

Pythagoras in Scratch - Observation sheet

<https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/317001702>

The backdrop for this project is the Xy 20-pixel vector grid which you can get in the Backdrop library of Scratch2 and Scratch3. I can imagine this project (without the need to understand the code) being helpful for secondary SEN students in understanding Pythagoras. They could draw different right-angled triangles on squared paper and check the squares.

See how the project code works:

Click the 'See inside' button to view the sprites and the code. The main sprite is the black **anchor** point. It is a fixed point at x,y **3, -2**. Scratch reads the anchor's position in pixels (or steps) as 60, -40 (its position makes maximum use of the stage space available.) The variable *squareSize* represents 20 pixels on the Scratch stage. When the Green Flag is clicked, a moveable **red sprite** is set to a starting position 4 squares to the left of the anchor. Similarly a **green sprite** is set in position 3 squares directly above the anchor. The user uses **Left/Right** arrows sprites to move the red pen-point (and pen) and **Up/Down** arrows to move the green point. Moving the points changes the length of the red line in relation to the anchor and the **area of its square**. A variable *redLength* stores the length of the line and another *redArea* stores and displays its area. Likewise when the green pen-point is moved there is a change in the *greenLength* and *greenArea* variables. The black anchor point is fixed, but the two changing lines cause a **blue line** to change also. The BLUE side is the HYPOTENUSE (which is always opposite 90°). At start, the right-angled triangle has sides of lengths 3, 4 and 5 (the hypotenuse is always the longest of the three).

NOTE 1: $3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2$ (9+16=25). The square root of the Hypotenuse = length of blue side. Note the two whole number lengths of the hypotenuse among the examples shown. **NOTE 2:** Some squares distort at the edges of the stage, otherwise you can continue to get more examples. **NOTE 3:** Almost all the 36 examples here fit without distortion at the edges.

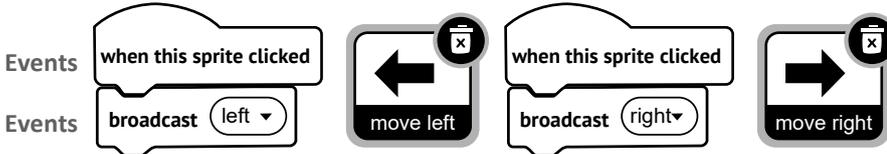
You can get all of the following examples of Pythagoras by moving the points

the sum of two squares	Area of Red square	Area of Green square	Area of Blue square on (hypotenuse)	Length of (hypotenuse)
$1^2 + 1^2$	1	1	2	$\sqrt{2}$
$1^2 + 2^2$	1	4	5	$\sqrt{5}$
$1^2 + 3^2$	1	9	10	$\sqrt{10}$
$1^2 + 4^2$	1	16	17	$\sqrt{17}$
$1^2 + 5^2$	1	25	26	$\sqrt{26}$
$1^2 + 6^2$	1	36	37	$\sqrt{37}$
$1^2 + 7^2$	1	49	50	$\sqrt{50}$! ¹
$1^2 + 8^2$	1	64	65	$\sqrt{65}$! ²
$1^2 + 9^2$	1	81	82	$\sqrt{82}$
$2^2 + 2^2$	4	4	8	$\sqrt{8}$
$2^2 + 3^2$	4	9	13	$\sqrt{13}$
$2^2 + 4^2$	4	16	20	$\sqrt{20}$
$2^2 + 5^2$	4	25	29	$\sqrt{29}$
$2^2 + 6^2$	4	36	40	$\sqrt{40}$
$2^2 + 7^2$	4	49	53	$\sqrt{53}$
$2^2 + 8^2$	4	64	68	$\sqrt{68}$
$2^2 + 9^2$	4	81	85	$\sqrt{85}$! ³

$3^2 + 3^2$	9	9	18	$\sqrt{18}$
$3^2 + 4^2$	9	16	25	$\sqrt{25} = 5$
$3^2 + 5^2$	9	25	34	$\sqrt{34}$
$3^2 + 6^2$	9	36	45	$\sqrt{45}$
$3^2 + 7^2$	9	49	58	$\sqrt{58}$
$3^2 + 8^2$	9	64	73	$\sqrt{73}$
$3^2 + 9^2$	9	81	90	$\sqrt{90}$
$4^2 + 4^2$	16	16	32	$\sqrt{32}$
$4^2 + 5^2$	16	25	41	$\sqrt{41}$
$4^2 + 6^2$	16	36	52	$\sqrt{52}$
$4^2 + 7^2$	16	49	65	$\sqrt{65}$! ²
$4^2 + 8^2$	16	64	80	$\sqrt{80}$
$5^2 + 5^2$	25	25	50	$\sqrt{50}$! ¹
$5^2 + 6^2$	25	36	61	$\sqrt{61}$
$5^2 + 7^2$	25	49	74	$\sqrt{74}$
$6^2 + 6^2$	36	36	72	$\sqrt{72}$
$6^2 + 7^2$	36	49	85	$\sqrt{85}$! ³
$6^2 + 8^2$	36	64	100	$\sqrt{100} = 10$
$7^2 + 7^2$	49	49	98	$\sqrt{98}$

