

Toddler Geometry (Problem set)

Jes Modian

March 4, 2023

Abstract

Geometry problems are harder than they seem.

Contents

1	Lines, angles and shapes	2
1.1	Basic properties	3
1.3	Triangle properties	4
1.4	Quadrilateral properties	8
1.6	Circle properties	13
1.7	Area, perimeter and hypotenuse	23
	1.7.1 Area	23
	1.7.2 Pythagoras theorem	24
1.8	Proportions and similar triangles	27

1 Lines, angles and shapes

After all the preposition stating, let's try some practical problems. (The diagrams in the problems are not necessarily to scale.)

Rules and assumptions:

1. The geometric figures are all valid when given all the information in a problem. There won't be a triangle with side lengths 3, 5, 9, which would violate triangle inequality.
2. When we consider things case by case, it is allowed to assume something that the problem doesn't state. However we need to cover all possibilities.
3. Otherwise, do not assume what the problem doesn't state without proving it. If the problem doesn't state that M is the mid-point of AB , even if the figure looks like it, we cannot assume M is the mid-point of AB unless we can actually prove it. (But if the assumption is true, then skipping some steps to prove it is allowed.)
4. If there is an **invariant** ¹ in a problem, then in the solution, we cannot only assume specific values to solve the problem. Otherwise, the solution is incomplete. We need to prove how the invariant is an invariant if the problem doesn't explicitly state that the invariant is an invariant.
5. In a solution, we need to consider edge cases. For example, if there is a quadrilateral with at least one pair of opposite side parallel (i.e. a trapezium), then we need to consider both proper trapezium and parallelogram. If the solution requires finding the intersection of two opposite sides, then it is incomplete.
6. If the problem does not request an approximation for the answer like 'cor. to 3 sig. fig.', then the answer must be in exact value.
7. Using a calculator or computer to skip some computational / arithmetic steps is allowed, but an answer reached by using calculators to calculate approximate numerical values is not a complete solution.

For example of the former, we can skip the steps to calculate that

$$(-284\,650\,292\,555\,885)^3 + 66\,229\,832\,190\,556^3 + 283\,450\,105\,697\,727^3 = 74.$$

For example of the latter, if we use a calculator to calculate that

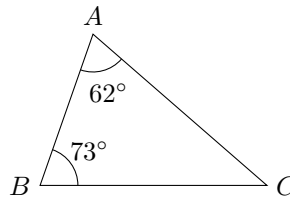
$$\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{7}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{7}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{7}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

, then the solution is incomplete even if the answer is correct. For a complete solution, we need to show steps.

¹An invariant means a value that remains the same when the values of other objects change. For example, for a given semi-circle, the sum of area of two squares side-by-side inscribed in the semi-circle is the same for different side lengths of the squares.

1.1 Basic properties

Problem 1. In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle A = 62^\circ$ and $\angle B = 73^\circ$. What is $\angle C$?

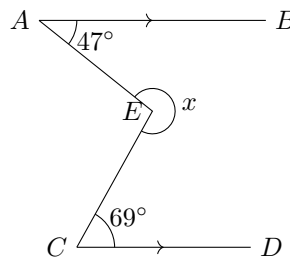


(Difficulty: 1 [Beginner])

Solution 1.

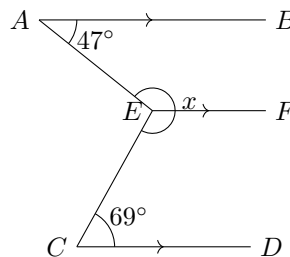
$$\begin{aligned}\angle C &= 180^\circ - \angle A - \angle B && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\ &= 180^\circ - 62^\circ - 73^\circ \\ &= \boxed{45^\circ}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 2. In the figure, $AB \parallel CD$, and E is a point between line AB and line CD . $\angle BAE = 47^\circ$ and $\angle DCE = 69^\circ$. What is x ?



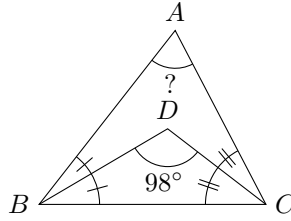
(Difficulty: 3 [Easy])

Solution 2. Draw $EF \parallel AB \parallel CD$.



$$\begin{aligned}\angle AEF + 47^\circ &= 180^\circ && (\text{alt. } \angle\text{s, } AB \parallel EF) \\ \angle AEF &= 133^\circ \\ \angle CEF + 69^\circ &= 180^\circ && (\text{alt. } \angle\text{s, } EF \parallel CD) \\ \angle CEF &= 111^\circ \\ x &= \angle AEF + \angle CEF \\ &= 133^\circ + 111^\circ \\ &= \boxed{244^\circ}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3. D is a point inside $\triangle ABC$ such that $\angle ABD = \angle DBC$ and $\angle ACD = \angle DCB$, $\angle BDC = 98^\circ$. What is $\angle BAC$?



(Difficulty: 3)

Solution 3. Let $\angle ABD = \angle DBC = x$ and $\angle ACD = \angle DCB = y$. In $\triangle DBC$,

$$x + y + 98^\circ = 180^\circ \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

$$x + y = 82^\circ$$

In $\triangle ABC$,

$$\angle BAC + 2x + 2y = 180^\circ \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

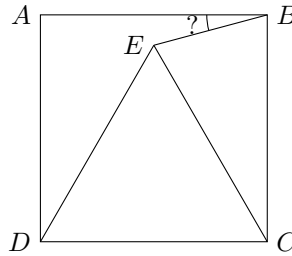
$$\angle BAC = 180^\circ - 2(x + y)$$

$$= 180^\circ - 2(82^\circ)$$

$$= \boxed{16^\circ}$$

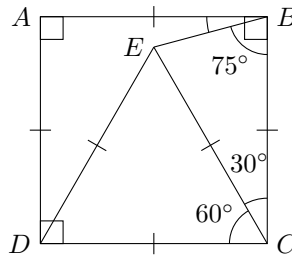
1.3 Triangle properties

Problem 4. $ABCD$ is a square. E is a point inside $ABCD$ such that $\triangle ECD$ is an equilateral triangle. Join BE . What is $\angle ABE$?



(Difficulty: 3 [Easy])

Solution 4.



$$\angle DCB = \angle CBA = 90^\circ \quad (ABCD \text{ is square.})$$

$$\angle ECD = 60^\circ \quad (\text{prop. of equil } \triangle)$$

$$\angle ECB = 90^\circ - 60^\circ = 30^\circ$$

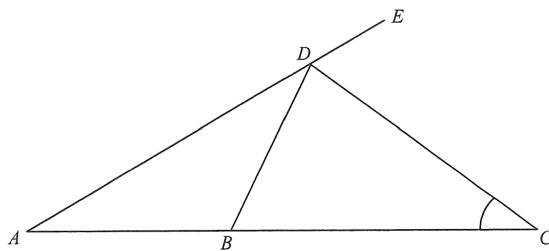
Note that $EC = BC$.

$$\therefore \angle CBE = \angle CEB \quad (\text{base } \angle\text{s, isos. } \triangle)$$

$$\angle CBE = (180^\circ - 30^\circ)/2 = 75^\circ \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

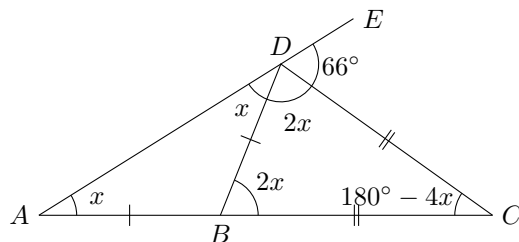
$$\angle ABE = 90^\circ - 75^\circ = \boxed{15^\circ}$$

Problem 5. In the figure, ABC and ADC are straight lines. It is given that $AB = BD$ and $BC = CD$. If $\angle CDE = 66^\circ$, then $\angle ACD = ?$



(Difficulty: 3) (2019 DSE Paper 2 Q17)

Solution 5. Let $\angle BAD = x$.



$$\angle BAD = \angle BDA = x \quad (\text{base } \angle\text{s, isos. } \triangle)$$

$$\angle CBD = 2x \quad (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle)$$

$$\angle CDB = \angle CBD = 2x \quad (\text{base } \angle\text{s, isos. } \triangle)$$

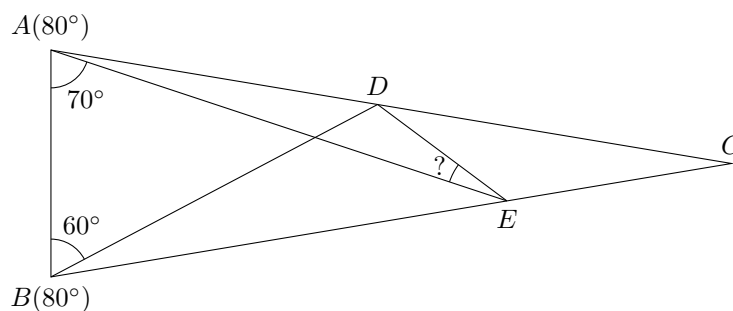
$$\angle BCD = 180^\circ - 2x - 2x = 180^\circ - 4x \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

$$\angle DAC + \angle ACD = x + (180^\circ - 4x) = 66^\circ \quad (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle)$$

$$x = 38^\circ$$

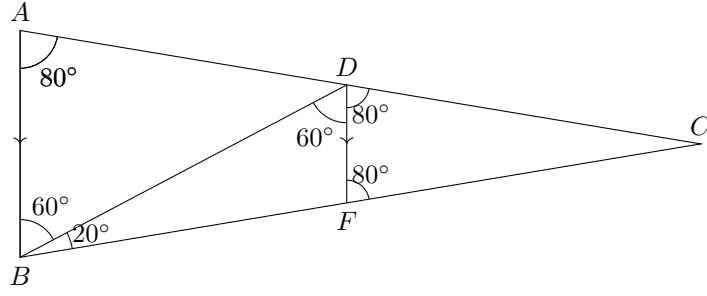
$$\angle ACD = 180^\circ - 4(38^\circ) = \boxed{28^\circ}$$

Problem 6. [1] In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle BAC = \angle ABC = 80^\circ$. Let D be a point on side AC such that $\angle ABD = 60^\circ$. Let E be a point on side BC such that $\angle BAE = 70^\circ$. Join DE . What is $\angle AED$?

