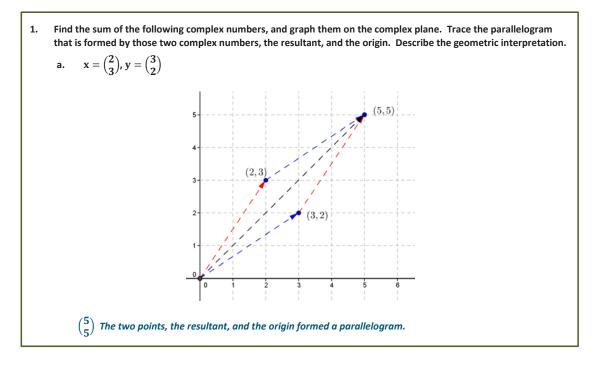
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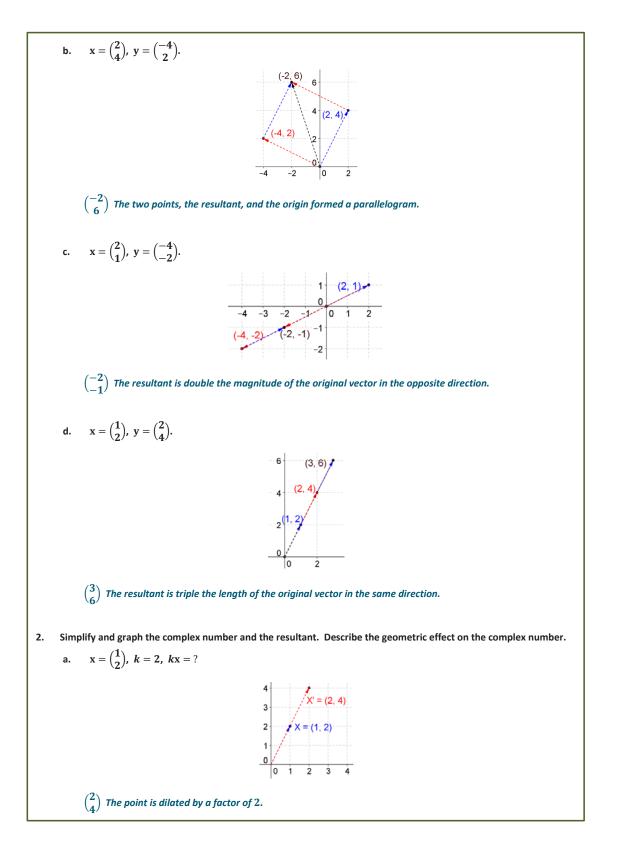
Problem Set Sample Solutions













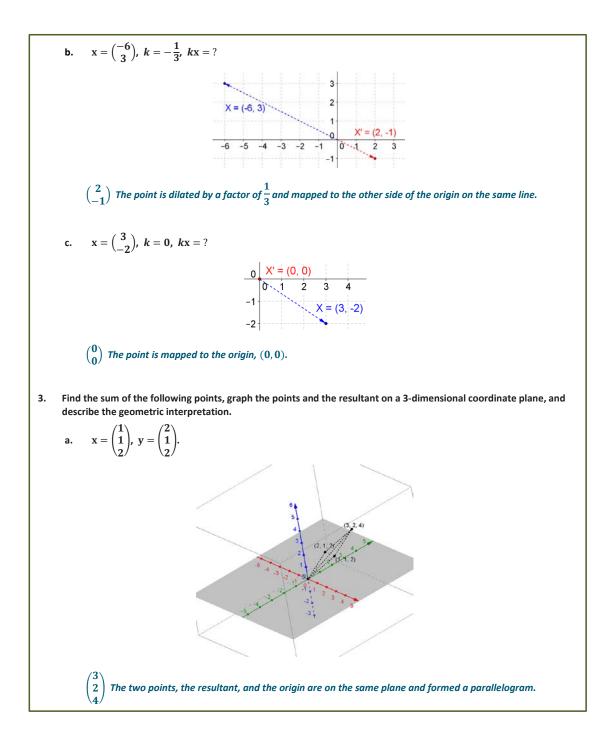
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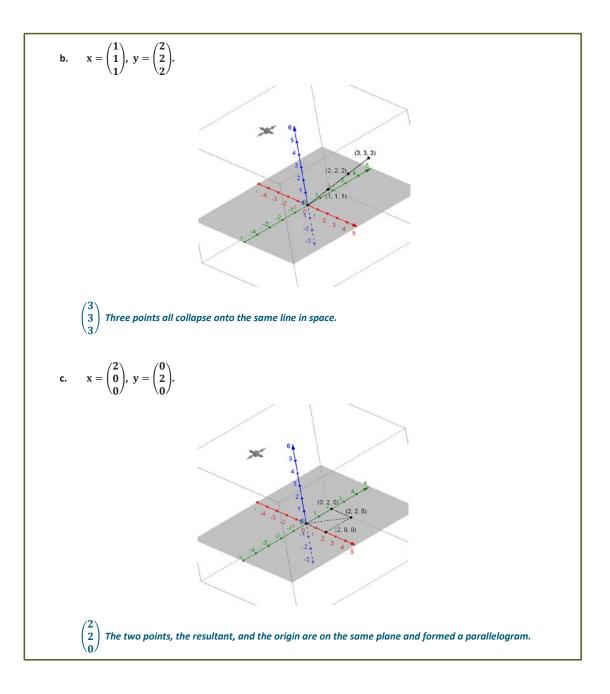