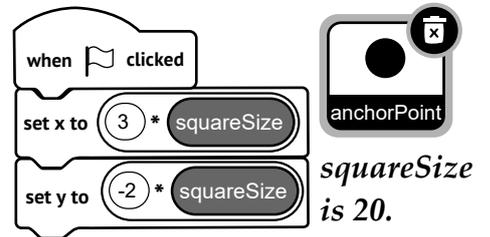
Click 'See inside' to get the full picture of this Scratch project. It has three pen sprites, Red, Green and Blue to draw 3 right-angled triangles. There is also an 'Anchor' sprite, coloured black.

1. Left & Right Arrows (Red)



Two scripts of code are all that is needed on the arrow sprites. When clicked, the **redPoint** sprite moves either left or right to increase or decrease the size of the square on the red side of the right-angled triangle.

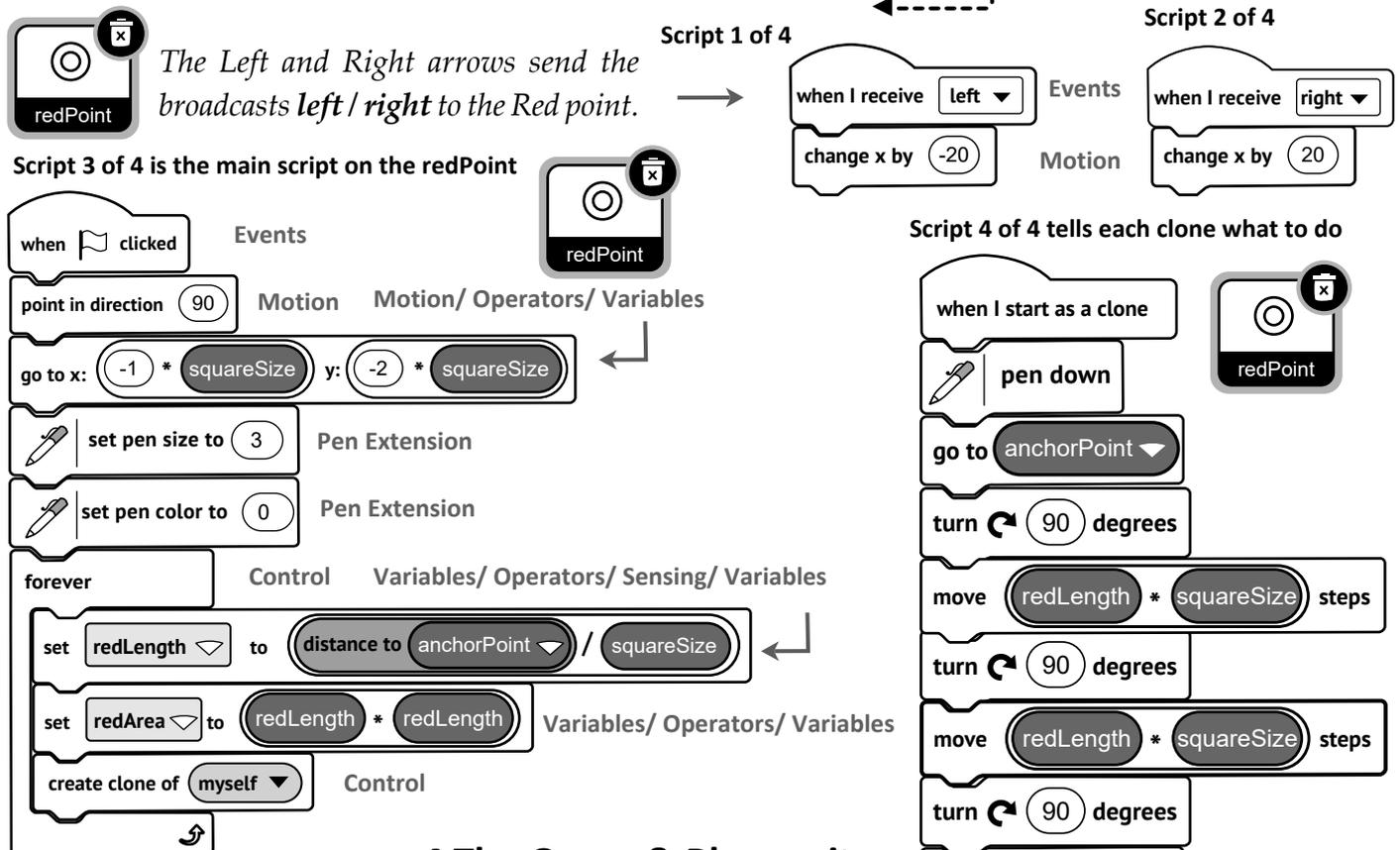
2. Anchor point (Black)