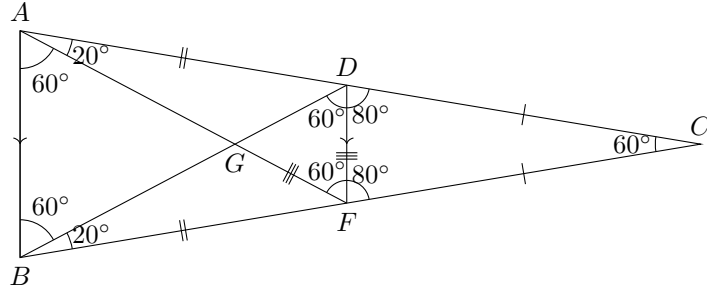


(Difficulty: 6 [Very hard])

Solution 6. Let F be a point on side BC such that $AB \parallel DF$. Hide point E to make the figure tidier. Note that $\angle DBC = 80^\circ - 60^\circ = 20^\circ$.



$$\begin{aligned}\angle CDF &= \angle CAB = 80^\circ && (\text{corr. } \angle s, DF \parallel AB) \\ \angle CFD &= \angle CBA = 80^\circ && (\text{corr. } \angle s, DF \parallel AB) \\ \angle BDF &= 80^\circ - 20^\circ = 60^\circ && (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle)\end{aligned}$$

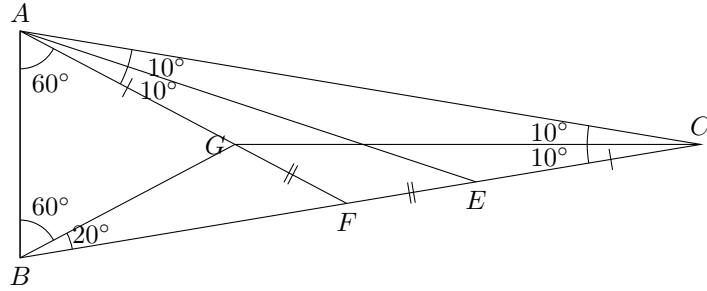


Note that $CD = CF$ and $CA = CB$ (sides opp. equal $\angle s$). Thus $AD = BF$.

Join AF , and let AF and BD intersect at G . In $\triangle ADF$ and $\triangle BFD$, $AD = BF$, $\angle ADF = \angle BFD = 110^\circ$ (adj. $\angle s$ on st. line), $DF = DF$. Thus $\triangle ADF \cong \triangle BFD$ (SAS). Thus $\angle DAF = \angle FBD = 20^\circ$ (corr. $\angle s$, $\cong \triangle s$). Also, $\angle AFD = \angle BDF = 60^\circ$ (corr. $\angle s$, $\cong \triangle s$). Thus $\triangle GDF$ is an equilateral triangle (con. of equil. \triangle), which means $GF = DF$.

Note that $\angle ACF = 180^\circ - 80^\circ - 80^\circ = 20^\circ$ (\angle sum of \triangle). Since $\angle CAF = \angle ACF = 20^\circ$, we have $AF = FC$ (base $\angle s$, isos. \triangle).

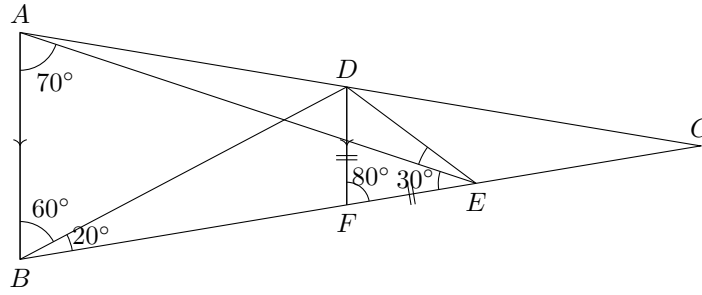
Show point E again and hide GD and DF . Join CG .



Note that $\angle CAE = \angle EAF = 10^\circ$. Also note that GC bisects ACB (because G is in the middle), so $\angle ACG = \angle GCF = 10^\circ$.

Note that $\triangle GAC \cong \triangle ECA$ (ASA), so $AG = EC$ (corr. sides, $\cong \triangle s$). Since $AF = FC$, we have $GF = FE$.

Show D again and hide AF .

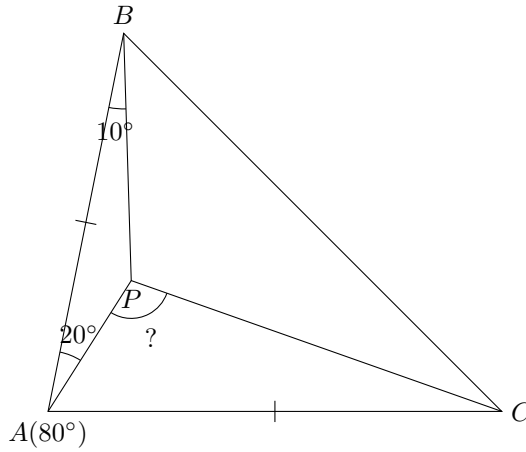


We have shown that $GF = DF$ and $GF = FE$. Thus $DF = FE$. In $\triangle FDE$, $\triangle FDE = \triangle FED$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle). So $\angle FED = (180^\circ - 80^\circ)/2 = 50^\circ$ (\angle sum of \triangle).

Note that $\angle AEB = 180^\circ - 80^\circ - 70^\circ = 30^\circ$ (\angle sum of \triangle).

So $\angle AED = \angle FED - \angle AEB = 50^\circ - 30^\circ = \boxed{20^\circ}$.

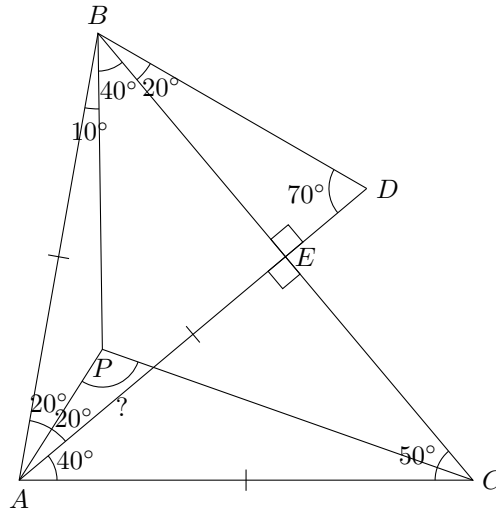
Problem 7. [2] In $\triangle ABC$, $AB = AC$ and $\angle BAC = 80^\circ$. Let P be a point inside $\triangle ABC$ such that $\angle BAP = 20^\circ$ and $\angle ABP = 10^\circ$. What is $\angle APC$?



(Difficulty: 6)

Solution 7. Since $AB = AC$, we have $\angle ABC = \angle ACB$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle), so $\angle ABC = \angle ACB = (180^\circ - 80^\circ)/2 = 50^\circ$. So $\angle PBC = 50^\circ - 10^\circ = 40^\circ$.

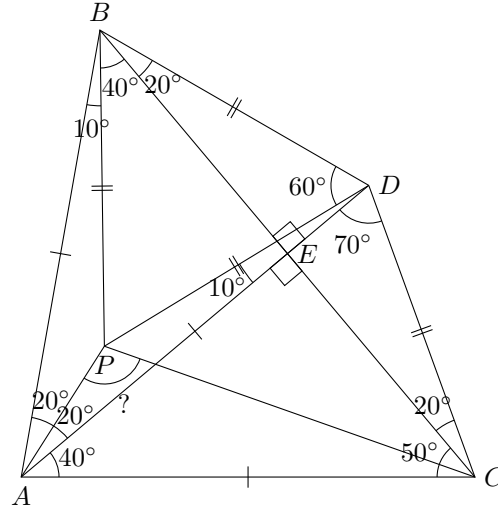
Draw AD between $\angle BAC$ such that $AD = AB$ and $\angle DAC = 40^\circ$. Note that $\angle PAD = 80^\circ - 20^\circ - 40^\circ = 20^\circ$.



