



**exact**  
by edgate

## Direct Align: A Tailor Made Premium Feature for K-12 Assessment Publishers



### Accurate 1:1 Alignments via the ExACT Alignment System

Aligning to too many standards can be problematic for Assessment Publishers, who typically need to align items to a specific standard so that students can be assessed on a distinct learning outcome. After all, assessment items are created to span a full range of cognitive demand categories. A large part of outcome-based education involves teams of people working backwards from each outcome. The intent is to design the curriculum and determine what knowledge and skills will be required to reach each outcome.

EdGate has designed Direct Align to provide assessment publishers with an extremely granular alignment.

As an example:

**Main Criteria:** Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

**Secondary Criteria:** California Content Standards, Florida Standards, Illinois Learning Standards

**Subjects:** Science

**Grade:** 2

#### Main Criteria Standards

Science  
Grade 2

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION: 2-PSI-1 - Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties.

#### California Content Standards

**2-PSI-1.** - Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kind of materials by their observable properties

**2-PSI-2.** - Analyze data obtained from testing different materials to determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose.

#### Illinois Learning Standards

**2-PSI-1.** - Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties.

**2-PSI-2.** - Analyze data obtained from testing different materials to determine which materials have the properties that are best suited for an intended purpose.

#### Florida Standards

**SC.2.p.8.1.** - Observe and measure objects in terms of their properties, including size, shape, color, temperature, weight, texture, sinking or floating in water, and attraction and repulsion of magnets.

## Outcome-based education (OBE)

is education in which an emphasis is placed on a clearly articulated idea of what students are expected to know and be able to do, that is, what skills and knowledge they need to have, when they leave the school system.

**OBE demands:**

- The creation of curriculum standards frameworks that outlines specific, measurable outcomes.
- The standards-based assessments that determines whether students have achieved the stated standard.



## Solution

Direct Align, a premium feature of the ExACT Alignment System, provides assessment publishers with an extremely granular alignment for Outcome Based Education. Whether it's for alignment to one specific standard for each grade/level/state/subject, or align a resource to the equivalent standard across all states, Direct Align has you covered.

## How does Direct Align work?

Depending on your preference, users can work one of two ways:

1. Your in-house alignment expert can Direct Align your content items standard-by-standard within EdGate's Exact platform. (This process works best if your team is very familiar with the state standards).
2. Using EdGate's taxonomy of K-12 education concepts, the EdGate Exact tool provides the ability for users to attach a concept (e.g. Pythagorean theorem) to a content item after which the content aligns to the appropriate learning standards. The publisher views the narrowed down standards alignment results and can choose to accept all results or proceed to use the Direct Align tool to achieve pinpoint-accurate 1:1 alignment outcomes. (This process works best if your team is more familiar with educational concepts in general, rather than individual state standards).

Let's take a closer look at **option #2**. If an assessment publisher would like to align grade 8 content about the Pythagorean theorem, the publisher could tag it with the following concept: - Geometry and Measurement/Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.

Once that concept is applied, here are some of the standards alignment results in Alabama:

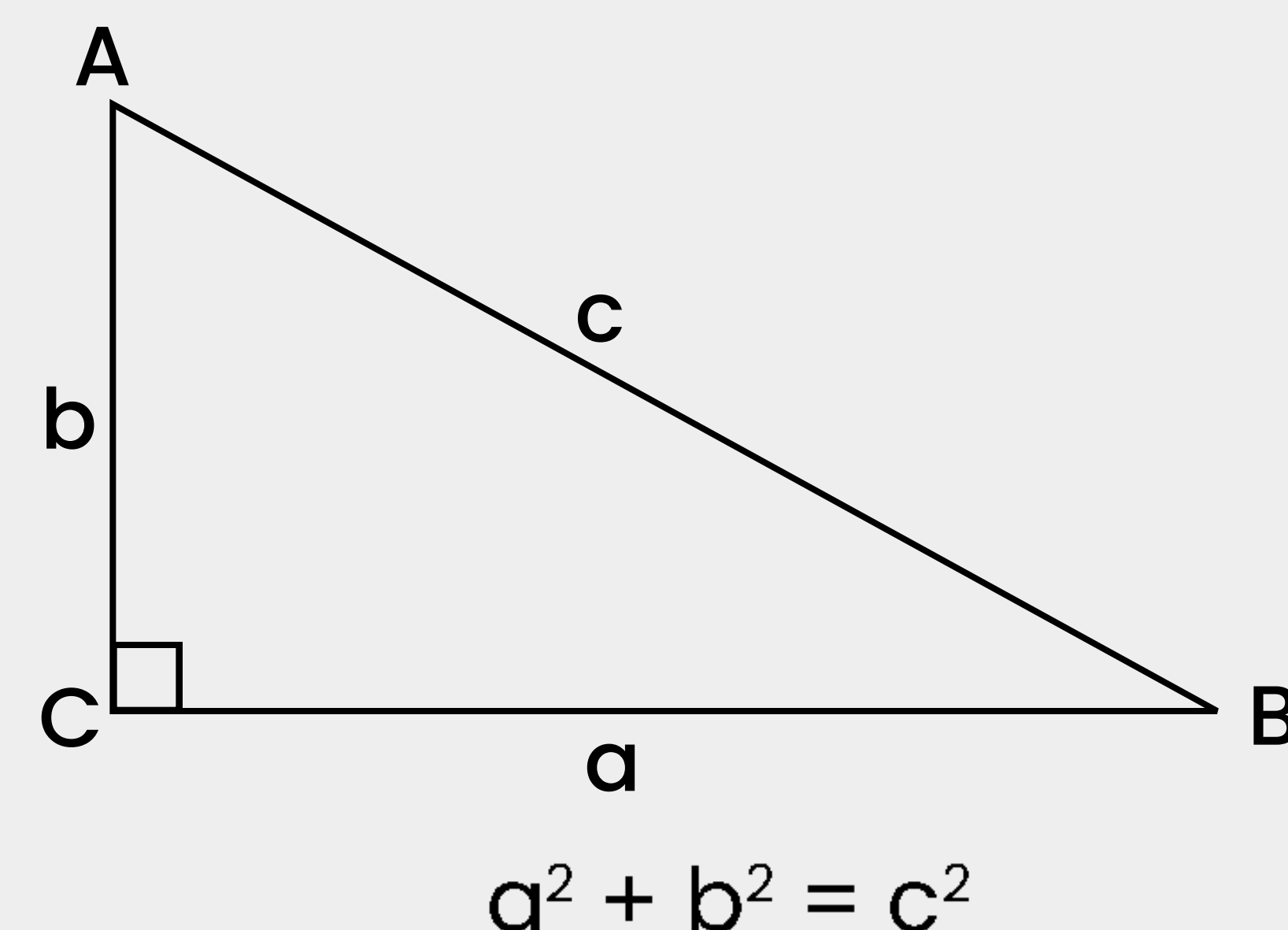
- Informally justify the Pythagorean Theorem and its converse.
- Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the distance between two points in a coordinate plane.
- Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths of right triangles, including real-world applications.

EdGate's Exact Direct Align tool gives users the option to Direct Align an assessment item to one of the standards above. Note that EdGate provides standards in machine readable format, broken down to the lowest level "child standards."

## Deliverables

EdGate provides the Direct Align results via:

- API
- Bulk Download tab delimited format
- ExACT Reports (HTML, Word, Excel, or PDF)
- Correlation User Interface iFrame



Add Direct Alignment
✕

Find content and align directly to a standard

**N-RN.1.** Explain how the definition of the meaning of rational exponents follows from extending the properties of integer exponents to those values, allowing for a notation for radicals in terms of rational exponents. For example, we define  $5^{1/3}$  to be the cube root of 5 because we want  $(5^{1/3})^3 = 5^{(1/3)3}$  to hold, so  $(5^{1/3})^3$  must equal 5.

▼ Algebra (182)

	9	10	11	12	Select	Clear
3-variable linear system word problem	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="button" value="All"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>
Adding complex numbers (Video)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="button" value="All"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>
Adding probabilities (Exercise)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="button" value="All"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>
Analyzing event probability for independence (Video)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="button" value="All"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>