

# Matrices in Geometry - 1.5.25

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Aug, 2025

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## Problem Statement

In what ratio does the point  $\left(\frac{24}{11}, y\right)$  divide the line segment joining the points  $\mathbf{P}=\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}=\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$ ? Also find the value of  $y$ .

## Solution

$P \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $Q \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$  and a point  $R \begin{pmatrix} \frac{24}{11} \\ y \end{pmatrix}$  on  $PQ$ .

Let  $R$  divide  $PQ$  internally in the ratio  $\lambda : 1$ .

a) By section formula,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{24}{11} \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}}{1 + \lambda}$$

b) Cross-multiplying

$$\begin{pmatrix} (\lambda + 1) \frac{24}{11} \\ (\lambda + 1)y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + 3\lambda \\ -2 + 7\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

## Solution

c) Solving for  $\lambda$  and cross-multiplying, we get

$$24\lambda + 24 = 22 + 33\lambda \implies 9\lambda = 2 \implies \lambda = \frac{2}{9}$$

d) Substituting the value of  $\lambda$  above, we get

$$y \left( \frac{2}{9} + 1 \right) = -2 + 7 \times \frac{2}{9} \implies 11y = -18 + 14 \implies y = \frac{-4}{11}$$

## Final Answer

Hence, the final answer is  $\lambda = \frac{2}{9}$  and  $y = \frac{-4}{11}$

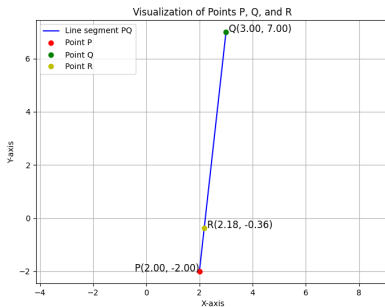


Figure: Plot for 1.5.25