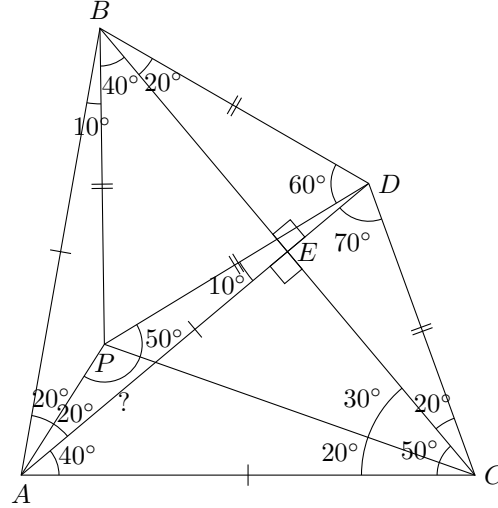
Mark E as the intersection of AD and BC . In $\triangle AEC$, $\angle AEC = 180^\circ - 40^\circ - 50^\circ = 90^\circ$ (\angle sum of \triangle).

Join BD . Since $AB = AD$, we have $\angle ABD = \angle ADB = (180^\circ - 40^\circ)/2 = 70^\circ$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle) & (\angle sum of \triangle). Note that $\angle BED = 90^\circ$ (vert. opp. \angle s), so $\angle DBE = 180^\circ - 70^\circ - 90^\circ = 20^\circ$ (\angle sum of \triangle).

Join DC and PD . Note that $\triangle DAB \cong \triangle DAC$ (SAS), so $BD = DC$ and $\angle ADC = \angle ADB = 70^\circ$. Since $BD = DC$, we have $\angle DCB = \angle DBC = 20^\circ$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle).



Note that $\triangle BAP \cong \triangle DAP$ (SAS), so $\angle PDA = \angle PBA = 10^\circ$ (corr. \angle s, $\cong \triangle$ s). Thus $\angle PDB = 70^\circ - 10^\circ = 60^\circ$. Note that in $\triangle BPD$, $\angle PBD = \angle PDB = 60^\circ$. Thus $\triangle BPD$ is an equil. \triangle (con. of equil. \triangle), so $BP = DP = BD$. Since $BD = DC$, we have $DP = DC$.

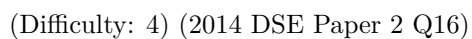


Since $\triangle DPC$ is an isos. \triangle with $DP = DC$, we have $\angle DPC = \angle DCP = (180^\circ - 80^\circ)/2 = 50^\circ$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle) & (\angle sum of \triangle). Thus $\angle ECP = 50^\circ - 20^\circ = 30^\circ$. So $\angle PCA = 50^\circ - 30^\circ = 20^\circ$.

Finally, in $\triangle APC$, $\angle APC = 180^\circ - (20^\circ + 40^\circ) - 20^\circ = \boxed{100^\circ}$.

1.4 Quadrilateral properties

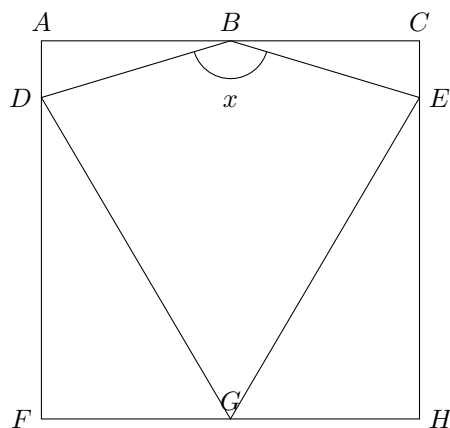
Problem 8. In the figure, $ABCD$ is a square. BC is produced to G such that $\angle CDG = 25^\circ$. E is a point lying on AB such that $AE = CG$. If F is a point lying on BC such that $\angle CDF = 20^\circ$, then $\angle DFE = ?$



In $\triangle DFE$ and $\triangle DFG$,

$$\begin{aligned} DE &= DG && (\text{corr. sides, } \cong \triangle s) \\ \angle EDF &= \angle FDG = 45^\circ \\ DF &= DF && (\text{common side}) \\ \therefore \triangle DFE &\cong \triangle DFG && (\text{SAS}) \\ \therefore \angle DFE &= \angle DFG && (\text{corr. } \angle s, \cong \triangle s) \\ &= 90^\circ - 20^\circ = \boxed{70^\circ} && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \end{aligned}$$

Calculate the size, x , of $\angle DBE$.

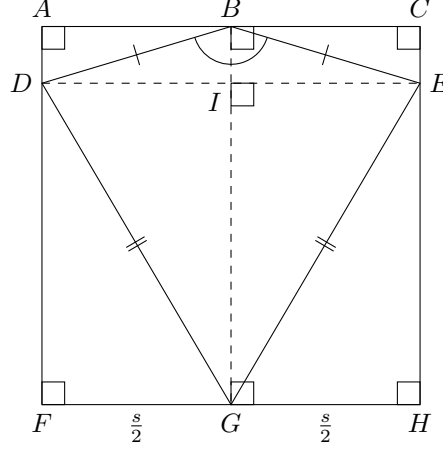


(Note: Do not assume that G must be the mid-point of FH . Otherwise, the solution is not complete.)

(Difficulty: 6) [3]

Solution 9. Let s be the side length of the square. Join BG and DE , and let I be their intersection. Note that $BG \perp DE$ (diags of kite).

Suppose that G is the mid-point of FH (lol, you can't tell me what to do) .



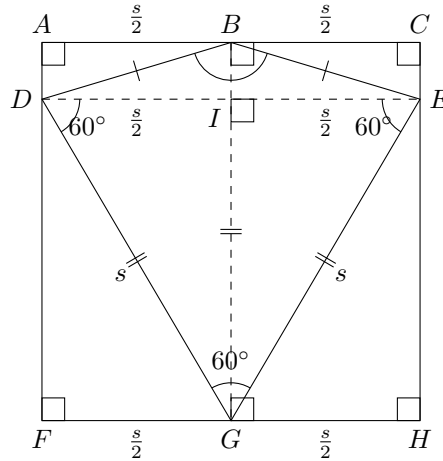
Then $\triangle GFD \cong \triangle GHE$ (RHS) , so $DF = EH$ (corr. sides, $\cong \triangle$ s). So $DEHF$ is a rectangle (1 equal pair, 2 right \angle s) .

Since $DE \parallel FH$ (prop. of rectangle) and $BG \perp DE$ (diags of kite), we also have $BG \perp FH$ and $BG \perp AC$ (int. \angle s , $DE \parallel FH \parallel AC$) .

Thus $ABGF$ and $BCHG$ are rectangles (3 right \angle s) . Thus $AB = BC = \frac{s}{2}$ (opp. sides of rectangles), and B is also the mid-point of AC .

Similarly, $DIGF$ and $IEHG$ are rectangles (3 right \angle s), so $DI = IE = \frac{s}{2}$ (opp. sides of rectangles) .

Updated figure:



Note that $DG = BG = EG = s$ (given). Since $DE = DG = EG = s$, $\triangle DEG$ is an equilateral triangle, so $\angle DGE = \angle GDE = \angle GED = 60^\circ$ (prop. of equil. \triangle) .

Note that $\triangle GDB \cong \triangle GEB$ (SSS) . So we have $\angle DGI = \angle EGI = 30^\circ$ (corr. \angle s, $\cong \triangle$ s).

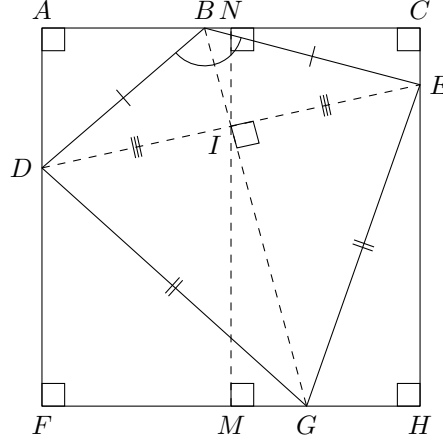
Note that $\triangle GDB$ and $\triangle GEB$ are isos. triangles, so we have $\angle GBD = (180^\circ - 30^\circ)/2 = 75^\circ$ (base \angle s, isos. \triangle)&(\angle sum of \triangle). Similarly, $\angle GBE = 75^\circ$, which means $x = \angle DBE = 75^\circ + 75^\circ = \boxed{150^\circ}$.

Wait. We are not done yet. (Skip this part if you want to live in blissful ignorance.) Now we suppose that G is not the mid-point of FH . First, we need to show that such a kite is possible to exist.

Let M be the mid-point of FH and N be the mid-point of AC . Suppose that G is at the right of M .

Let there be quadrilateral $GDBE$ inscribed in the square as in the figure, where $BG \perp DE$. Let I be the intersection of BG and DE .

