What Is The Cartesian Coordinate System

In Cartesian co-ordinates the position of a point P is determined by knowing the distances from two perpendicular lines passing through the fixed point. Let O be the fixed point called the origin and XOX' and YOY', the two perpendicular lines through O, called Cartesian or Rectangular co-ordinates axes.



Draw PM and PN perpendiculars on OX and OY respectively. OM (or NP) and ON (or MP) are called the x-coordinate (or abscissa) and y-coordinate (or ordinate) of the point P respectively.

1. Axes of Co-ordinates

In the figure OX and OY are called as x-axis and y-axis respectively and both together are known as axes of co-ordinates.

2. Origin

It is point O of intersection of the axes of co-ordinates.

3. Co-ordinates of the Origin

It has zero distance from both the axes so that its abscissa and ordinate are both zero. Therefore, the coordinates of origin are (0, 0).

4. Abscissa

The distance of the point P from y-axis is called its abscissa. In the figure OM = PN is the Abscissa. 5. **Ordinate**

The distance of the point P from x-axis is called its ordinate. ON = PM is the ordinate in the figure.

6. Quadrant

The axes divide the plane into four parts. These four parts are called quadrants. So, the plane consists of axes and quadrants. The plane is called the cartesian plane or the coordinate plane or the xy-plane. These axes are called the co-ordinate axes.

A quadrant is 1/4 part of a plane divided by co-ordinate axes.



(i) XOY is called the first quadrant(ii) YOX' the second.(iii) X'OY' the third.(iv) Y'OX the fourthas marked in the figure.

RULES OF SIGNS OF CO-ORDINATES

1. In the first quadrant, both co-ordiantes i.e., abscissa and ordinate of a point are positive.

- 2. In the second quadrant, for a point, abscissa is negative and ordinate is positive.
- 3. In the third quadrant, for a point, both abscissa and ordinate are negative.
- 4. In the fourth quadrant, for a point, the abscissa is positive and the ordinate is negative.



Quadrant	x-co-ordinate	y-cordinate	Point
First quadrant	+	+	(+,+)
Second quadrant		+	(-,+)
Third quadrant	—	_	(-,-)
Fourth quadrant	+	_	(+,-)

Cartesian Coordinate System Example Problems With Solutions

Example 1: From the adjoining figure find



(i) Abscissa

(ii) Ordinate

- (iii) Co-ordinates of a point P
- **Solution:** (i) Abscissa = PN = OM = 3 units
- (ii) Ordinate = PM = ON = 4 units
- (iii) Co-ordinates of the point P = (Abscissa, ordinate) = (3, 4)

Example 2: Determine



(i) Abscissa (ii) ordinate (iii) Co-ordinates of point P given in the following figure.

Solution: (i) Abscissa of the point P = -NP = -OM = -a (ii) Ordinate of the point P = MP = ON = b

(iii) Co-ordinates of point P = (abscissa, ordinate) = (-a, b)

Example 3: Write down the (i) abscissa (ii) ordinate (iii) Co-ordinates of P, Q, R and S as given in the figure.



Solution: Point P Abscissa of P = 2; Ordinate of P = 3 Co-ordinates of P = (2, 3)Point Q

Abscissa of Q = -2; Ordinate of Q = 4 Co-ordinate of Q = (-2, 4) **Point R** Abscissa of R = -5; Ordinate of R = -3Co-ordinates of R = (-5, -3) **Point S** Abscissa of S = 5; Ordinate of S = -1Co-ordinates of S = (5, -1)

Example 4: Draw a triangle ABC where vertices A, B and C are (0, 2), (2, -2), and (-2, 2) respectively. **Solution:** Plot the point A by taking its abscissa O and ordinate = 2.

Similarly, plot points B and C taking abscissa 2 and -2 and ordinates -2 and 2 respectively. Join A, B and C. This is the required triangle.



Example 5: Draw a rectangle PQRS in which vertices P, Q, R and S are (1, 4), (-5, 4), (-5, -3) and (1, -3) respectively.

Solution: Plot the point P by taking its abscissa 1 and ordinate – 4.

Similarly, plot the points Q, R and S taking abscissa as -5, -5 and 1 and ordinates as 4, -3 and -3 respectively.

Join the points PQR and S. PQRS is the required rectangle.



Example 6: Draw a trapezium ABCD in which vertices A, B, C and D are (4, 6), (-2, 3), (-2, -5) and (4, -7) respectively.

Solution: Plot the point A taking its abscissa as 4 and ordinate as 6.

Similarly plot the point B, C and D taking abscissa as -2, -2 and 4 and ordinates as 3, -5, and -7 respectively. Join A, B, C and D ABCD is the required trapezium.



Pythagoras Theorem



Theorem 1: In a right angled triangle, the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.

Given: A right-angled triangle ABC in which $B = \angle 90^\circ$. **To Prove:** (Hypotenuse)² = (Base)² + (Perpendicular)². i.e., $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$

Construction: From B draw BD \perp AC.



