

2021 AMC 12A Problems/Problem 17

The following problem is from both the 2021 AMC 10A #17 and 2021 AMC 12A #17, so both problems redirect to this page.

Contents

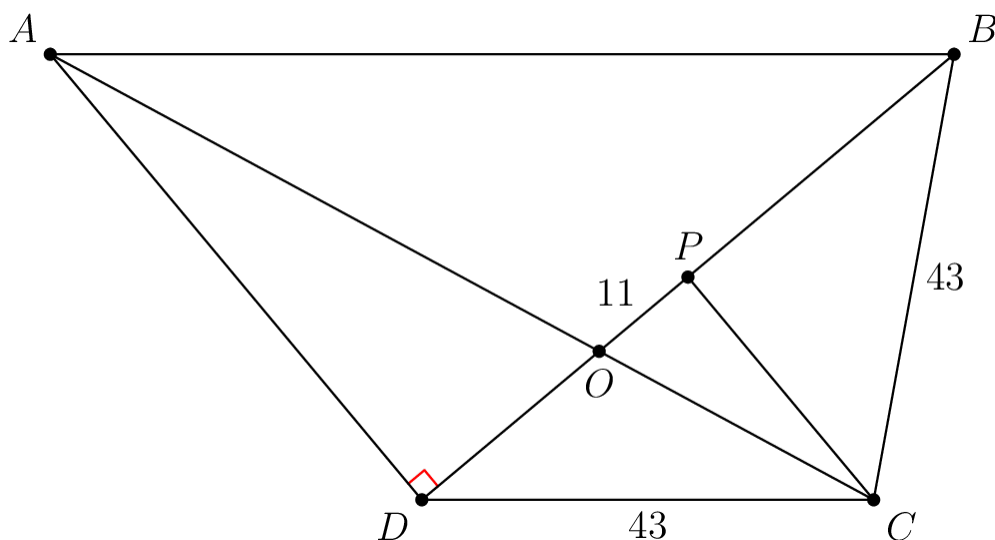
- 1 Problem
- 2 Diagram
- 3 Solution 1 (Similar Triangles and Pythagorean Theorem)
- 4 Solution 2 (Similar Triangles, Areas, Pythagorean Theorem)
- 5 Solution 3 (Short)
- 6 Solution 4 (Extending the Line)
- 7 Solution 5
- 8 Solution 6 (Coordinate Bash)
- 9 Video Solution (Using Similar Triangles, Pythagorean Theorem)
- 10 Video Solution by Punxsutawney Phil
- 11 Video Solution by Mathematical Dexterity
- 12 See also

Problem

Trapezoid $ABCD$ has $\overline{AB} \parallel \overline{CD}$, $BC = CD = 43$, and $\overline{AD} \perp \overline{BD}$. Let O be the intersection of the diagonals \overline{AC} and \overline{BD} , and let P be the midpoint of \overline{BD} . Given that $OP = 11$, the length of \overline{AD} can be written in the form $m\sqrt{n}$, where m and n are positive integers and n is not divisible by the square of any prime. What is $m + n$?

(A) 65 (B) 132 (C) 157 (D) 194 (E) 215

Diagram



~MRENTHUSIASM

Solution 1 (Similar Triangles and Pythagorean Theorem)

Angle chasing* reveals that $\triangle BPC \sim \triangle BDA$, therefore

$$2 = \frac{BD}{AB} = \frac{AB}{AD}.$$

$$BP = BC = 43,$$

or $AB = 86$.

Additional angle chasing shows that $\triangle ABO \sim \triangle CDO$, therefore

$$2 = \frac{AB}{CD} = \frac{BO}{OD} = \frac{BP + 11}{BP - 11},$$

or $BP = 33$ and $BD = 66$.

Since $\triangle ADB$ is right, the Pythagorean theorem implies that

$$AD = \sqrt{86^2 - 66^2} = 4\sqrt{190}.$$

The answer is $4 + 190 = \boxed{(D) 194}$.

