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Understanding geometric transformations is fundamental in the study of coordinate geometry, especially when analyzing how figures like circles and points behave under such transformations. In this article, we explore the effects of dilating a circle by a scale factor of 3 about the origin, focusing on the key points involved, specifically points C, A, and others related to the diagram. We will delve into the concepts of dilation, analyze specific points, and discuss the mathematical implications of such transformations. Whether you're a student preparing for exams or a math enthusiast seeking clarity, this comprehensive guide aims to clarify the concepts with detailed explanations and illustrative examples.

Understanding Dilation in Coordinate Geometry

What Is Dilation?

Dilation, also known as resizing or scaling, is a transformation that enlarges or reduces a figure by a specific scale factor relative to a fixed point called the center of dilation. In coordinate geometry, dilations are often performed about the origin (0,0), especially when analyzing their effects on points and figures.

Key Characteristics of Dilation:

- It multiplies the distance of each point from the center by the scale factor.
- The shape of the figure remains the same; only its size changes.
- The center of dilation remains fixed during the transformation.

Scale Factor and Its Effects

The scale factor determines how much a figure is enlarged or reduced:

- Scale factor > 1 : The figure enlarges (dilates outward).
- Scale factor < 1 but > 0 : The figure reduces in size (dilates inward).
- Scale factor $= 1$: The figure remains unchanged.

In our case, the figure (circle) undergoes a dilation with a scale factor of 3 about the origin, meaning every point moves three times farther from the origin compared to its original position.

Analyzing the Circle and Points Before Dilation

Initial Position of the Circle

Suppose the circle is centered at point C with coordinates (x_c, y_c) and has a radius r . The circle's equation in the coordinate plane can be represented as:

$$\[(x - x_c)^2 + (y - y_c)^2 = r^2\]$$

This equation describes all points (x, y) that are exactly a radius distance from the center C.

Key Points: A, C, and Others

- Point C: The center of the circle, with known coordinates.
- Point A: A specific point on the circle or related to it, with known coordinates.
- Other Points: Points like C', A', etc., after dilation, which are crucial in understanding the transformation.

Knowing the exact coordinates of these points before dilation helps in predicting their positions afterward.

Performing the Dilation About the Origin

Mathematical Process

Dilating a point (x, y) about the origin with a scale factor k (here, 3) transforms it into a new point (x', y') as follows:

$$\[x' = k \times x\]$$

$$\[y' = k \times y\]$$

This formula applies to every point in the figure.

Applying to Specific Points

- Point C (x_c, y_c) : After dilation, C' will be at $(3x_c, 3y_c)$.
- Point A (x_a, y_a) : After dilation, A' will be at $(3x_a, 3y_a)$.
- Other Points: Similar calculations, multiplying their coordinates by 3.

Example:

Suppose C is at (2, 4) and A is at (1, 3). After dilation:

- $C' = (3 \times 2, 3 \times 4) = (6, 12)$

- $A' = (3 \times 1, 3 \times 3) = (3, 9)$

This straightforward process allows us to find the positions of all relevant points after the dilation.

Impact of Dilation on the Circle and Its Points

Changes in the Circle's Size and Position

- The radius of the circle becomes three times larger: if original radius is r , the new radius becomes $3r$.
- The center of the circle moves from (x_c, y_c) to $(3x_c, 3y_c)$.
- The entire circle expands outward from the origin, maintaining its shape.

Visualizing the Transformation

- The original circle is scaled proportionally from the origin.
- Points on the circle move along lines passing through the origin, extending further away.
- The dilation preserves the shape but increases the size by a factor of 3.

Diagrammatic Illustration:

Imagine the original circle centered at C and the dilated circle centered at C'. Both circles are similar, with the dilated one being larger and proportionally scaled.

Mathematical Implications and Applications

Coordinate Geometry and Transformation Matrices

Dilation can also be represented using matrix operations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = k \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

which simplifies calculations, especially when dealing with multiple points.

Applications in Geometry and Design

- Scaling Figures: Used in computer graphics, CAD design, and architecture.
- Similarity: Demonstrates how figures are similar under dilation.
- Problem Solving: Helps in solving geometric problems involving ratios and proportions.

Real-World Examples and Practice Problems

Example 1: Dilating a Circle with a Known Radius

Suppose a circle centered at $C(2, -1)$ with radius 4 is dilated about the origin with a scale factor of 3.

- Find the new center C' and radius.
- Plot the original and dilated circles.

Solution:

- $C' = (3 \times 2, 3 \times (-1)) = (6, -3)$
- Radius = 4, scaled by 3: new radius = 12

Example 2: Coordinates of Points After Dilation

Given point A at $(5, 7)$, find its image A' after dilation with scale factor 3 about the origin.