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This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. 4. Simplify the following, graph the point and the resultant on a 3-dimensional coordinate plane, and describe the geometric effect. $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \ k = 2, \ k\mathbf{x} = ?$ a. 6 5 X' = (4, 2, 2)(2, 1, 1) -3-21 -3 The point is dilated by a factor of 2. 2 b. $x = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, k = -1, kx = ?$ 6 -12 = (2, 2, 2) X' = (-2, -2, -2) _3 -2The point is mapped to the other side of the origin on the same line. 5. Find Any two different points whose sum is $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$. a. Answers vary. $\binom{2}{2}$, $\binom{-2}{-2}$

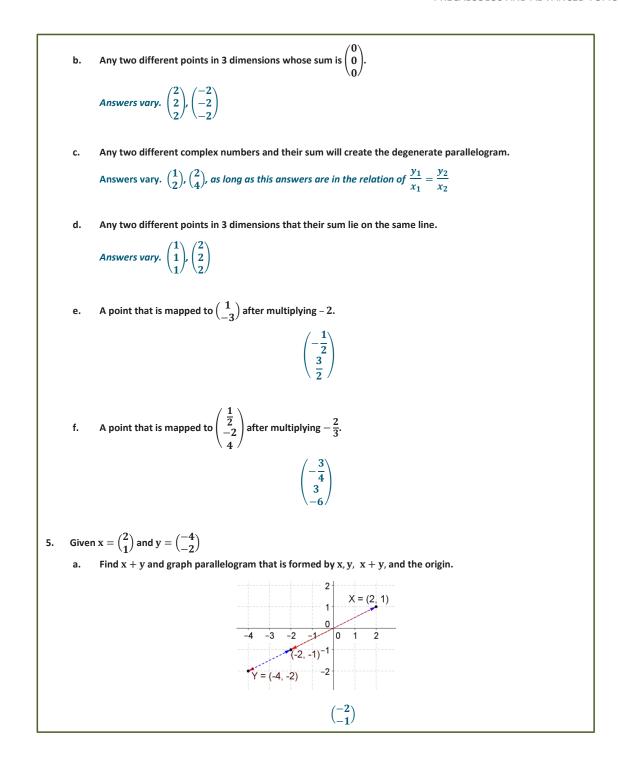


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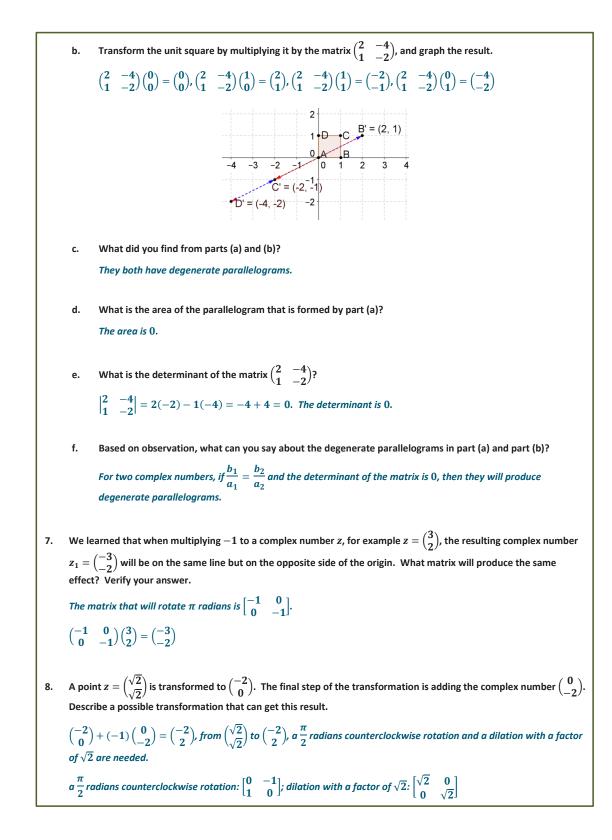




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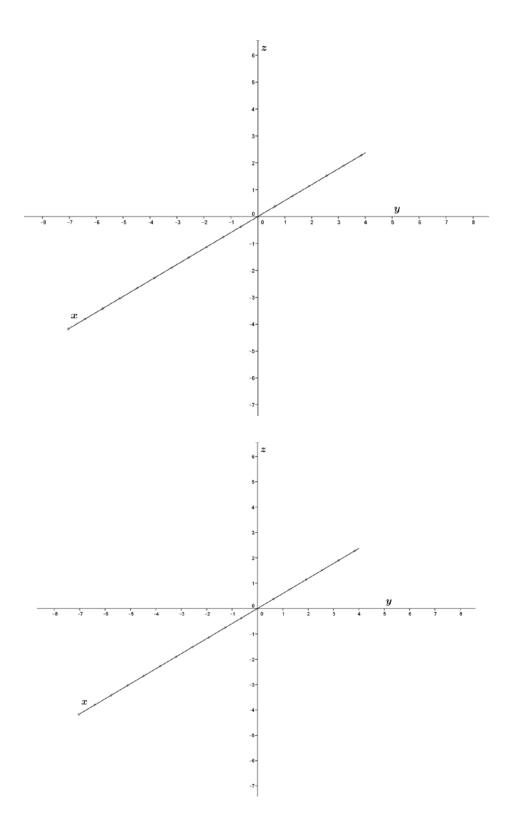


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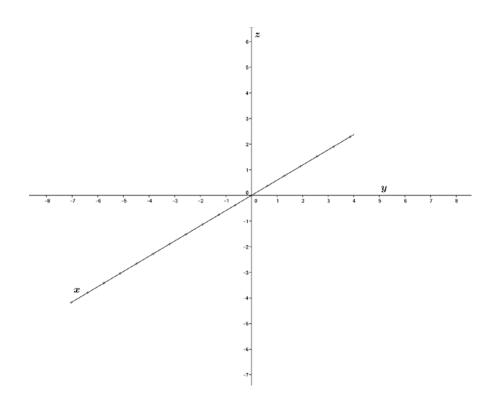


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