- Angle Chasing: If we set $\angle DBC = \alpha$, then we know that $\angle DCB = 180^\circ - 2\alpha$ because $\triangle DBC$ is isosceles. And because $AB \parallel DC$, we conclude that $\angle ABD = \alpha$ too. Lastly, because $\triangle BPC$ and $\triangle BDA$ are both right triangles, they are similar by AA.

~mn28407 (Solution)

~mm (Angle Chasing Remark)

~eagleye ~MRENTHUSIASM (Minor Edits)

Solution 2 (Similar Triangles, Areas, Pythagorean Theorem)

Since $\triangle BCD$ is isosceles with base BD , it follows that median CP is also an altitude. Let $OD = x$ and $CP = h$, so $PB = x + 11$.

Since $\angle AOD = \angle COP$ by vertical angles, we conclude that $\triangle AOD \sim \triangle COP$ by AA, from which $\frac{AD}{CP} = \frac{OD}{OP}$, or

$$AD = CP \cdot \frac{OD}{OP} = h \cdot \frac{x}{11}.$$

Let the brackets denote areas. Notice that $[AOD] = [BOC]$ (By the same base and height, we deduce that $[ACD] = [BDC]$. Subtracting $[OCD]$ from both sides gives $[AOD] = [BOC]$). Doubling both sides produces

$$\begin{aligned} 2[AOD] &= 2[BOC] \\ OD \cdot AD &= OB \cdot CP \\ x \left(\frac{hx}{11} \right) &= (x + 22)h \\ x^2 &= 11(x + 22). \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging and factoring result in $(x - 22)(x + 11) = 0$, from which $x = 22$.

Applying the Pythagorean Theorem to right $\triangle CPB$, we have

$$h = \sqrt{43^2 - 33^2} = \sqrt{(43 + 33)(43 - 33)} = \sqrt{760} = 2\sqrt{190}.$$

Finally, we get

$$AD = h \cdot \frac{x}{11} = 4\sqrt{190},$$

so the answer is $4 + 190 = \boxed{(D) 194}$.

~MRENTHUSIASM

Solution 3 (Short)

Let $CP = y$. CP is a perpendicular bisector of DB . Then, let $DO = x$, thus $DP = PB = 11 + x$.

$$(1) \triangle CPO \sim \triangle ADO, \text{ so we get } \frac{AD}{x} = \frac{y}{11}, \text{ or } AD = \frac{xy}{11}.$$

$$(2) \text{ Applying Pythagorean Theorem on } \triangle CDP \text{ gives } (11 + x)^2 + y^2 = 43^2.$$

$$(3) \triangle BPC \sim \triangle BDA \text{ with ratio } 1 : 2, \text{ so } AD = 2y \text{ using the fact that } P \text{ is the midpoint of } BD.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \frac{xy}{11} = 2y, \text{ or } x = 22. \text{ And } y = \sqrt{43^2 - 33^2} = 2\sqrt{190}, \text{ so } AD = 4\sqrt{190} \text{ and the answer is } 4 + 190 = \boxed{(D) 194}.$$

~ ccx09

Solution 4 (Extending the Line)

Observe that $\triangle BPC$ is congruent to $\triangle DPC$; both are similar to $\triangle BDA$. Let's extend \overline{AD} and \overline{BC} past points D and C respectively, such that they intersect at a point E . Observe that $\angle BDE$ is 90 degrees, and that $\angle DBE \cong \angle PBC \cong \angle DBA \implies \angle DBE \cong \angle DBA$. Thus, by ASA, we know that $\triangle ABD \cong \triangle EBD$, thus, $AD = ED$, meaning D is the midpoint of \overline{AE} . Let M be the midpoint of \overline{DE} . Note that $\triangle CME$ is congruent to $\triangle BPC$, thus $BC = CE$, meaning C is the midpoint of \overline{BE} .