Solution:

- $A' = (3 \times 5, 3 \times 7) = (15, 21)$

Conclusion

Dilation about the origin with a scale factor of 3 significantly enlarges the circle and shifts its center proportionally away from the origin. Understanding the transformation process involves recognizing how each point's coordinates are multiplied by the scale factor, preserving the shape's similarity while changing its size and position. This concept is fundamental in geometry, with numerous applications ranging from technical drawing to computer graphics. Mastery of coordinate transformations enriches geometric problem-solving skills and provides a deeper insight into the properties of figures under various transformations.

By carefully analyzing the points C , A , and others before and after dilation, students and enthusiasts can develop a stronger intuition for how figures behave under scaling transformations, paving the way for more complex geometric investigations and applications.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does it mean to dilate a circle about the origin with a scale factor of 3?

Dilating a circle about the origin with a scale factor of 3 means enlarging the circle so that every point on the circle moves away from the origin by a factor of 3, resulting in a new circle with a radius three times larger than the original.

If the original circle has radius r , what is the radius after dilation by a scale factor of 3?

The new radius will be 3 times the original radius, so it will be $3r$.

How do the coordinates of points on the circle change after dilation about the origin?

Each point's coordinates are multiplied by the scale factor of 3. For example, a point (x, y) will move to $(3x, 3y)$.

Given points C and A on the original circle, how can we find their images after dilation?

Multiply the x and y coordinates of points C and A by 3 to get their images after dilation.

How does dilation affect the shape and position of the circle?

Dilation preserves the shape and size ratio of the circle but increases its size proportionally, keeping the shape similar and centered at the origin.

What is the significance of the points C, A, and the circle in understanding dilation?

Points C and A help visualize how specific points move during dilation, illustrating the scale change while the circle's center remains at the origin.

Is the dilated circle still centered at the origin?

Yes, since dilation about the origin keeps the center fixed at the origin, the circle remains centered there after dilation.

How can we verify the points after dilation on the diagram?

By multiplying the original coordinates of points C and A by 3 and ensuring they lie on the new, larger circle with radius $3r$.

If the original circle passes through points C and A, how can we find the equations of the dilated circle?

Determine the original circle's equation, then scale the radius by 3 to get the new circle's equation, which will have the same center (the origin) and a radius 3 times larger.

What is the purpose of understanding dilation in geometric diagrams like this?

Understanding dilation helps in visualizing size transformations, similarity of figures, and spatial relationships in geometry, which are fundamental concepts in both pure and applied mathematics.

Additional Resources

Understanding the Transformation of a Circle Dilation About the Origin with Scale Factor of 3

When exploring geometric transformations, especially dilations, the behavior of basic shapes such as circles offers fundamental insight into how size and position change under various transformations. The problem involving a circle being dilated by a scale factor of 3 about the origin, with specific points involved, provides a rich context for understanding dilation properties, coordinate transformations, and their implications for geometric figures.

In this detailed review, we will dissect the process step-by-step, examining the key concepts, the mathematical procedures involved, and the geometric intuition behind such transformations. We will focus on the initial setup involving points C, A, and possibly others, the nature of dilation about the origin, and the resulting figures.

Introduction to Dilation in the Coordinate Plane

Dilation, also known as a homothety, is a transformation that enlarges or reduces a figure by a scale factor relative to a fixed point called the center of dilation. When the center of dilation is the origin (0,0), the process simplifies to scaling each coordinate by the same factor.

Key Concepts:

- Center of Dilation: The point about which the figure is expanded or contracted. In this scenario, it is the origin (0,0).
- Scale Factor (k): The ratio of the size of the image to the original figure. Here, $k = 3$, implying the figure will be scaled up by a factor of 3.
- Coordinate Transformation Formula:

For a point $P(x, y)$, its image $P'(x', y')$ under dilation about the origin is given by:

$$x' = k \times x$$

$$y' = k \times y$$

Since the center is at the origin, the coordinates are multiplied directly by the scale factor.

Impact on Figures:

- Size: All distances from the origin are multiplied by the scale factor.
- Shape: The shape remains similar; only the size changes.
- Position: The figure's position with respect to the origin changes proportionally.

Initial Setup and Known Points

Suppose we are given specific points on the original circle, such as point C and point A. These points are crucial because their images after dilation will help us understand the transformation's effect on the entire circle.

Example Coordinates:

- Let's assume:
- $A(x_A, y_A)$
- $C(x_C, y_C)$

The precise coordinates may vary, but for illustrative purposes, consider:

- $A(2, 4)$
- $C(1, -2)$

These points lie on the original circle, and their images after dilation will be scaled versions.

