

★ Derivation of Distance Formula in 2D space

Given: 2 points  $A(x_1, y_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2)$  in 2D space with  $O(0,0)$  as origin.

To Derive: 
$$AB = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

Construction: i) Let us construct dotted lines, i.e., perpendicular lines from B to G, C to F, A to D and C to E such that AF and BE intersect at C.

ii) We have,

$OF = x_1, OG = x_2, OE = y_2, OD = y_1$

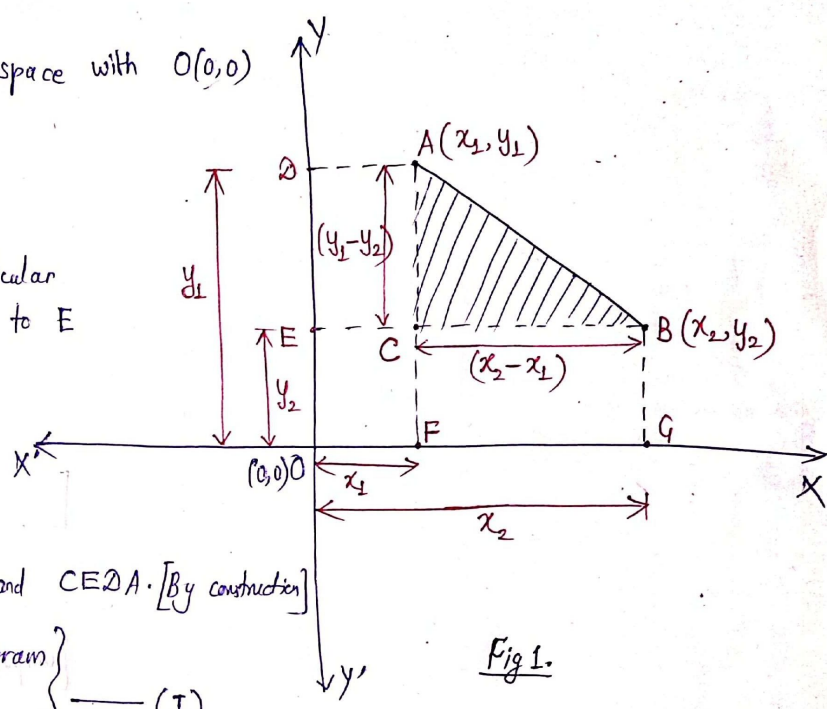


Fig 1.

Derivation:

Since, we have the parallelograms CBGF and CEDA. [By construction]

$$\Rightarrow \begin{matrix} CB = FG \\ \underline{CA} = ED \end{matrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} \text{Opposite sides of parallelogram} \\ \text{are equal} \end{matrix} \right\} \text{--- (I)}$$

From Fig 1 :-

$$FG = OG - OF \quad \text{--- (i)}$$
$$\Rightarrow [FG = x_2 - x_1] \quad \text{--- (ii)} \quad \text{[By construction]}$$

Also,  $DE = OD - OE$

$$\Rightarrow [DE = y_1 - y_2] \quad \text{--- (iii)} \quad \text{[ " ]}$$

From (i), (ii) and (iii) :-

$$CB = FG = (x_2 - x_1) \quad \text{--- (iv)}$$

$$\underline{CA} = DE = (y_1 - y_2) \quad \text{--- (v)}$$

So, we have:  $AC = (y_1 - y_2)$  }  
 $BC = (x_2 - x_1)$  } --- (vi)



Now, In fig 1, We have the right angled  $\triangle ABC$ .

By Pythagoras Theorem:—

$$AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = \sqrt{AC^2 + BC^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = \sqrt{(y_1 - y_2)^2 + (x_2 - x_1)^2} \quad \left\{ \text{from (v)} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = \sqrt{[-(y_2 - y_1)]^2 + (x_2 - x_1)^2} \quad \left\{ \text{Rearranging terms} \right\}$$

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

Hence,  $AB = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$

Derived

