

## Question 2

Note that  $ab + bc + cd + da = (b + d)(a + c)$  so our equation becomes  $(b + d)(a + c) = 2021$ , since  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows that  $b + d, a + c \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now 2021 can be expressed as a product of two positive integers in only 2 ways,  $1 \cdot 2021$  and  $43 \cdot 47$ . Now since  $b, d \geq 1$ , it follows that  $b + d \geq 2$ , so it cannot be that  $b + d = 1$  and  $a + c = 2021$ . Similarly it can't be that  $b + d = 2021$  and  $a + c = 1$ . Hence the solutions to our equation are those  $(a, b, c, d)$  such that  $b + d = 43$  and  $a + c = 47$  or  $b + d = 47$  and  $a + c = 43$ . There are 42 ways in which  $b + d = 43$ , namely  $(b, d) = (1, 42), (2, 41), (3, 40), \dots, (41, 2), (42, 1)$ , similarly there are 46 ways in which  $a + c = 47$ , hence the total number of solutions is  $42 \cdot 46 \cdot 2 = 3864$ .