Proof: In triangle ADB and ABC, we have [Each equal to 90°] $\angle ADB = \angle ABC$ and, $\angle A = \angle A$ [Common] So, by AA-similarity criterion, we have $\Delta ADB \sim \Delta ABC$ $\Rightarrow \frac{AD}{AB} = \frac{AB}{AC}$ \overline{AC} [: In similar triangles corresponding sides are proportional] $\Rightarrow AB^2 = AD \times AC$(i) In triangles BDC and ABC, we have [Each equal to 90°] $\angle CDB = \angle ABC$ and, $\angle C = \angle C$ [Common] So, by AA-similarity criterion, we have $\Delta BDC \sim \Delta ABC$ $\Rightarrow \frac{DC}{BC} = \frac{BC}{AC}$ [: In similar triangles corresponding sides are proportional] \Rightarrow BC² = AC × DC(ii) Adding equation (i) and (ii), we get $AB^2 + BC^2 = AD \times AC + AC \times DC$ $\Rightarrow AB^2 + BC^2 = AC (AD + DC)$ $\Rightarrow AB^2 + BC^2 = AC \times AC$

 $\Rightarrow AC^{2} = AB^{2} + BC^{2}$ Hence, $AC^{2} = AB^{2} + BC^{2}$ The converse of the above theorem is also true as proved below.

Theorem 2: (Converse of Pythagoras Theorem).

In a triangle, if the square of one side is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides, then the angle opposite to the side is a right angle.

Given: A triangle ABC such that $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$



Construction: Construct a triangle DEF such that DE = AB, EF = BC and $\angle E = 90^{\circ}$,

Proof: In order to prove that $B = \angle 90^{\circ}$, it is sufficient to show that $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle DEF$. For this we proceed as follows :

Since ΔDEF is a right angled triangle with right angle at E. Therefore, by Pythagoras theorem, we have $DF^2 = DE^2 + EF^2$

⇒ $DF^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$ [: DE = AB and EF = BC (By construction)] ⇒ $DF^2 = AC^2$ [: $AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$ (Given)] ⇒ DF = AC(i) Thus, in ΔABC and ΔDEF , we have AB = DE, BC = EF [By construction] and, AC = DF [From equation (i)] : $\Delta ABC \sim \Delta DEF$ ⇒ $\angle B = \angle E = 90^{\circ}$ Hence, ΔABC is a right triangle right angled at B.

Pythagoras Theorem With Examples

Example 1: Side of a triangle is given, determine it is a right triangle. $(2a - 1) \text{ cm}, 2\sqrt{2a} \text{ cm}, \text{ and } (2a + 1) \text{ cm}$ **Sol.** Let $p = (2a - 1) \text{ cm}, q = 2\sqrt{2a} \text{ cm}$ and r = (2a + 1) cm. Then, $(p^2 + q^2) = (2a - 1)^2 \text{ cm}^2 + (2)^2 \text{ cm}^2$ $= \{(4a^2 + 1 - 4a) + 8a\} \text{ cm}^2$ $= (4a^2 + 4a + 1) \text{ cm}^2$ $= (2a + 1)^2 \text{ cm}^2 = r^2$. $(p^2 + q^2) = r^2$. Hence, the given triangle is right angled.

Example 2: A man goes 10 m due east and then 24 m due north. Find the distance from the starting point.

Sol. Let the initial position of the man be O and his final position be B. Since the man goes 10 m due east and then 24 m due north. Therefore, $\triangle AOB$ is a right triangle right-angled at A such that OA = 10 m and AB = 24 m.

By Phythagoras theorem, we have $OB^2 = OA^2 + AB^2$ $\Rightarrow OB^2 = 10^2 + 24^2 = 100 + 576 = 676$ $\Rightarrow OB = \sqrt{676} = 26 \text{ m}$ Hence, the man is at a distance of 26 m from the starting point.

Example 3: Two towers of heights 10 m and 30 m stand on a plane ground. If the distance between their feet is 15 m, find the distance between their tops. **Sol.**



By Phythagoras theorem, we have $AC^2 = CE^2 + AE^2$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = 15^2 + 20^2 = 225 + 400 = 625$ $\Rightarrow AC = \sqrt{625} = 25 \text{ m.}$

Example 4: In Fig., $\triangle ABC$ is an obtuse triangle, obtuse angled at B. If $AD \perp CB$, prove that $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 + 2BC \times BD$

Sol. Given: An obtuse triangle ABC, obtuse-angled at B and AD is perpendicular to CB produced. **To Prove:** $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 + 2BC \times BD$

Proof: Since $\triangle ADB$ is a right triangle right angled at D. Therefore, by Pythagoras theorem, we have $AB^2 = AD^2 + DB^2$ (i)



Again \triangle ADC is a right triangle right angled at D. Therefore, by Phythagoras theorem, we have $AC^2 = AD^2 + DC^2$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AD^2 + (DB + BC)^2$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AD^2 + DB^2 + BC^2 + 2BC \cdot BD$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 + 2BC \cdot BD$ [Using (i)] Hence, $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 + 2BC \cdot BD$

Example 5: In figure, $\angle B$ of $\triangle ABC$ is an acute angle and $AD \perp BC$, prove that $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 - 2BC \times BD$ **Sol. Given:** A $\triangle ABC$ in which $\angle B$ is an acute angle and $AD \perp BC$.

To Prove: $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 - 2BC \times BD$. **Proof:** Since $\triangle ADB$ is a right triangle right-angled at D. So, by Pythagoras theorem, we have $AB^2 = AD^2 + BD^2$ (i) Again $\triangle ADC$ is a right triangle right angled at D.