Therefore, \overline{AC} and \overline{BD} are both medians of $\triangle ABE$. This means that O is the centroid of $\triangle ABE$; therefore, because the centroid divides the median in a 2:1 ratio, $\frac{BO}{2} = DO = \frac{BD}{3}$. Recall that P is the midpoint of BD ; $DP = \frac{BD}{2}$. The question tells us that $OP = 11$; $DP - DO = 11$; we can write this in terms of DB ;

$$\frac{DB}{2} - \frac{DB}{3} = \frac{DB}{6} = 11 \implies DB = 66.$$

We are almost finished. Each side length of $\triangle ABD$ is twice as long as the corresponding side length $\triangle CBP$ or $\triangle CPD$, since those triangles are similar; this means that $AB = 2 \cdot 43 = 86$. Now, by Pythagorean theorem on $\triangle ABD$,

$$AB^2 - BD^2 = AD^2 \implies 86^2 - 66^2 = AD^2 \implies AD = \sqrt{3040} \implies AD = 4\sqrt{190}.$$

$$\text{The answer is } 4 + 190 = \boxed{(D) 194}.$$

~ ihatemath123

Solution 5

Since P is the midpoint of isosceles triangle BCD , it would be pretty easy to see that $CP \perp BD$. Since $AD \perp BD$ as well, $AD \parallel CP$. Connecting AP , it's obvious that $[ADC] = [ADP]$. Since $DP = BP$, $[APB] = [ADC]$.

Since P is the midpoint of BD , the height of $\triangle APB$ on side AB is half that of $\triangle ADC$ on CD . Since $[APB] = [ADC]$, $AB = 2CD$.

As a basic property of a trapezoid, $\triangle AOB \sim \triangle COD$, so $\frac{OB}{OD} = \frac{AB}{CD} = 2$, or $OB = 2OD$. Letting $OD = x$, then $PB = DP = 11 + x$, and $OB = 22 + x$. Hence $22 + x = 2x$ and $x = 22$.

Since $\triangle AOD \sim \triangle COP$, $\frac{AD}{PC} = \frac{OD}{OP} = 2$. Since $PD = 11 + 22 = 33$,
 $PC = \sqrt{43^2 - 33^2} = \sqrt{760}$.

So, $AD = 2\sqrt{760} = 4\sqrt{190}$. The correct answer is **(D) 194**

Solution 6 (Coordinate Bash)

Let D be the origin of the cartesian coordinate plane, B lie on the positive x axis, and A lie on the negative y axis. Then let the coordinates of $B = (2a, 0)$, $A = (0, -2b)$. Then the slope of AB is $\frac{b}{a}$. Since $AB \parallel CD$ the slope of CD is the same. Note that as $\triangle DCB$ is isosceles C lies on $x = a$. Thus since CD has equation $y = \frac{b}{a}x$ (D is the origin), $C = (a, b)$. Therefore AC has equation $y = \frac{3b}{a}x - 2b$ and intersects BD (x axis) at $O = (\frac{2}{3}a, 0)$. The midpoint of BD is $P = (a, 0)$ thus $OP = \frac{a}{3} = 11 \implies a = 33$. Then by Pythagorean theorem on $\triangle DPC$ ($\triangle DBC$ is isosceles) we have $b = \sqrt{44^2 - 33^2} = 4\sqrt{190} \implies$ **(D) 194**.

~Aaryabhata1

Video Solution (Using Similar Triangles, Pythagorean Theorem)

https://youtu.be/gjeSGJy_Id4

~pi_is_3.14

Video Solution by Punxsutawney Phil

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=rtdovluzgQs>

Video Solution by Mathematical Dexterity

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzAVdsgBBqg>

See also

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1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • 10 • 11 • 12 • 13 • 14 • 15 • 16 • 17 • 18 • 19 • 20 • 21 • 22 • 23 • 24 • 25	
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