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We prove a sharp Rogers-Shephard type inequality for the  $p$ -difference body of a convex body in the two-dimensional case, for every  $p \geq 1$ . More precisely, let  $K$  be a convex body in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ , containing the origin and let  $p \geq 1$ . There exists a constant  $c_p$ , depending on  $p$  only, such that

$$V_2(K +_p (-K)) \leq c_p V_2(K)$$

and equality holds if  $K$  is a triangle with one vertex at the origin. Here  $V_2$  is the two-dimensional volume,  $+_p$  denotes the  $p$ -sum of convex bodies and  $-K$  is the reflected body of  $K$  with respect to the origin.

In the proof of this result we use the so called *parallel chord movements*, which are continuous one-parameter deformations of convex bodies. In particular the main tool in proof of the above inequality is the following fact: if  $K_t$  is a parallel chord movement then the volume of its difference body, i.e.  $V_2(K_t +_p (-K_t))$ , is a convex function of the parameter  $t$ . (Received February 21, 2007)