So, by Pythagoras theorem, we have $AC^2 = AD^2 + DC^2$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AD^2 + (BC - BD)^2$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AD^2 + (BC^2 + BD^2 - 2BC \cdot BD)$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = (AD^2 + BD^2) + BC^2 - 2BC \cdot BD$ $\Rightarrow AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 - 2BC \cdot BD$ [Using (i)] Hence, $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 - 2BC \cdot BD$ **Example 6:** If ABC is an equilateral triangle of side a, prove that its altitude = $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a$.

Sol. \triangle ABD is an equilateral triangle. We are given that AB = BC = CA = a. AD is the altitude, i.e., AD \perp BC. Now, in right angled triangles ABD and ACD, we have AB = AC(Given) (Common side) and AD = AD $\triangle ABD \cong \triangle ACD$ (By RHS congruence) \Rightarrow BD = CD \Rightarrow BD = DC = $\frac{1}{2}BC$ = $\frac{a}{2}$ B D From right triangle ABD. $AB^2 = AD^2 + BD^2$ $\Rightarrow a^2 = AD^2 + \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2$ $\Rightarrow AD^2 = a^2 - \frac{a^2}{4} = \frac{3}{4}a^2$ $\Rightarrow AD = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}a$

Example 7: ABC is a right-angled triangle, right-angled at A. A circle is inscribed in it. The lengths of the two sides containing the right angle are 5 cm and 12 cm. Find the radius of the circle.

Sol. Given that $\triangle ABC$ is right angled at A. AC = 5 cm and AB = 12 cm BC² = AC² + AB² = 25 + 144 = 169 BC = 13 cm Join OA, OB, OC



Let the radius of the inscribed circle be r Area of $\triangle ABC = Area \text{ of } \triangle OAB + Area \text{ of } \triangle OBC + Area \text{ of } \triangle OCA$ $\Rightarrow 1/2 \times AB \times AC$ $= \frac{1}{2}(12 \times r) + \frac{1}{2}(13 \times r) + \frac{1}{2}(5 \times r)$ $\Rightarrow 12 \times 5 = r \times \{12 + 13 + 5\}$ $\Rightarrow 60 = r \times 30 \Rightarrow r = 2 \text{ cm}$

Example 7: ABCD is a rhombus. Prove that $AB^2 + BC^2 + CD^2 + DA^2 = AC^2 + BD^2$

Sol. Let the diagonals AC and BD of rhombus ABCD intersect at O. Since the diagonals of a rhombus bisect each other at right angles. $\therefore \angle AOB = \angle BOC = \angle COD = \angle DOA = 90^{\circ}$ and AO = CO, BO = OD. Since $\triangle AOB$ is a right triangle right-angle at O.



Example 8: P and Q are the mid-points of the sides CA and CB respectively of a \triangle ABC, right angled at C. Prove that: (i) $4AQ^2 = 4AC^2 + BC^2$

(i) $4AQ^2 = 4AC^2 + BC^2$ (ii) $4BP^2 = 4BC^2 + AC^2$ (iii) $(4AQ^2 + BP^2) = 5AB^2$

Sol.



(i) Since $\triangle AQC$ is a right triangle right-angled at C. $\therefore AQ^2 = AC^2 + QC^2$ $\Rightarrow 4AO^2 = 4AC^2 + 4OC^2$ [Multiplying both sides by 4] $\Rightarrow 4AO^2 = 4AC^2 + (2OC)^2$ $\Rightarrow 4AQ^2 = 4AC^2 + BC^2$ [: BC = 2QC] (ii) Since \triangle BPC is a right triangle right-angled at C. $\therefore BP^2 = BC^2 + CP^2$ $\Rightarrow 4BP^2 = 4BC^2 + 4CP^2$ [Multiplying both sides by 4] $\Rightarrow 4BP^2 = 4BC^2 + (2CP)^2$ $\Rightarrow 4BP^2 = 4BC^2 + AC^2$ [:: AC = 2CP] (iii) From (i) and (ii), we have $4AQ^2 = 4AC^2 + BC^2$ and, $4BC^2 = 4BC^2 + AC^2$ $\therefore 4AQ^2 + 4BP^2 = (4AC^2 + BC^2) + (4BC^2 + AC^2)$ $\Rightarrow 4(AQ^2 + BP^2) = 5(AC^2 + BC^2)$ $\Rightarrow 4(AQ^2 + BP^2) = 5 AB^2$ [In $\triangle ABC$, we have $AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$]

Example 9: From a point O in the interior of a $\triangle ABC$, perpendicular OD, OE and OF are drawn to the sides BC, CA and AB respectively. Prove that : (i) $AF^2 + BD^2 + CE^2 = OA^2 + OB^2 + OC^2 - OD^2 - OE^2 - OF^2$ (ii) $AF^2 + BD^2 + CE^2 = AE^2 + CD^2 + BF^2$

Sol.