Step-by-Step Approach:

1. Identify the original points: Confirm the coordinates of points A, C, and any other relevant points.
2. Apply dilation formula: Multiply each coordinate by the scale factor of 3.
3. Find the images: Calculate the new positions A' , C' , etc.
4. Analyze the transformed circle: Determine the new radius and center if necessary, and understand how the entire circle's size and position change.

Mathematical Details of Dilating Points

Applying the dilation to points involves straightforward coordinate multiplication:

For Point A:

$$A(x_A, y_A) \rightarrow A'(3 \times x_A, 3 \times y_A)$$

\]

Using $(A(2, 4))$:

\[

$$A'(3 \times 2, 3 \times 4) = (6, 12)$$

\]

For Point C:

\[

$$C(x_C, y_C) \rightarrow C'(3 \times x_C, 3 \times y_C)$$

\]

Using $(C(1, -2))$:

\[

$$C'(3 \times 1, 3 \times -2) = (3, -6)$$

\]

Summary of the Dilation:

- $(A(2, 4) \rightarrow A'(6, 12))$

- $(C(1, -2) \rightarrow C'(3, -6))$

Geometric Implications:

- The points move away from the origin, maintaining their original directions but scaled.
- The circle, which passes through these points, will now have a larger radius centered at the same point if the original circle is centered at the origin, or it will be proportionally scaled if the original circle has a different center.

Effect on the Circle: From Original to Dilated

Original Circle:

- Defined by a center $(O(0, 0))$ (assuming the circle is centered at the origin for simplicity).
- Radius (r) : determined by the distance from the center to any point on the circle, such as point A or C.

Calculating the Original Radius:

- For point A:

\[

$$r = \sqrt{(x_A - 0)^2 + (y_A - 0)^2} = \sqrt{2^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{4 + 16} = \sqrt{20}$$

\]

- For point C:

\[

$$r = \sqrt{1^2 + (-2)^2} = \sqrt{1 + 4} = \sqrt{5}$$

\]

- Since these points lie on the same circle, the radius should be consistent. If they are not, perhaps they lie on different circles or the problem is posed differently.

Assuming the circle passes through point A and C, the circle's radius is consistent only if these points are equidistant from the center. Otherwise, they define different circles or the circle is specified by a different radius.

Transforming the Circle Under Dilation

Radius Transformation:

- Because the dilation is centered at the origin, the radius scales proportionally.
- Original radius (r) becomes:

$$r' = k \times r$$

Applying to Our Example:

- For point A:

$$r_A = \sqrt{20} \approx 4.4721$$

$$r_{A'} = 3 \times 4.4721 \approx 13.4163$$

- For point C:

$$r_C = \sqrt{5} \approx 2.2361$$

$$r_{C'} = 3 \times 2.2361 \approx 6.7082$$

Circle Equation After Dilation:

- If the original circle centered at the origin:

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

- The dilated circle:

$$x'^2 + y'^2 = (r')^2$$

- Since the radius is scaled by 3, the new circle will have radius (r') .

Summary:

- The circle's size increases by a factor of 3.
- The position of the center remains at the origin.
- The circle's equation transforms from:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash[\\ & x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \\ & \backslash] \end{aligned}$$

to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash[\\ & x'^2 + y'^2 = (3r)^2 \\ & \backslash] \end{aligned}$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash[\\ & x'^2 + y'^2 = 9r^2 \\ & \backslash] \end{aligned}$$

Special Points and Their Images: Exploring Labels and Coordinates

In the problem, points labeled C, A, and possibly others are involved. Understanding their images after dilation is essential to visualizing the transformation.

Key observations:

- Points on the circle move radially outward from the origin.
- Coordinates are scaled directly, preserving angles relative to the origin.
- The relative positions between points remain the same, just scaled.

For example:

- Original points:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash[\\ & A(x_A, y_A), \quad C(x_C, y_C) \\ & \backslash] \end{aligned}$$

- Dilated points:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash[\\ & A'(k x_A, k y_A), \quad C'(k x_C, k y_C) \\ & \backslash] \end{aligned}$$

Implications:

- Any line segments, chords, or other features connecting these points will scale proportionally.
- The circle's shape remains unchanged; only its size and position relative to the origin change.

Geometric Intuition and Visual Representation

Understanding the dilation process through visual intuition enhances comprehension:

Visual Steps:

1. Plot the original circle with known points C and A.
2. Identify the origin as the center of dilation.
3. Draw lines from the origin through points A and C.
4. Extend these lines outward, marking the scaled points (A') and (C') at three times the original distances.
5. Sketch the dilated circle passing through these new points.

Key Features:

- The dilated circle is similar to the original, maintaining the same shape.
- It is larger, with a radius scaled by 3.
- The circle remains centered at the same point if the original was centered at the origin.

Additional Considerations and Variations

While the primary focus is on dilation about the origin with scale factor 3, several variations and

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