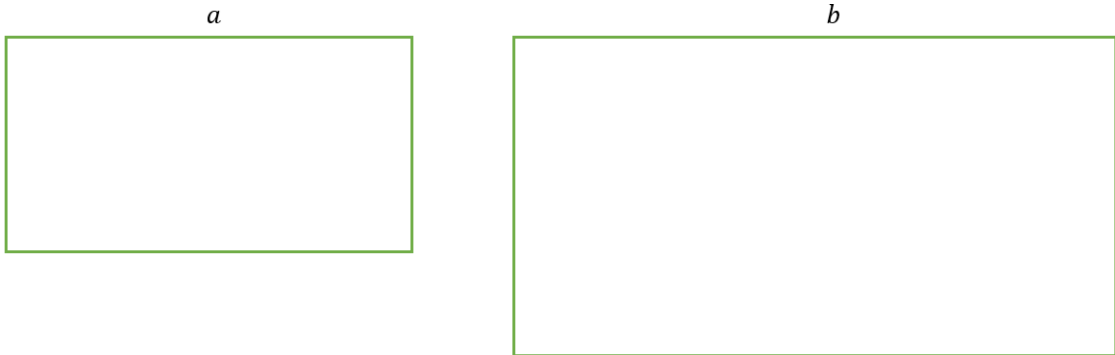What is the scale factor from a to b?

Solution.

Example.

Let we have two similar figures:

a

b

In this case, The scale factor from a to b is b/a. In other words, if we multiply a by the scale factor b/a we get b.

In the general case, a scale factor is a number which scales, or multiplies, some quantity.

For example, if we have an equation $a = Sb$, S is the scale factor.