Let O be a point in the interior of \triangle ABC and let OD \perp BC, OE \perp CA and OF \perp AB. (i) In right triangles $\triangle OFA$, $\triangle ODB$ and $\triangle OEC$, we have $OA^2 = AF^2 + OF^2$ $OB^2 = BD^2 + OD^2$ and, $OC^2 = CE^2 + OE^2$ Adding all these results, we get $OA^{2} + OB^{2} + OC^{2} = AF^{2} + BD^{2} + CE^{2} + OF^{2} + OD^{2} + OE^{2}$ $\Rightarrow AF^{2} + BD^{2} + CE^{2} = OA^{2} + OB^{2} + OC^{2} - OD^{2} - OE^{2} - OF^{2}$ (ii) In right triangles $\triangle ODB$ and $\triangle ODC$, we have $OB^2 = OD^2 + BD^2$ and, $OC^2 = OD^2 + CD^2$ $OB^2 - OC^2 = (OD^2 + BD^2) - (OD^2 + CD^2)$ $\Rightarrow OB^2 - OC^2 = BD^2 - CD^2$(i) Similarity, we have $OC^2 - OA^2 = CE^2 - AE^2$(ii) and, $OA^2 - OB^2 = AF^2 - BF^2$(iii) Adding (i), (ii) and (iii), we get $(OB^2 - OC^2) + (OC^2 - OA^2) + (OA^2 - OB^2)$ $= (BD^2 - CD^2) + (CE^2 - AE^2) + (AF^2 - BF^2)$ $\Rightarrow (BD^{2} + CE^{2} + AF^{2}) - (AE^{2} + CD^{2} + BF^{2}) = 0$ $\Rightarrow AF^2 + BD^2 + CE^2 = AE^2 + CD^2 + BF^2$

Example 10: In a right triangle ABC right-angled at C, P and Q are the points on the sides CA and CB respectively, which divide these sides in the ratio 2 : 1. Prove that (i) $9 AQ^2 = 9 AC^2 + 4 BC^2$ (ii) 9 BP² = 9 BC² + 4 AC² (iii) 9 (AQ² + BP²) = 13 AB² **Sol.** It is given that P divides CA in the ratio 2 : 1. Therefore, $CP = \frac{2}{3}AC$ (i) Also, Q divides CB in the ratio 2 : 1. $\therefore QC = \frac{2}{3}BC$ (ii)

(i) Applying pythagoras theorem in right-angled triangle ACQ, we have $AQ^2 = QC^2 + AC^2$ $\Rightarrow AQ^2 = \frac{4}{9}BC^2 + AC^2$ [Using (ii)] $\Rightarrow 9 AQ^2 = 4 BC^2 + 9 AC^2$ (iii) (ii) Applying pythagoras theorem in right triangle BCP, we have $BP^2 = BC^2 + CP^2$ $\Rightarrow BP^2 = BC^2 + AC^2$ [Using (i)] $\Rightarrow 9 BP^2 = 9 BC^2 + 4 AC^2$ (iv) (iii) Adding (iii) and (iv), we get $9 (AQ^2 + BP^2) = 13 (BC^2 + AC^2)$ $\Rightarrow 9 (AQ^2 + BP^2) = 13 AB^2 [: BC^2 = AC^2 + AB^2]$

Example 11: In a $\triangle ABC$, $AD \perp BC$ and $AD^2 = BC \times CD$. Prove $\triangle ABC$ is a right triangle. **Sol.**



In right triangles ADB and ADC, we have $AB^2 = AD^2 + BD^2$ (i) and, $AC^2 = AD^2 + DC^2$ (ii) Adding (i) and (ii), we get $AB^2 + AC^2 = 2 AD^2 \times BD^2 + DC^2$ $\Rightarrow AB^2 + AC^2 = 2BD \times CD + BD^2 + DC^2$ [: AD2 = BD × CD (Given)] $\Rightarrow AB^2 + AC^2 = (BD + CD)^2 = BC^2$ Thus, in $\triangle ABC$, we have $AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$ Hence, $\triangle ABC$, is a right triangle right-angled at A.

Example 12: The perpendicular AD on the base BC of a \triangle ABC intersects BC at D so that DB = 3 CD. Prove that $2AB^2 = 2AC^2 + BC^2$.

Sol. We have,

$$A$$

$$B$$

$$D$$

$$C$$

$$BB = 3CD$$

$$BC = BD + DC$$
The perpendicular AD on the base BC of a \triangle ABC intersects BC at D so that DB = 3 CD. Prove that $2AC2 + BC2$.
We have,

$$BB = 3CD$$

$$BC = BD + DC$$

$$BC = BD + DC$$

$$BC = 3 CD + CD$$

$$AB^{2} = AD^{2} + BD^{2}$$

$$(i)$$
Similarly, \triangle ACD is a right triangle right angled at D.

$$AC^{2} = AD^{2} + BD^{2}$$

$$(ii)$$
Similarly, \triangle ACD is a right triangle right angled at D.

$$AC^{2} = AD^{2} + CD^{2}$$

$$(iii)$$
Subtracting equation (iii) from equation (ii) we get

$$AB^{2} - AC^{2} = \frac{(\frac{1}{4}BC)^{2} - (\frac{1}{4}BC)^{2}$$

$$[From (i) CD = \frac{1}{4}BC, BD = \frac{3}{4}BC]$$

$$\Rightarrow AB^{2} - AC^{2} = \frac{1}{4}BC^{2} - \frac{1}{16}BC^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB^{2} - AC^{2} = \frac{1}{4}BC^{2} = \frac{1}{2}C^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(AB^{2} - AC^{2}) = BC^{2}$$

Example 13: ABC is a right triangle right-angled at C. Let BC = a, CA = b, AB = c and let p be the length of perpendicular from C on AB, prove that



$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{ab}{p}\right)^2 = a^2 + b^2 \qquad \left[\because cp = ab \quad \because c = \frac{ab}{p} \right]$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^2b^2}{p^2} = a^2 + b^2$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{a^2 + b^2}{a^2b^2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{a^2}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{p^2} = \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2}$$

Distance Between Two Points

Distance Formula

A General Formula:

What is the distance between two general points with coordinates $A(x_1, y_1)$ and $B(x_2, y_2)$?