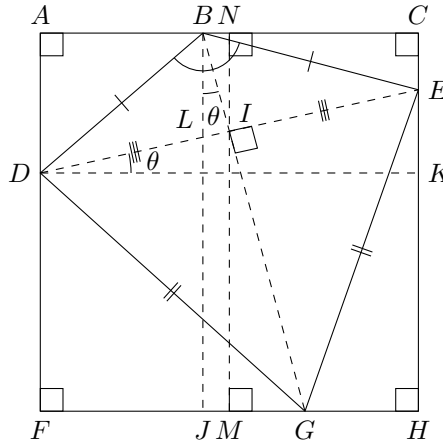
To make $GDBE$ a kite, we want to make $DI = IE$, which can only happen when I lies on MN (intercept theorem). Thus, B must be lying to the left of AC , so that BG and MN intersect inside the square.



Since BG is the perpendicular bisector of DE , we have $BD = BE$ and $GD = GE$ (prop. of \perp bisector), which means $GDBE$ is a kite. So it is possible that the kite is tilted inside the square.

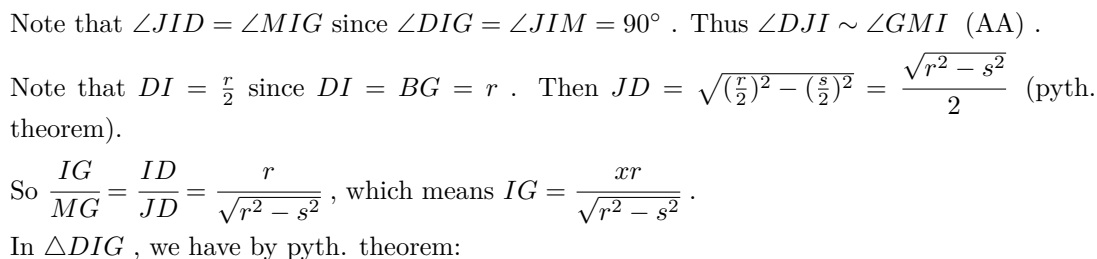
Note that $BG = DE$, explained as follows: Let $BJ \perp FH$ and $DK \perp CH$, and DE and BJ intersect at L . Note that $\angle EDK = 90^\circ - \angle DLJ = 90^\circ - \angle BLE = \angle JBG$ (\angle sum of \triangle) & (vert. opp. \angle s).

In $\triangle BJG$ and $\triangle DKE$, we have $\angle BJG = \angle DKE = 90^\circ$, $\angle EDK = \angle JBG$, $BJ = DK$. Thus $\triangle BJG \cong \triangle DKE$ (AAS), so $BG = DE$ (corr. sides, $\cong \triangle$ s).



But don't forget that we need one more condition given in the problem: $DG = BG = EG$. Is it still possible that the kite is tilted? First suppose that $DG = BG = EG = r$.

Let $MG = x$ and the side length of the square be s . Let $IJ \perp AF$ and $IK \perp CH$.



$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{r}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{xr}{\sqrt{r^2 - s^2}}\right)^2 &= r^2 \\ \frac{r^2}{4} + \frac{x^2 r^2}{r^2 - s^2} &= r^2 \\ \frac{x^2}{r^2 - s^2} &= \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{4}{3} x^2 &= r^2 - s^2 \\ r &= \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} x^2 + s^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note that $EK = JD = \frac{\sqrt{r^2 - s}}{2}$ (corr. sides, $\triangle JID \cong \triangle KIE$) . Also note that $IM = \frac{xs}{\sqrt{r^2 - s^2}}$ by similar triangles. Then the position of E above H is $IM + EK$. For E to lie on

side CH , we must have $IM + EK < s$. Thus we have

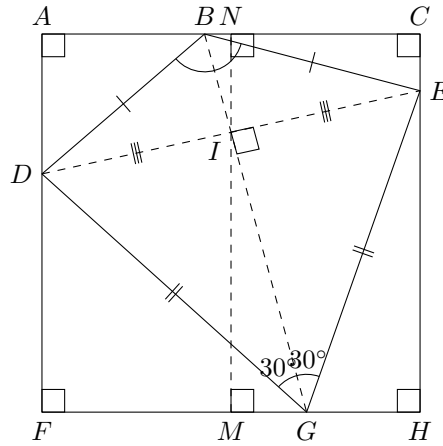
$$\frac{xs}{\sqrt{r^2 - s^2}} + \frac{\sqrt{r^2 - s^2}}{2} < s$$

Put $r = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3}x^2 + s^2}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{xs}{\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}x^2 + s^2 - s^2}} + \frac{\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}x^2 + s^2 - s^2}}{2} &< s \\ \frac{xs}{\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}x} + \frac{\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}x}{2} &< s \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}x &< s - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}s \\ x &< s(\sqrt{3} - \frac{3}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sqrt{3} - \frac{3}{2} \approx 0.232$, it is possible for the kite to be inscribed in the square if $x \approx < 0.232s$ while satisfying the requirements given in the problem.

The rest of the solution proceeds like the case where G is the mid-point of FH . We have $\triangle DEG$ being an equil. \triangle , so $\angle DGB = \angle BGE = 30^\circ$, and $\angle DBE = (180^\circ - 30^\circ)/2 \times 2 = \boxed{150^\circ}$.

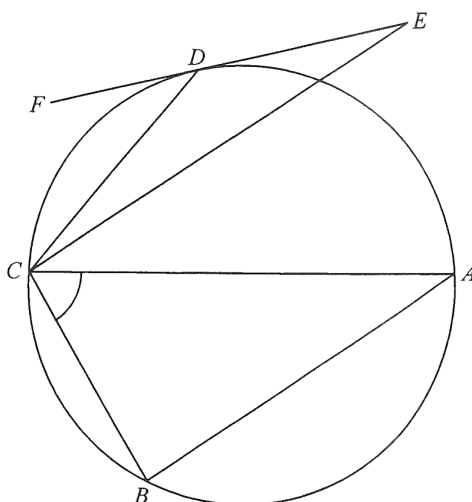


1.6 Circle properties

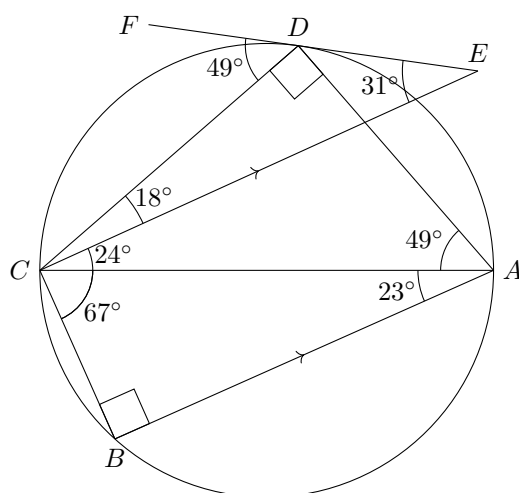
(Problem solving tips: try to use all the information given in the problem.)

Problem 10. In the figure, AC is a diameter of the circle $ABCD$. EF is the tangent to the circle at D such that $AB \parallel EC$. If $\angle CDF = 49^\circ$ and $\angle CED = 31^\circ$, then $\angle ACB = ?$

(Difficulty: 4 [Medium]) (2021 DSE Paper 2 Q39)

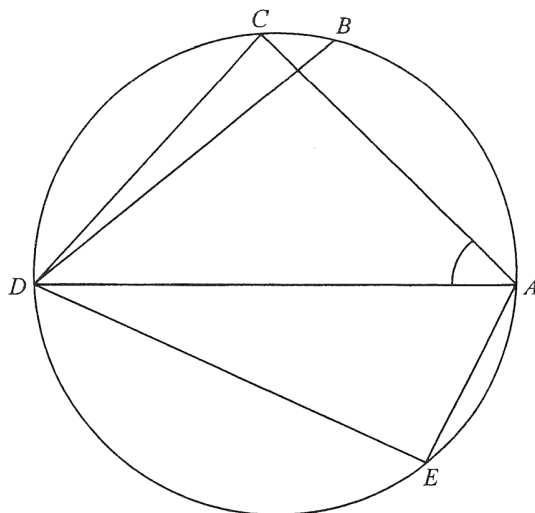


Solution 10. (Diagram adjusted for accuracy.) Join DA .



