

# Given 4 sides & a diagonal of a quadrilateral, find the other diagonal

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Let  $ABCD$  be a quadrilateral.  $AB = p$ ,  $BC = q$ ,  $CD = r$ ,  $DA = s$ ,  $AC = x$ ,  $BD = y$ .

Express  $y$  in terms of  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ ,  $s$  and  $x$ .

$$\cos \angle BAC = \frac{x^2 + p^2 - q^2}{2px}$$

$$\cos \angle DAC = \frac{x^2 + s^2 - r^2}{2sx}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \angle BAC \cdot \cos \angle DAC \\ &= \frac{x^2 + p^2 - q^2}{2px} \cdot \frac{x^2 + s^2 - r^2}{2sx} \\ &= \frac{(x^2 + p^2 - q^2)(x^2 + s^2 - r^2)}{4psx^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{x^4 + (p^2 + s^2 - q^2 - r^2)x^2 + (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2)}{4psx^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} px \sin \angle BAC = \text{area of } \triangle ABC = \Delta_1$$

$$\frac{1}{2} sx \sin \angle DAC = \text{area of } \triangle ACD = \Delta_2$$

$$\sin \angle BAC \cdot \sin \angle DAC = \frac{4\Delta_1\Delta_2}{psx^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \angle BAD &= \cos(\angle BAC + \angle DAC) = \cos \angle BAC \cos \angle DAC - \sin \angle BAC \sin \angle DAC \\ &= \frac{x^4 + (p^2 + s^2 - q^2 - r^2)x^2 + (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2)}{4psx^2} - \frac{4\Delta_1\Delta_2}{psx^2} \\ &= \frac{x^4 + (p^2 + s^2 - q^2 - r^2)x^2 + (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2) - 16\Delta_1\Delta_2}{4psx^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 &= p^2 + s^2 - 2ps \cos \angle BAD \\ &= p^2 + s^2 - \frac{x^4 + (p^2 + s^2 - q^2 - r^2)x^2 + (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2) - 16\Delta_1\Delta_2}{2x^2} \\ &= \frac{p^2 + q^2 + r^2 + s^2 - x^2}{2} + \frac{16\Delta_1\Delta_2 - (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2)}{2x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{p^2 + q^2 + r^2 + s^2 - x^2}{2} + \frac{16\Delta_1\Delta_2 - (p^2 - q^2)(s^2 - r^2)}{2x^2}}$$

**For example:**  $p = 25$ ,  $q = 39$ ,  $r = 60$ ,  $s = 52$ ,  $x = 56$

By Heron's formula,  $\Delta_1 = 420$ ,  $\Delta_2 = 1344$

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{25^2 + 39^2 + 60^2 + 52^2 - 56^2}{2} + \frac{16 \times 420 \times 1344 - (25^2 - 39^2)(52^2 - 60^2)}{2 \times 56^2}} = 63$$