The horizontal distance between the points is $x_2 - x_1$.

The vertical distance between the points is $y_2 - y_1$.

Using Pythagoras' Theorem, the square of the distance between the points $A(x_1, y_1)$ and $B(x_2, y_2)$ is

$$(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2$$

The distance between the points $A(x_1, y_1)$ and $B(x_2, y_2)$ is

$$\sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

(1) Distance between two points on X-axis :

The coordinate axes in the coordinate plane can be treated as number lines. If $P(x_1, 0)$ and $Q(x_2, 0)$ are two points on X-axis, the distance between them is taken as $PQ = |x_1-x_2|$ (i)



(2) Distance between two points on Y-axis:

If the points A(0, y_1) and B(0, y_2) are two points on Y-axis, the distance between them is taken as AB = $|y_1-y_2|$ (ii)



(3) Distance between $P(x_1, y_1)$ and $Q(x_2, y_2)$:

Let $P(x_1, y_1)$ and $Q(x_2, y_2)$ be two given points in the coordinate plane. Let M and N be the feet of perpendiculars from $P(x_1, y_1)$ and $Q(x_2, y_2)$ respectively to X-axis.



:. M and N are respectively (x₁, 0) and (x₂, 0). MN = |x₁-x₂|(i) Let R and S be the feet of perpendiculars from P(x₁, y₁) and Q(x₂, y₂) to Y-axis. R and S are respectively (0, y₁) and (0, y₂). RS = |y₁-y₂|(ii) Let PR and QN intersect in T. Clearly in Δ PQT, \angle PTQ is a right angle. Using Pythagoras' theorem we have, PQ² = PT² + QT² = MN² + RS² because QTRS and PTNM are rectangles. Now, by (i) and (ii), we have PQ² = MN² + RS² = |x₁-x₂|² + |y₁-y₂|² = (x₁-x₂)² + (y₁-y₂)² $PQ = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$ Formula (iii) gives the distance between two points whose coordinates are (x₁, x₂)²

Formula (iii) gives the distance between two points whose coordinates are (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) . The distance between the points P and Q is also denoted by d(P, Q).



Here, M = P and N = O. R = O and S = Q. MN = OP = $|x_1-0| = |x_1| = |x_1-y_1|$ (y₁ = 0) RS = OQ = $|0-y_2| = |x_2-y_2|$ (x₂ = 0)

$$PQ = \sqrt{|x_1 - x_2|^2 + |y_1 - y_2|^2} = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$$



[Note : P may lie on Y-axis Here $x_1 = 0$. Here also PS = $|y_1-y_2|$ (P = R) MN = = $|0-x_2| = |x_2-y_2|$ Similarly if P lies on X-axis, the formula remains same.] If PQ is parallel to any axis then $x_1 = x_2$ or $y_1 = y_2$ and formula remains same.

'Distance' is also known as a 'Metric'. Metric plays an important role in all kinds of geometry, including Euclidean geometry. In fact the nature of Metric defines the type of geometry. The following properties of Metric are not only interesting but also very useful.

(1) $d(A, B) = AB \ge 0$ i.e. the distance between two points is a non-negative real number.

(2) d(A, B) = AB = 0, if and only if A = B.

(3) d(A, B) = d(B, A) i.e. AB = BA.

(4) If A(x₁, y₁), B(x₂, y₂), C(x₃, y₃) are three points in coordinate plane, then

 $d(A, B) + d(B, C) \ge d(A, C)$ i.e. $AB + BC \ge AC$.

If, A, B, C are collinear points and A-B-C then, AB + BC = AC.

If, A, B, C are non-collinear points or collinear but B-A-C or A-C-B, then AB + BC > ACThe formula for PQ can also be written as $PQ^2 = (x_1-x_2)^2 + (y_1-y_2)^2$. While solving the examples, this form of distance formula is advantageous. We have to be careful that at the end when we find the distance 'PQ' we have to take the positive square root of the expression for PQ^2 .

Distance Between Two Points With Examples

Example 1: Find the distance between two points (i) P(-6, 7) and Q(-1, -5) (ii) R(a + b, a - b) and S(a - b, -a - b) (iii) $A(at_1^2, 2at_1)$ and $B(at_2^2, 2at_2)$

Sol. (i) Here,
$$x_1 = -6$$
, $y_1 = 7$ and $x_2 = -1$, $y_2 = -5$
 $\therefore PQ = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$
 $\Rightarrow PQ = \sqrt{(-1 + 6)^2 + (-5 - 7)^2}$
 $\Rightarrow PQ = \sqrt{25 + 144} = \sqrt{169} = 13$

(ii) We have,

$$RS = \sqrt{(a - b - a - b)^2 + (-a - b - a + b)^2}$$

 $\Rightarrow RS = \sqrt{4b^2 + 4a^2} = 2\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$

(iii) We have,

$$AB = \sqrt{(at_2^2 - at_1^2)^2 + (2at_2 - 2at_1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = \sqrt{a^2(t_2 - t_1)^2(t_2 + t_1)^2 + 4a^2(t_2 - t_1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = a(t_2 - t_1)\sqrt{(t_2 + t_1)^2 + 4}$$

Example 2: If the point (x, y) is equidistant from the points (a + b, b - a) and (a - b, a + b), prove that bx = ay.