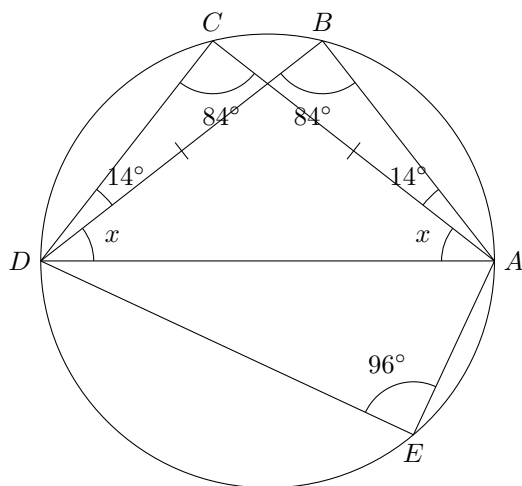
$$\begin{aligned}
 \angle CDA, \angle ABC &= 90^\circ && (\angle \text{ in semi-circle}) \\
 \angle CAD &= 49^\circ && (\angle \text{ in alt. segment}) \\
 \angle DCA &= 90^\circ - 49^\circ = 41^\circ && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\
 \angle DCE &= 49^\circ - 31^\circ = 18^\circ && (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle) \\
 \angle ACE &= 41^\circ - 18^\circ = 23^\circ \\
 \angle BAC &= \angle ACE = 23^\circ && (\text{alt. } \angle \text{ s , } AB \parallel EC) \\
 \angle ACB &= 90^\circ - 23^\circ = \boxed{67^\circ} && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 11. In the figure, $ABCDE$ is a circle. If $AC = BD$, $\angle AED = 96^\circ$ and $\angle BDC = 14^\circ$, then $\angle CAD = ?$



(Difficulty: 4) (2021 DSE Paper 2 Q22)

Solution 11. Join AB . Let $\angle CAD = x$.



$$\angle DCA, \angle DBA = 180 - 96^\circ = 84^\circ \quad (\text{opp. } \angle\text{s, cyclic quad.})$$

$$\angle BAC = 14^\circ \quad (\angle\text{s in the same segment})$$

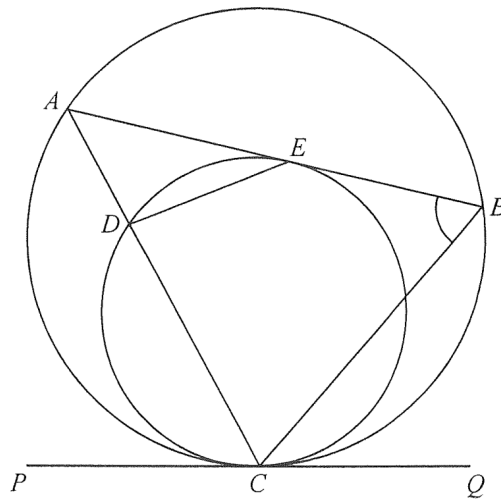
$$\angle CDA = \angle BAD = x + 14^\circ \quad (\text{equal chords, equal } \angle\text{s at } \odot^{ce})$$

$$\angle BDA = x$$

$$84^\circ + 14^\circ + 2x = 180^\circ \quad (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle) \& (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

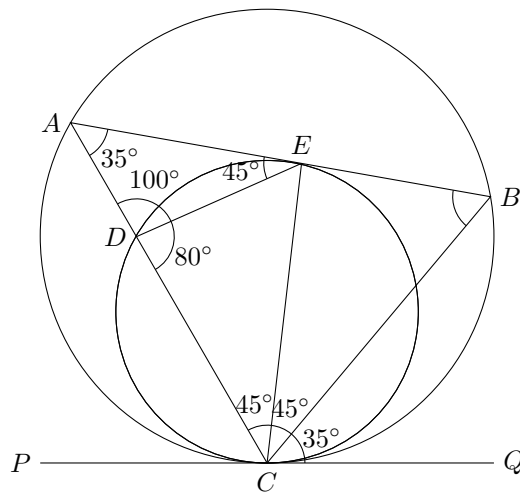
$$x = \boxed{41^\circ}$$

Problem 12. In the figure, ABC and CDE are circles such that ADC is a straight line. PQ is the common tangent to the two circles at C . AB is the tangent to the circle CDE at E . If $\angle ADE = 100^\circ$ and $\angle BCQ = 35^\circ$, then $\angle ABC = ?$



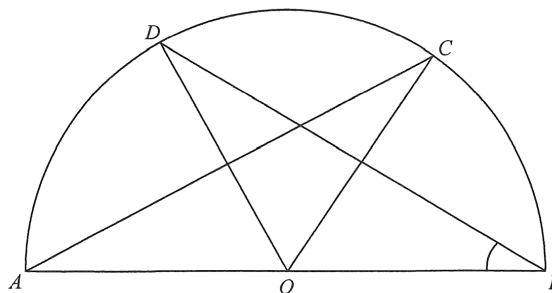
(Difficulty: 4) (2020 DSE Paper 2 Q39)

Solution 12. Join EC .



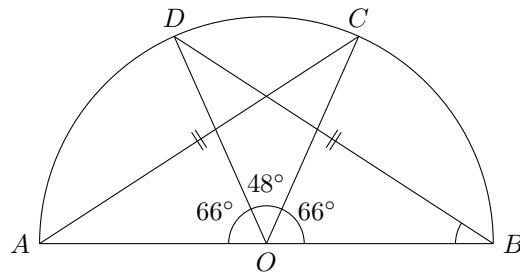
$$\begin{aligned}
 \angle CAB &= 35^\circ && (\angle \text{ in alt. segment}) \\
 \angle AED &= 180^\circ - 35^\circ - 100^\circ = 45^\circ && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\
 \angle DCE &= 45^\circ && (\angle \text{ in alt. segment}) \\
 \angle EDC &= 180^\circ - 100^\circ = 80^\circ && (\text{adj. } \angle \text{ s on st. line}) \\
 \angle ECQ &= \angle EDC = 80^\circ && (\angle \text{ in alt. segment}) \\
 \angle ECB &= 80^\circ - 35^\circ = 45^\circ \\
 \angle ABC &= 180^\circ - 35^\circ - (45^\circ + 45^\circ) = \boxed{55^\circ} && (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)
 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 13. In the figure, O is the centre of the semi-circle $ABCD$. If $AC = BD$ and $\angle COD = 48^\circ$, then $\angle ABD = ?$



(Difficulty: 3) (2019 DSE Paper 2 Q21)

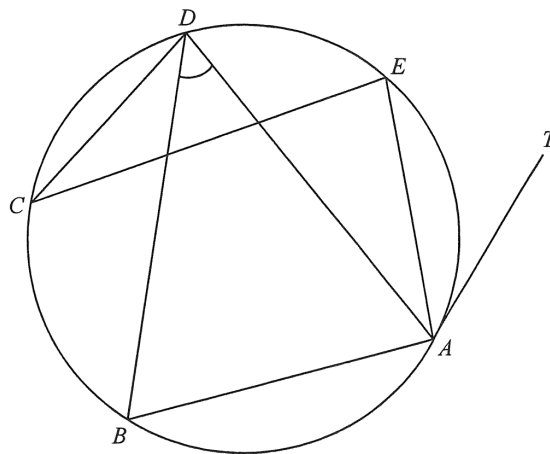
Solution 13. .



Note that $\triangle OAC \cong \triangle OBD$ (SSS) . This means $\angle AOC = \angle DOB$ (corr. sides, $\cong \triangle$ s), and thus $\angle AOD = \angle BOC = (180^\circ - 48^\circ)/2 = 66^\circ$ (adj. \angle s on st. line). In $\triangle OBD$,

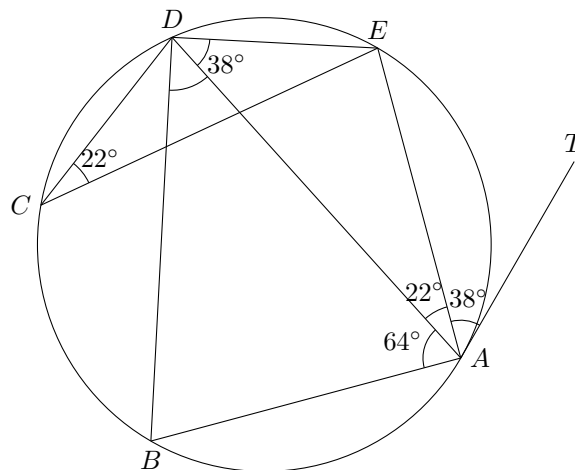
$$\angle ABD = (180^\circ - 48^\circ - 66^\circ)/2 = \boxed{33^\circ} \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

Problem 14. In the figure, TA is the tangent to the circle $ABCDE$ at point A . If $\angle BAD = 64^\circ$, $\angle EAT = 38^\circ$ and $\angle DCE = 22^\circ$, then $\angle ADB = ?$



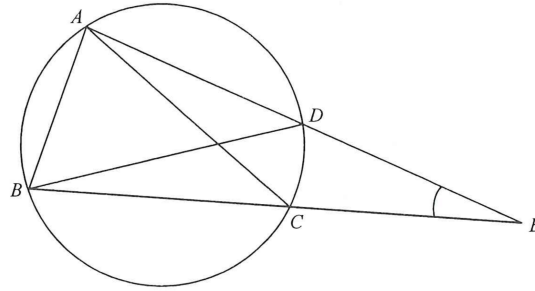
(Difficulty: 3) (2019 DSE Paper 2 Q39)

Solution 14. Join DE .



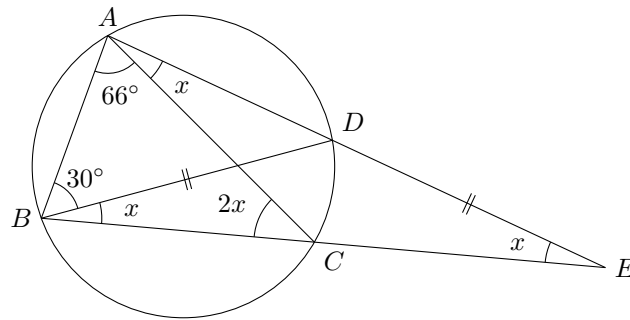
$$\begin{aligned}
\angle ADE &= 38^\circ & (\angle \text{ in alt. segment}) \\
\angle EAD &= 22^\circ & (\angle \text{ s in the same segment}) \\
\angle ADB &= 180^\circ - 64^\circ - 22^\circ - 38^\circ = \boxed{56^\circ}
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 15. In the figure, $ABCD$ is a circle. AD produced and BC produced meet at the point E . It is given that $BD = DE$, $\angle BAC = 66^\circ$ and $\angle ABD = 30^\circ$. Find $\angle CED$.



