

1.2.18 Matgeo

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Question

If the points **A**(6,1),**B**(8,2),**C**(9,4) and **D**(p,3) are the vertices of a parallelogram,taken in order. find the value of p .

Solution

The given the points $\mathbf{A} \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{B} \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{C} \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{D} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

If ABCD be a parallelogram with $AB \parallel CD$,

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{C} - \mathbf{D}$$

Solution

The vector components are:

$$\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} p \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 - p \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

By comparing

$$9 - p = 2 \quad (3)$$

We get

$$p = 7 \quad (4)$$

Graphical Representation

Hence the coordinates of **D** are (7 , 3)