Sol. Let P(x, y), Q(a + b, b - a) and R (a - b, a + b) be the given points. Then
PQ = PR (Given)

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\{x - (a + b)\}^2 + \{y - (b - a)\}^2} = \sqrt{\{x - (a - b)\}^2 + \{y - (a + b)\}^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{x - (a + b)\}^2 + \{y - (b - a)\}^2 = \{x - (a - b)\}^2 + \{y - (a + b)\}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x (a + b) + (a + b)^2 + y^2 - 2y (b - a) + (b - a)^2 = x^2 + (a - b)^2 - 2x(a - b) + y^2 - 2 (a + b)$$

$$+ (a + b)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow -2x (a + b) - 2y (b - a) = -2x (a - b) - 2y (a + b)$$

$$\Rightarrow ax + bx + by - ay = ax - bx + ay + by$$

$$\Rightarrow 2bx = 2ay \Rightarrow bx = ay$$

Then,

Example 3: Find the value of x, if the distance between the points (x, -1) and (3, 2) is 5.

Sol. Let P(x, -1) and Q(3, 2) be the given points,
PQ = 5 (Given)

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{(x-3)^2 + (-1-2)^2} = 5$$

 $\Rightarrow (x-3)^2 + 9 = 5^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 - 6x + 18 = 25 \Rightarrow x^2 - 6x - 7 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (x - 7) (x + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 7 \text{ or } x = -1$

Example 4: Show that the points (a, a), (-a, -a) and ($-\sqrt{3}$ a, $\sqrt{3}$ a) are the vertices of an equilateral triangle. Also find its area.

Sol. Let A (a, a), B(-a, -a) and C(
$$-\sqrt{3}$$
 a, $\sqrt{3}$ a) be the given points. Then, we have

$$AB = \sqrt{(-a-a)^2 + (-a-a)^2} = \sqrt{4a^2 + 4a^2} = 2\sqrt{2}a$$

$$BC = \sqrt{(-\sqrt{3}a + a)^2 + (\sqrt{3}a + a)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow BC = \sqrt{a^2(1-\sqrt{3})^2 + a^2(\sqrt{3} + 1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow BC = a\sqrt{1+3} - 2\sqrt{3} + 1 + 3 + 2\sqrt{3}} = a\sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}a$$
and, $AC = \sqrt{(-\sqrt{3}a - a^2) + (\sqrt{3}a - a)^2}$

$$\Rightarrow AC = \sqrt{a^2(\sqrt{3} + 1) + a^2(\sqrt{3} - 1)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow AC = \sqrt{3} + 1 + 2\sqrt{3} + 3 + 1 - 2\sqrt{3}} = a\sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}a$$
Clearly, we have
AB = BC = AC
Hence, the triangle ABC formed by the given points is an equilateral triangle.
Now,
Area of $\Delta ABC = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$ (side)²

$$\Rightarrow Area of \Delta ABC = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \times AB^2$$

$$\Rightarrow Area of $\Delta ABC = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \times (2\sqrt{2} a)^2$ sq. units = $2\sqrt{3} a^2$ sq. units$$

Example 5: Show that the points (1, -1), (5, 2) and (9, 5) are collinear.

Sol. Let A (1, -1), B (5, 2) and C (9, 5) be the given points. Then, we have Clearly, AC = AB + BC $AB = \sqrt{(5-1)^2 + (2+1)^2} = \sqrt{16+9} = 5$ $BC = \sqrt{(5-9)^2 + (2-5)^2} = \sqrt{16+9} = 5$ $AC = \sqrt{(1-9)^2 + (-1-5)^2} = \sqrt{64+36} = 10$ and,

Hence, A, B, C are collinear points.

Show that four points (0, -1), (6, 7), (-2, 3) and (8, 3) are the vertices of a rectangle. Example 6: Also, find its area.

Sol. Let A (0, -1), B(6, 7), C(-2, 3) and D (8, 3) be the given points. Then,

$$AD = \sqrt{(8-0)^2 + (3+1)^2} = \sqrt{64+16} = 4\sqrt{5}$$

 $BC = \sqrt{(6+2)^2 + (7-3)^2} = \sqrt{64+16} = 4\sqrt{5}$
 $AC = \sqrt{(-2-0)^2 + (3+1)^2} = \sqrt{4+16} = 2\sqrt{5}$
and, $BD = \sqrt{(8-6)^2 + (3-7)^2} = \sqrt{4+16} = 2\sqrt{5}$
 \therefore AD = BC and AC = BD.
So, ADBC is a parallelogram,
 $C(-2, 3)$
 $B(6, 7)$
 $A(0, -1)$
 $D(8, 3)$
 $Now, AB = \sqrt{(6-0)^2 + (7+1)^2} = \sqrt{36+64} = 10$
 $and CD = \sqrt{(8+2)^2 + (3-3)^2} = 10$
 $Clearly, AB^2 = AD^2 + DB^2$ and $CD^2 = CB^2 + BD^2$
Hence, ADBC is a rectangle.
Now, Area of rectangle ADBC = AD × DB

= $(4\sqrt{5} \times 2\sqrt{5})$ sq. units = 40 sq. units

Example 7: If P and Q are two points whose coordinates are (at², 2at) and (a/t², 2a/t) respectively and S is the point (a, 0). Show that $\frac{1}{SP} + \frac{1}{SQ}$ is independent of t.