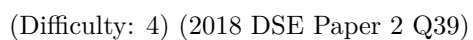
(Difficulty: 3) (2018 DSE Paper 2 Q22)

Solution 15. Let $\angle CED = x$.

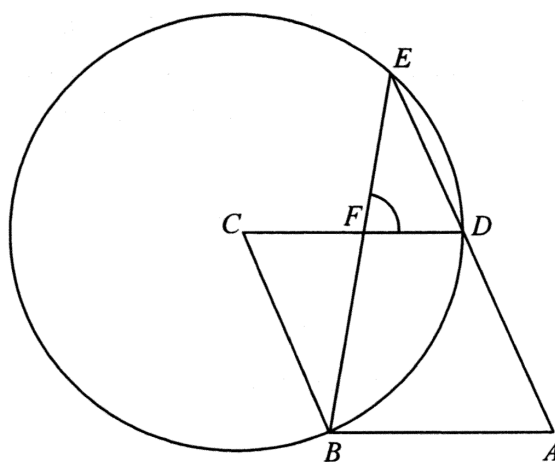


$$\begin{aligned}
\angle DBE &= x & (\text{base } \angle \text{ s, isos. } \triangle) \\
\angle CAD &= \angle CBD = x & (\angle \text{ s in the same segment}) \\
\angle ACB &= \angle CED + \angle CAD = 2x & (\text{ext. } \angle \text{ of } \triangle) \\
\text{In } \triangle ABC, \quad 66^\circ + (30^\circ + x) + 2x &= 180^\circ & (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\
x &= \boxed{28^\circ}
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 16. In the figure, TA is the tangent to the circle $ABCD$ at the point A . CD produced and TA produced meet at the point E . It is given that $AB = CD$, $\angle BAT = 24^\circ$ and $\angle AED = 72^\circ$. Find $\angle ABC$.

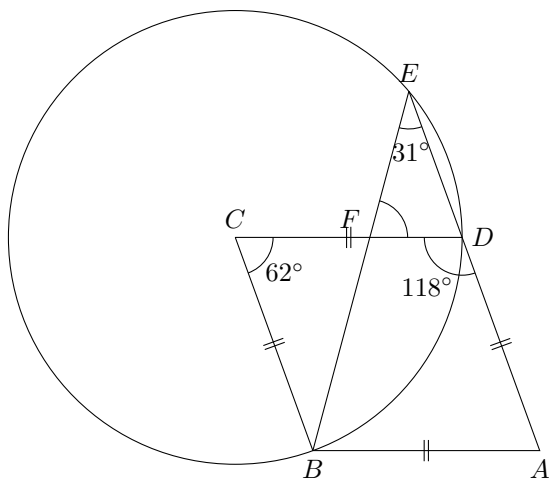


Problem 17. In the figure, $ABCD$ is a rhombus. C is the centre of the circle BDE and ADE is a straight line. BE and CD intersect at F . If $\angle ADC = 118^\circ$, then $\angle DFE = ?$



(Difficulty: 3) (2016 DSE Paper 2 Q22)

Solution 17. .



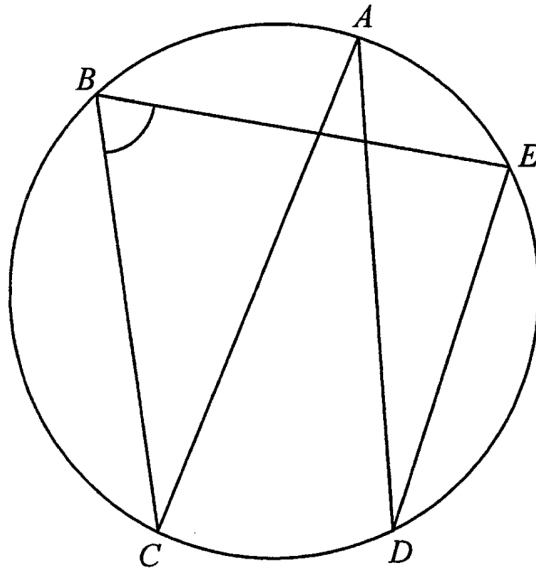
$CB \parallel DA$ (prop. of rhombus)

$\angle C = 180^\circ - 118^\circ = 62^\circ$ (int. \angle s , $CB \parallel DA$)

$\angle FED = 62^\circ / 2 = 31^\circ$ (\angle at centre twice \angle at \odot^{ce})

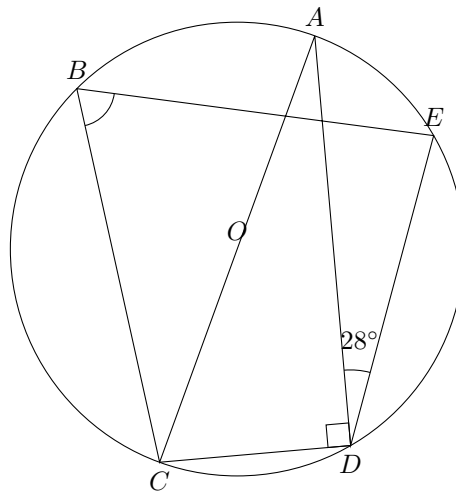
$\angle DFE = 118^\circ - 31^\circ = \boxed{87^\circ}$ (ext. \angle of \triangle)

Problem 18. In the figure, AC is a diameter of the circle $ABCDE$. If $\angle ADE = 28^\circ$, then $\angle CBE = ?$



(Difficulty: 3) (2014 DSE paper 2 Q20)

Solution 18. Join CD .

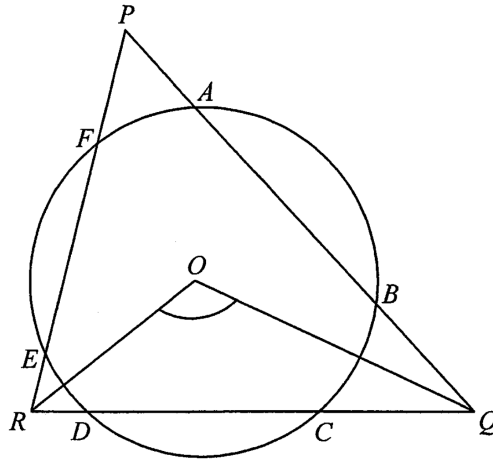


$$\angle ADC = 90^\circ \quad (\angle \text{ in semi-circle})$$

$$\angle CDE = 90^\circ + 28^\circ = 118^\circ$$

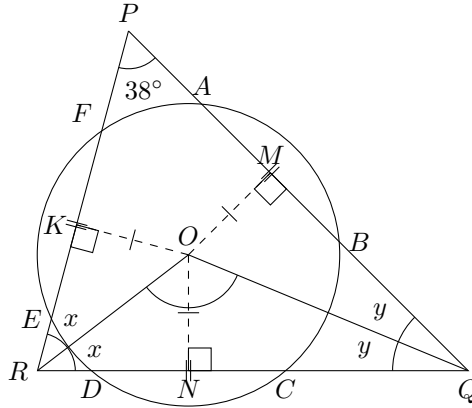
$$\angle CBE = 180^\circ - 118^\circ = \boxed{62^\circ} \quad (\text{opp. } \angle\text{s , cyclic quad.})$$

Problem 19. In the figure, O is the centre of the circle $ABCDEF$. $\triangle PQR$ intersects the circle at A, B, C, D, E and F . If $\angle QPR = 38^\circ$ and $AB = CD = EF$, then $\angle QOR = ?$



(Difficulty: 4) (2014 DSE Paper 2 Q21)

Solution 19. Draw $OM \perp AB$, $ON \perp DC$, $OK \perp FE$.



Note that $OM = ON = OK$ (equal chords, equidistant from centre). Thus, $\angle ORK = \angle ORN$ and $\angle OQN = \angle OQM$ (prop. of \angle bisector).