This script sets the **anchorPoint** at 3, -2 on the grid. Scratch 'thinks in pixels' and recognises that as the position 60, -40 on the stage.

3. Four scripts of code on the redPoint pen sprite

The variable **squareSize** is fixed at 20 to correlate the grid with stage pixels. The variables **redLength** and **redArea** go with the **redPoint** sprite. Their value varies as the sprite is moved by the arrows.



4 The Green & Blue sprites

The Green point follows a similar behaviour to the Red point. It is controlled by clicking Up/ Down arrows which move the drawing point Up and Down. So the code on the Green point is very similar to the code on the Red point.

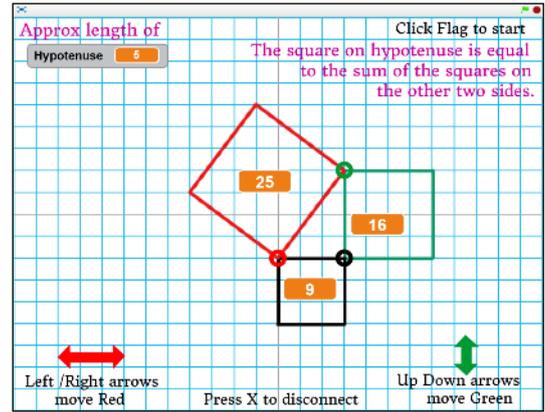
The Blue point behaves quite differently as it is controlled by the movements of the Red and Green points. Blue connects the Red and Green to continuously create a hypotenuse. Blue is all about connecting the Red and Green, and its code differs slightly from them.

Study the Red point's code which draws the various squares with a Red outline.

Red Sprite's code

```

when clicked
  go to x: 0 * squareSize y: -2 * squareSize
  pen up
  set pen size to 3
  set pen color to red
  forever
    point towards pen2
    set redLength to distance to pen2 / squareSize
    set redArea to blackArea + greenArea
    set Hypotenuse to round sqrt of redArea * 100 / 100
    create clone of myself
  
```



```

when left arrow key pressed
  change x by -20
  
```

```

when right arrow key pressed
  change x by 20
  
```

```

when I start as a clone
  hide
  pen down
  go to x: x position of pen2 y: y position of pen2
  turn 90 degrees
  move redLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  move redLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  go to redShadow
  pen up
  wait 0.01 secs
  clear
  delete this clone
  
```

```

when clicked
  hide
  forever
    set x to x position of pen1
    set y to y position of pen1
  
```



```

when clicked
  hide
  point in direction 180
  forever
    set x to x position of pen2
    set y to y position of pen2
  
```



Green Sprite's code

```

when clicked
  go to x: 3 * squareSize y: 2 * squareSize
  set pen size to 3
  set pen color to green
  forever
    set greenLength to distance to pen3 / squareSize
    set greenArea to greenLength * greenLength
    create clone of myself
  
```



```

when up arrow key pressed
  change y by 20
  
```

```

when down arrow key pressed
  change y by -20
  
```

```

when I start as a clone
  hide
  pen down
  go to x: x position of pen3 y: y position of pen3
  turn 90 degrees
  move greenLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  move greenLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  go to greenShadow
  pen up
  wait 0.01 secs
  clear
  delete this clone
  
```

Pythagoras

Black Sprite's code: The black sprite is stationary

```

when green flag clicked
  set squareSize to 20
  point in direction -90
  set x to 3 * squareSize
  set y to -2 * squareSize
  set pen size to 3
  set pen color to black
  forever
    set blackLength to distance to pen1 / squareSize
    set blackArea to blackLength * blackLength
    create clone of myself
  
```



```

when x key pressed
  clear
  stop all
  
```

```

when I start as a clone
  hide
  pen down
  go to x: x position of pen1 y: y position of pen1
  turn 90 degrees
  move blackLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  move blackLength * squareSize steps
  turn 90 degrees
  go to blackShadow
  pen up
  wait 0.01 secs
  clear
  delete this clone
  
```

```

when green flag clicked
  hide
  point in direction 180
  forever
    set x to x position of pen3
    set y to y position of pen3
  
```