Sol. We have,

$$SP = \sqrt{(at^2 - a)^2 + (2at - 0)^2}$$

 $= \sqrt{(t^2 - 1)^2 + 4t^2} = a(t^2 + 1)$
and $SQ = \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{t^2} - a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2a}{t} - 0\right)^2}$
 $\Rightarrow SQ = \sqrt{\frac{a^2(1 - t^2)^2}{t^4} + \frac{4a^2}{t^2}}$
 $\Rightarrow SQ = \frac{a}{t^2}\sqrt{(1 - t^2)^2 + 4t^2} = \frac{a}{t^2}\sqrt{(1 + t^2)^2}$
which is independent of t.
 $= \frac{a}{t^2}(1 + t^2)$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{SP} + \frac{1}{SQ} = \frac{1}{a(t^2+1)} + \frac{t^2}{a(t^2+1)}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{SP} + \frac{1}{SQ} = \frac{1+t^2}{a(t^2+1)} = \frac{1}{a}$$

Example 8: If two vertices of an equilateral triangle be (0, 0), $(3, \sqrt{3})$, find the third vertex.

Sol. O(0, 0) and A(3, $\sqrt{3}$) be the given points and let B(x, y) be the third vertex of equilateral ΔOAB . Then, OA = OB = AB



We have,
$$OA^2 = (3 - 0)^2 + (\sqrt{3} - 0)^2 = 12$$
,
 $OB^2 = x^2 + y^2$
and, $AB^2 = (x - 3)^2 + (y - \sqrt{3})^2$
 $\Rightarrow AB^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 6x - 2y + 12$
 $\therefore OA^2 = OB^2 = AB^2$
 $\Rightarrow OA^2 = OB^2$ and $OB^2 = AB^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 12$
and, $x^2 + y^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 6x - 2\sqrt{3}y + 12$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 12$ and $6x + 2\sqrt{3}y = 12$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 12$ and $6x + 2\sqrt{3}y = 6$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + (\frac{6-3x}{\sqrt{3}})^2 = 12$ [$\because 3x + \sqrt{3}y = 6$ $\therefore y = \frac{6-3x}{\sqrt{3}}$]
 $\Rightarrow 3x^2 + (6 - 3x)^2 = 36$
 $\Rightarrow 12x^2 - 36x = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, 3$
 $\therefore x = 0 \Rightarrow \sqrt{3}y = 6$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{6}{\sqrt{3}} = 2\sqrt{3}$ [Putting $x = 0$ in $3x + \sqrt{3}y = 6$]
and, $x = 3 \Rightarrow 9 + \sqrt{3}y = 6$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{6-9}{\sqrt{3}} = -\sqrt{3}$ [Putting $x = 0$ in $3x + \sqrt{3}y = 6$]

Hence, the coordinates of the third vertex B are (0, 2 $\sqrt{3}$) or (3, - $\sqrt{3}$).

Example 9: Find the coordinates of the circumcentre of the triangle whose vertices are (8, 6), (8, – 2) and (2, – 2). Also, find its circum radius.

Sol. Recall that the circumcentre of a triangle is equidistant from the vertices of a triangle. Let A (8, 6), B(8, -2) and C(2, -2) be the vertices of the given triangle and let P (x, y) be the circumcentre of this triangle. Then, PA = PB = PC \Rightarrow PA² = PB² = PC²



Now, $PA^2 = PB^2$ $\Rightarrow (x - 8)^2 + (y - 6)^2 = (x - 8)^2 + (y + 2)^2$ $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - 16x - 12y + 100 = x^2 + y^2 - 16x + 4y + 68$ $\Rightarrow 16y = 32 \Rightarrow y = 2$ and, $PB^2 = PC^2$ $\Rightarrow (x - 8)^2 + (y + 2)^2 = (x - 2)^2 + (y + 2)^2$ $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - 16x + 4y + 68 = x^2 + y^2 - 4x + 4y + 8$ $\Rightarrow 12x = 60 \Rightarrow x = 5$ So, the coordinates of the circumcentre P are (5, 2). Also, Circum-radius = PA = PB = PC $= \sqrt{(5 - 8)^2 + (2 - 6)^2} = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$

Example 10: If the opposite vertices of a square are (1, -1) and (3, 4), find the coordinates of the remaining angular points.

Sol. Let A(1, -1) and C(3, 4) be the two opposite vertices of a square ABCD and let B(x, y) be the third vertex.