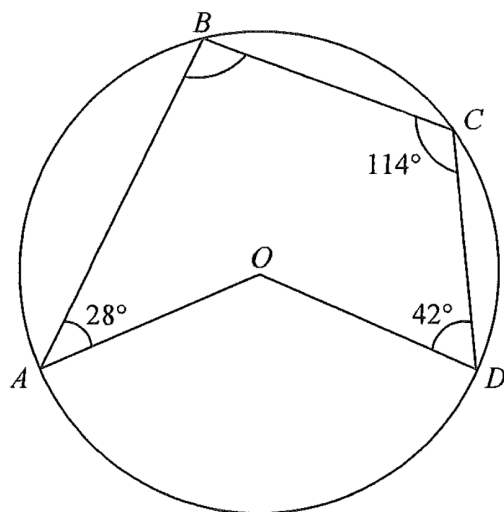
Let $\angle ORK = \angle ORN = x$ and $\angle OQN = \angle OQM = y$. In $\triangle PQR$,

$$\begin{aligned} 38^\circ + 2x + 2y &= 180^\circ & (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\ x + y &= 71^\circ \end{aligned}$$

In $\triangle ORQ$,

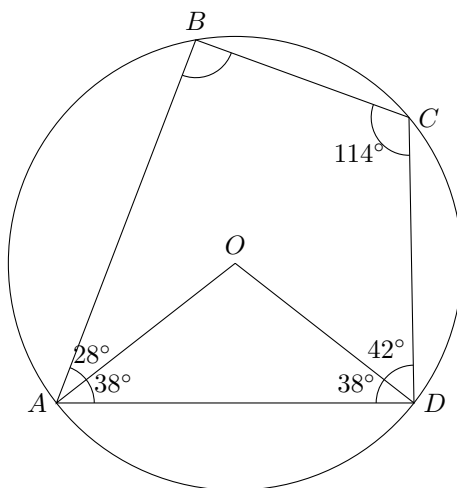
$$\begin{aligned} x + y + \angle QOR &= 180^\circ & (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\ \angle QOR &= 180^\circ - 71^\circ = \boxed{109^\circ} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 20. In the figure, O is the centre of the circle $ABCD$. If $\angle BAO = 28^\circ$, $\angle BCD = 114^\circ$ and $\angle CDO = 42^\circ$, then $\angle ABC = ?$



(Difficulty: 3) (2012 DSE Paper 2 Q20)

Solution 20. Join AD .



$$\angle BAD = 180^\circ - 114^\circ = 66^\circ \quad (\text{opp. } \angle\text{s, cyclic quad.})$$

$$\angle OAD = 66^\circ - 28^\circ = 38^\circ$$

$$\angle ODA = 38^\circ \quad (\text{base } \angle\text{s, isos. } \triangle)$$

$$\angle ABC = 180^\circ - (38^\circ + 42^\circ) = \boxed{100^\circ} \quad (\text{opp. } \angle\text{s, cyclic quad.})$$

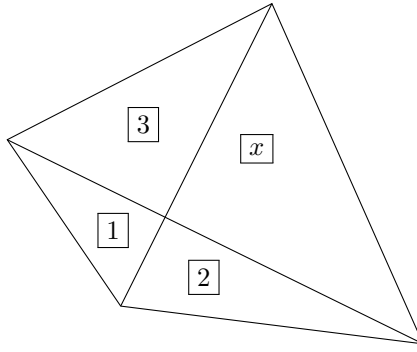
1.7 Area, perimeter and hypotenuse

1.7.1 Area

Problem 21. A convex quadrilateral is divided into four parts by its diagonals.

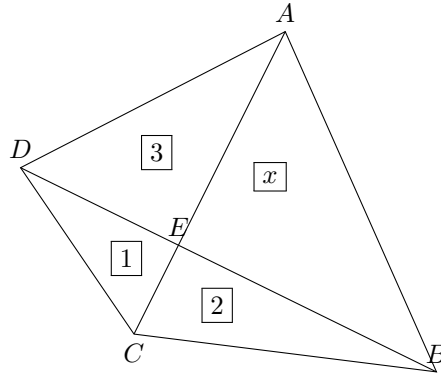
Three of the areas are 2 , 1 , and 3 as shown in the diagram.

What is the area of the fourth region denoted by x ?



(Difficulty: 2 [Very Easy]) [4]

Solution 21. Label the quadrilateral as $ABCD$, and let E be the intersection of diagonals AC and BD .



Note that $\frac{\text{area of } AED}{\text{area of } CED} = \frac{AE}{EC}$ (bases prop. to areas of \triangle s).

Similarly, $\frac{\text{area of } AEB}{\text{area of } CEB} = \frac{AE}{EC}$ (bases prop. to areas of \triangle s).

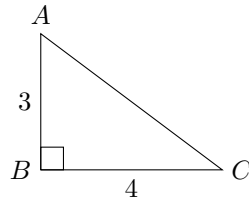
Thus, we have $\frac{\text{area of } AEB}{\text{area of } CEB} = \frac{\text{area of } AED}{\text{area of } CED}$, which means

$$\frac{x}{2} = \frac{3}{1}$$

$$x = \boxed{6}$$

1.7.2 Pythagoras theorem

Problem 22. $\triangle ABC$ has $\angle B = 90^\circ$, $AB = 3$ and $BC = 4$. What is AC ?



(Difficulty: 1 [Beginner])

Solution 22. Since $\triangle ABC$ is a right triangle, we can apply Pythagoras theorem:

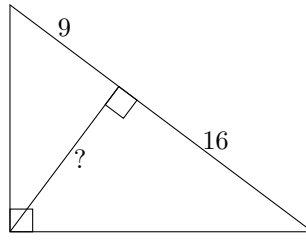
$$AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2 \quad (\text{Pyth. theorem})$$

$$AC^2 = 3^2 + 4^2$$

$$AC = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2}$$

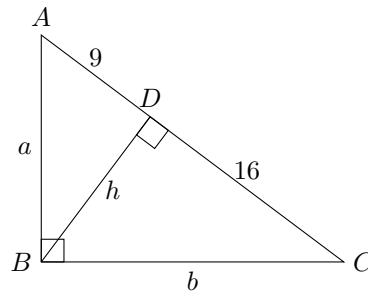
$$= \boxed{5}$$

Problem 23. In a right triangle, the perpendicular line segment dropped from the vertex of the right angle upon the hypotenuse divides it into two segments of 9 and 16 units respectively. What is the length of this perpendicular line segment?



(Difficulty: 3) [5]

Solution 23. Let h be the length of the perpendicular line segment, and a , b be the two legs (non-hypotenuse sides) of the triangle.



In $\triangle ABC$, $a^2 + b^2 = (9 + 16)^2$ (Pyth. theorem).

In $\triangle ADB$, $h^2 + 9^2 = a^2$ (Pyth. theorem).

In $\triangle CDB$, $h^2 + 16^2 = b^2$ (Pyth. theorem).

Substituting the 2nd and 3rd equation into the 1st equation:

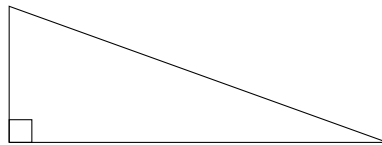
$$(h^2 + 9^2) + (h^2 + 16^2) = (9 + 16)^2$$

$$2h^2 = 625 - 337$$

$$h^2 = 144$$

$$h = \boxed{12}$$

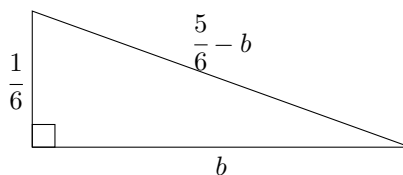
Problem 24. A leg of a right triangle is equal to $1/5$ the sum of the other two sides. The triangle has a perimeter of 1. What is the triangle's area?



(Difficulty: 4) [6]

Solution 24. Let k be the length of the leg. Then considering the perimeter of the triangle, we

have $k + 5k = 1$, so $k = \frac{1}{6}$.



Let b be the length of the other leg. Then the hypotenuse is $1 - \frac{1}{6} - b = \frac{5}{6} - b$. By pyth. theorem,

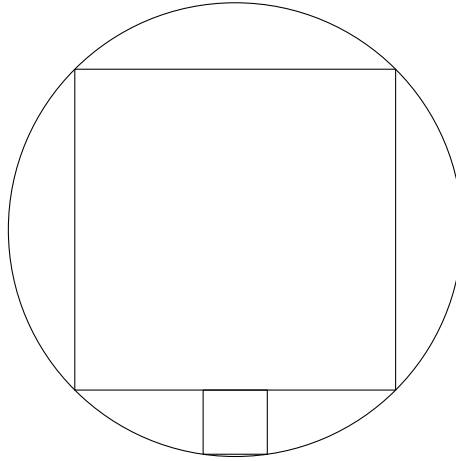
$$\begin{aligned} b^2 + \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2 &= \left(\frac{5}{6} - b\right)^2 \\ b^2 + \frac{1}{36} &= \frac{25}{36} - \frac{5b}{3} + b^2 \\ b &= \frac{2}{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Area of triangle} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right) \left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = \boxed{\frac{1}{30}}$$

Problem 25. A square is inscribed in a circle.

A smaller square is drawn. It shares side with the inscribed square and its other two corners touch the circle.

What is the ratio of the larger square's area to the smaller square's area?

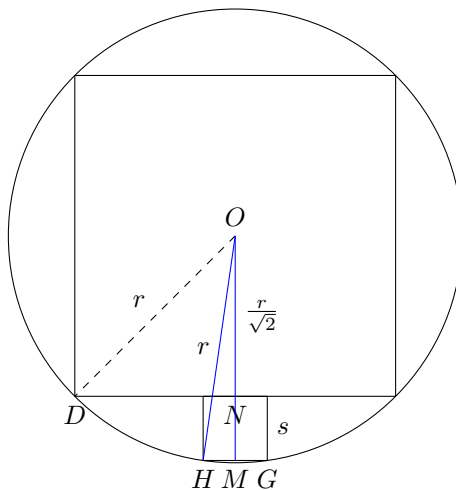


(Difficulty: 5 [Hard]) [7]

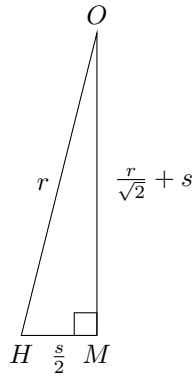
Solution 25. Let r be the radius of the circle, and s be the side length of the small square.

