

Exercise 9:

If three corners of a parallelogram are $(1, 1)$, $(4, 2)$ and $(1, 3)$ what are all three of the possible fourth corners? Draw two of them.

This question is a little bit tricky. If you have three points of a parallelogram, we definitely know the fourth point. But with three points and no specific order, you actually have three possible orders, which means that you have actually three possible parallelograms.

For example, we have A , B and C , so we actually have "partial-parallelograms": ABC , ACB , and CAB . We actually have six permutations: $3! = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6$, but some permutations are actually the same. For example: BAC and CAB , ABC and CBA , BCA and ACB . If you look carefully, you will see that the order of the first and the third point does not matter in this case, just the "middle" point matters.

We can calculate one of the points using the parallelogram rule that its opposite sides are equal. In the parallelogram $ABCD$, we have that $AC = BD$. Other permutations will generate the other points.

$$C - A = D - B$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d_1 - 4 = 1 - 1$$

$$d_2 - 2 = 3 - 1$$

$$d_1 - 4 = 0$$

$$d_2 - 2 = 2$$

$$d_1 = 4$$

$$d_2 = 4$$