D
A(3, 4) B(x, y)
Then, AB = BC

$$\Rightarrow AB^2 = BC^2$$

 $\Rightarrow (x - 1)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = (3 - x)^2 + (4 - y)^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 + 2y + 1 = 9 - 6x + x^2 + 16 - 8y + y^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 + 2y + 1 = 9 - 6x + x^2 + 16 - 8y + y^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 + y^2 + 2y + 2 = x^2 + y^2 - 6x - 8y + 25$
 $\Rightarrow 4x + 10y = 23$
 $\frac{23 - 10y}{4}$ (1)
In right-angled triangle ABC, we have
AB² + BC² = AC²
 $\Rightarrow (x - 3)^2 + (y - 4)^2 + (x - 1)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = (3 - 1)^2 + (4 + 1)^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - 4x - 3y - 1 = 0$ (2)
Substituting the value of x from (1) and (2),
we get
 $\left(\frac{23 - 10y}{4}\right)^2 + y^2 - (23 - 10y) - 3y - 1 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 4y^2 - 12y + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow (2y - 1)(2y - 5) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{5}{2}$
Putting $y = \frac{1}{2}$ and $y = \frac{5}{2}$ respectively in (1) we get

 $x = \frac{9}{2}$ and $x = \frac{-1}{2}$ respectively.

Hence, the required vertices of the square are $\begin{pmatrix} 9\\2 \end{pmatrix}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{2} \end{pmatrix}$

Example 11: Prove that the points (-3, 0), (1, -3) and (4, 1) are the vertices of an isosceles right angled triangle. Find the area of this triangle.

Then,

Sol. Let A (-3, 0), B (1, -3) and C (4, 1) be the given points.

$$AB = \sqrt{\{1 - (-3)\}^2 + (-3 - 0)^2} = \sqrt{16 + 9} = 5$$
 units.
 $BC = \sqrt{(4 - 1)^2 + (1 + 3)^2} = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$ units.
 $CA = \sqrt{(4 + 3)^2 + (1 - 0)^2} = \sqrt{49 + 1} = 5\sqrt{2}$ units.

 $x' + 4(-3,0) + C(4,1)$
 $x' + b + x + x$
 $B(1,3) + y'$

Clearly, AB = BC. Therefore, $\triangle ABC$ is isosceles. Also, $AB^2 + BC^2 = 25 + 25 = (5)^2 = CA^2$ $\Rightarrow \triangle ABC$ is right-angled at B. Thus, $\triangle ABC$ is a right-angled isosceles triangle. Now, Area of $\triangle ABC = \frac{1}{2}$ (Base × Height) $= \frac{1}{2}$ (AB × BC) \Rightarrow Area of $\triangle ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times 5 \times 5$ sq. units $= \frac{25}{2}$ sq. units.

Example 12: If P (2, -1), Q(3, 4), R(-2, 3) and S(-3, -2) be four points in a plane, show that PQRS is a rhombus but not a square. Find the area of the rhombus.

Sol. The given points are P(2, -1), Q(3, 4), R(-2, 3) and S(-3, -2). We have, $PQ = \sqrt{(3-2)^2 + (4+1)^2} = \sqrt{1^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{26} \text{ units}$ $QR = \sqrt{(-2-3)^2 + (3-4)^2} = \sqrt{25+1} = \sqrt{26} \text{ units}$ $RS = \sqrt{(-3+2)^2 + (-2-3)^2} = \sqrt{1+25} = \sqrt{26} \text{ units}$ $SP = \sqrt{(-3-2)^2 + (-2+1)^2} = \sqrt{25+1} = \sqrt{26} \text{ units}$ $PR = \sqrt{(-2-2)^2 + (3+1)^2} = \sqrt{16+16} = 4\sqrt{2} \text{ units}$ $QS = \sqrt{(-3-3)^2 + (-2-4)^2} = \sqrt{36+36} = 6\sqrt{2} \text{ units}$ $\therefore PQ = QR = RS = SP = \text{ units}$ and, PR \neq QS



This means that PQRS is a quadrilateral whose sides are equal but diagonals are not equal. Thus, PQRS is a rhombus but not a square.

Now, Area of rhombus PQRS = $\frac{1}{2}$ × (Product of lengths of diagonals)

⇒ Area of rhombus PQRS = $\frac{1}{2}$ × (PR × QS) ⇒ Area of rhombus PQRS = $(\frac{1}{2} \times 4\sqrt{2} \times 6\sqrt{2})$ sq. units = 24 sq. units

Example 13: Find the coordinates of the centre of the circle passing through the points (0, 0), (-2, 1) and (-3, 2). Also, find its radius.

Sol. Let P (x, y) be the centre of the circle passing through the points O(0, 0), A(-2,1) and B(-3,2). Then, OP = AP = BP



Now,
$$OP = AP \Rightarrow OP^2 = AP^2$$

 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = (x + 2)^2 + (y - 1)^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 4x - 2y + 5$
 $\Rightarrow 4x - 2y + 5 = 0 \dots(1)$
and, $OP = BP \Rightarrow OP^2 = BP^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = (x + 3)^2 + (y - 2)^2$
 $\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 6x - 4y + 13$
 $\Rightarrow 6x - 4y + 13 = 0 \dots(2)$
On solving equations (1) and (2), we get
 $x = \frac{3}{2}$ and $y = \frac{11}{2}$

Thus, the coordinates of the centre are $\left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{11}{2}\right)$

Now, Radius =
$$OP = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{\frac{9}{4} + \frac{121}{4}}$$

= $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{130}$ units.