Draw a radius of the circle to a corner of the small square.

Drop a perpendicular from the centre of the circle to the bottom side of the small square. Note that it bisects the bottom side of both squares (line from centre \perp chord bisects chord). Thus, $HM = \frac{1}{2}s$.



Since $\triangle ODN$ is a right isosceles triangle, we have $ON = \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}}$. Let's focus on $\triangle OMH$. Note that $OM = \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} + s$.



By pyth. theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{r}{\sqrt{2}} + s\right)^2 + \left(\frac{s}{2}\right)^2 &= r^2 \\ \frac{r^2}{2} + \sqrt{2}rs + s^2 + \frac{s^2}{4} &= r^2 \\ 5s^2 + 4\sqrt{2}rs - 2r^2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Using **quadratic formula** on s :

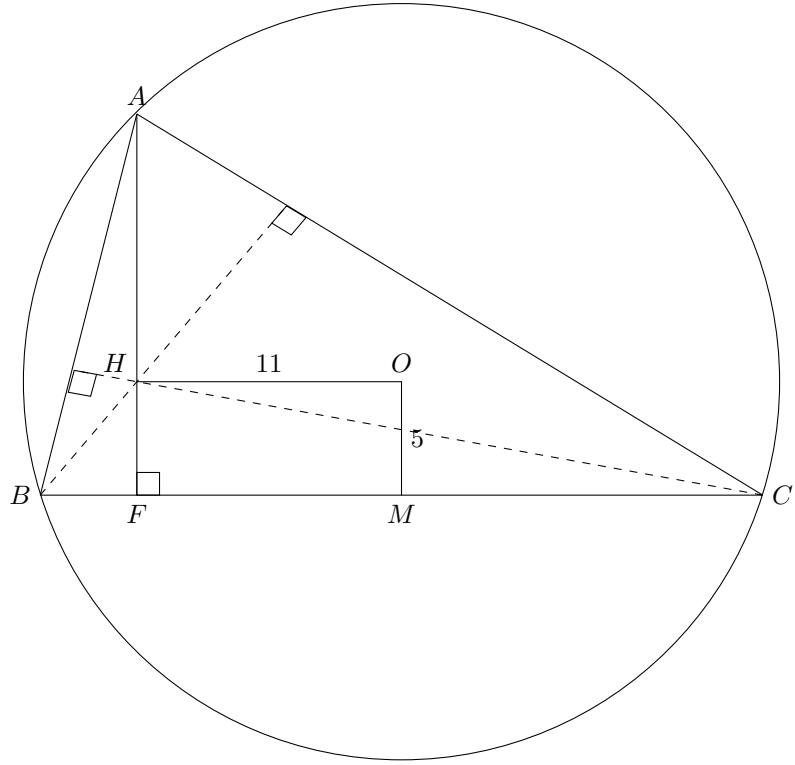
$$\begin{aligned} s &= \frac{-4\sqrt{2}r + \sqrt{(4\sqrt{2}r)^2 - 4(5)(-2r^2)}}{2(5)} \\ &= \left(\frac{-4\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{72}}{10}\right)r \\ &= \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{5}\right)r \end{aligned}$$

Since the side length of the large square is $r\sqrt{2}$, the area of the large square is $2r^2$.

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{\text{area of larger square}}{\text{area of smaller square}} = \frac{2r^2}{s^2} = \frac{2r^2}{\left(\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{5}\right)r\right)^2} = \frac{2r^2}{\left(\frac{2}{25}\right)r^2} = \boxed{25}.$$

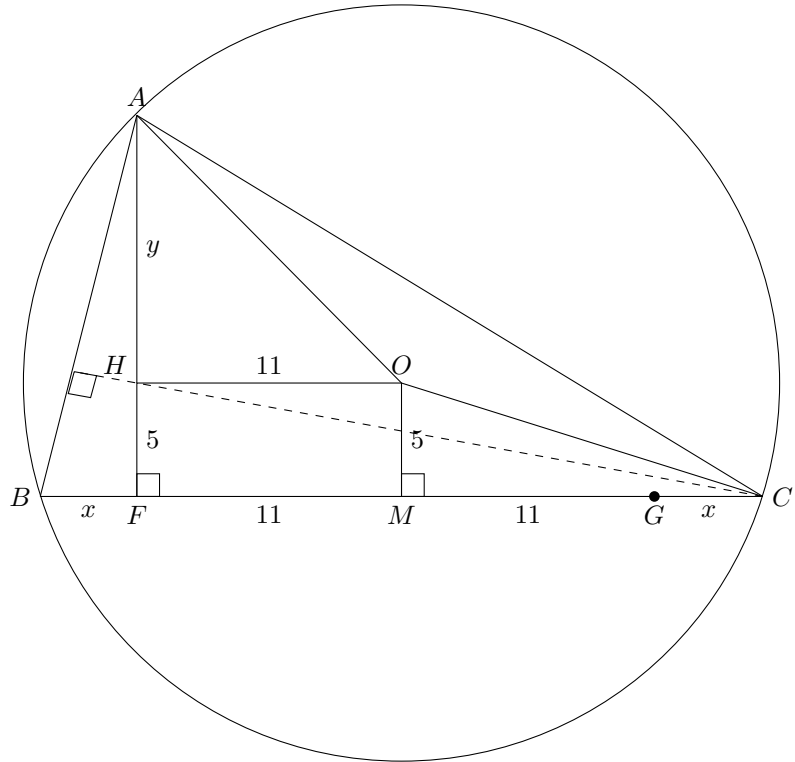
1.8 Proportions and similar triangles

Problem 26. A rectangle, $HOMF$, has sides $HO = 11$ and $OM = 5$. A triangle ABC has H as the intersection of the altitudes, O the centre of the circumscribed circle, M the midpoint of BC , and F the foot of the altitude from A . What is the length of BC ?



(Difficulty: 6) (Putnam 1997 A1) [8]

Solution 26. Let $BF = x$ and $AH = y$. Let G be a point on BC such that $GC = BF = x$. Then $MG = FM = 11$.



Note that $OA = OC$. Considering $\triangle AHO$ and $\triangle OMC$, we have $OA^2 = y^2 + 11^2$ and $OC^2 = 5^2 + (11 + x)^2$ by pyth. theorem, so we have

$$y^2 + 11^2 = 5^2 + (11 + x)^2 \quad (1)$$

$$y^2 + 121 = 25 + 121 + 22x + x^2 \quad (2)$$

Also note that $\angle HCF = 90^\circ - \angle ABC = \angle BAF$ (\angle sum of \triangle). Thus $\triangle AFB \sim \triangle CFH$ (AA).

So we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{AF}{BF} &= \frac{CF}{HF} && (\text{corr. sides, } \sim \triangle\text{s}) \\ \frac{y+5}{x} &= \frac{x+11+11}{5} \\ 5y+25 &= x^2+22x\end{aligned}\tag{3}$$

Note that x^2+22x appears in both equation (2) and (3). Putting (3) into (2):

$$\begin{aligned}y^2+121 &= 25+121+5y+25 \\ y^2-5y-50 &= 0 \\ (y-10)(y+5) &= 0 \\ y &= 10 \text{ or } y = -5 && (\text{rej.})\end{aligned}$$

Put $y = 10$ into (1):

$$\begin{aligned}10^2+11^2 &= 5^2+(11+x)^2 \\ 196 &= (11+x)^2 \\ 14 &= 11+x \\ x &= 3 \\ \therefore BC &= 3+11+11+3 = \boxed{28}\end{aligned}$$

References

- [1] MindYourDecisions, “A classically hard geometry problem,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFhFx4n3aH8&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [2] —, “A classically hard geometry problem,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rjo-PcrKrB0&t=272s&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [3] —, “”impossible” math problem leaves students in tears,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_w0HxH_dCg&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [4] —, “A tiny but not so simple problem - what is the unknown area?” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjG1aknZBf8&list=PLDZcGqoKA84E2a0L6IS68hswD4iiUN2Cv&index=55&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [5] —, “How to solve an mit admissions question from 1869,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvG77iyFvIU&list=PLDZcGqoKA84E2a0L6IS68hswD4iiUN2Cv&index=2&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [6] —, “Competition math shortcut: Solve for this special triangle’s area in seconds,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5mrVScWM8Q&list=PLDZcGqoKA84E2a0L6IS68hswD4iiUN2Cv&index=39&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [7] —, “Can you solve this tricky interview question?” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NalDbjj2bL4&list=PLDZcGqoKA84E2a0L6IS68hswD4iiUN2Cv&index=46&ab_channel=MindYourDecisions
- [8] BriTheMathGuy , “The easiest problem on the hardest test,” YouTube. [Online]. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVVhapkz5jA&list=PL5GtIFjsbjJ-qhAMsp_CtB3UZjZ-H-YJR&index=5&ab_channel=BriTheMathGuy