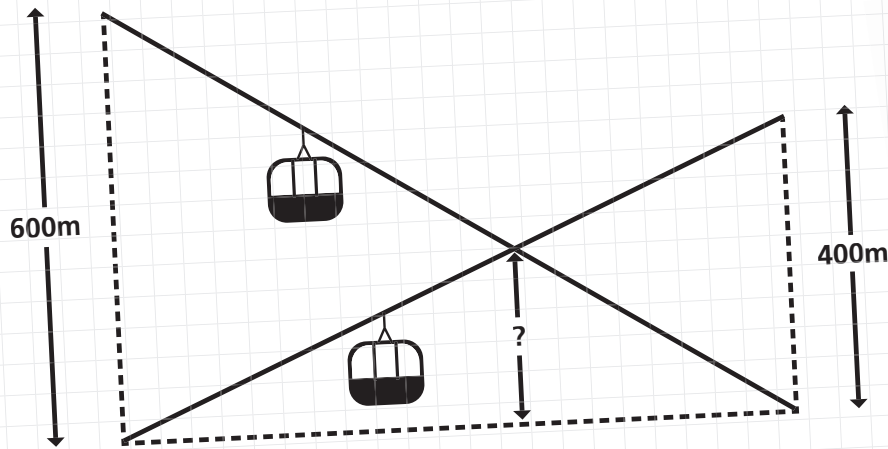


My favourite problem is...



Two straight wires for cable cars are shown in the diagram. One car reaches a vertical height of 600m and the other a vertical height of 400m as shown.

At what height do the wires cross?

From Professor Stewart's Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities by Ian Stewart

It's amazing that the height of the crossing can be calculated at all in this problem, surely it is necessary to know how far apart the two ground level stations are?