

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 1 - NOVEMBER 2011 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round**

A) Let  $P(x_1, y_1)$  denote  $z + (i - 2) = (a - 2) + (b + 1)i$ . Then:  $x_1 = a - 2, y_1 = b + 1$

Let  $Q(x_2, y_2)$  denote  $\bar{z} + (1 - i) = (a + 1) + (-b - 1)i$ . Then:  $x_2 = a + 1, y_2 = -b - 1$

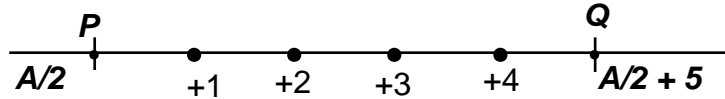
$$PQ = 5 \Rightarrow ((a - 2) - (a + 1))^2 + ((b + 1) - (-b - 1))^2 = 25 \Rightarrow (-3)^2 + (2b + 2)^2 = 25$$

$$\Rightarrow 4(b + 1)^2 = 16 \Rightarrow b = -1 \pm 2 = 1, -3$$

$$|z| \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = 49 \Rightarrow a^2 = 49 - 1 \text{ or } 49 - 9 \Rightarrow a = \underline{\pm 4\sqrt{3}, \pm 2\sqrt{10}}$$

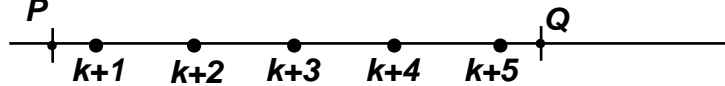
B) If  $0 < 2x - A < 10$ , then the solutions in  $x$  lie strictly between  $A/2$  and  $A/2 + 5$ .

If  $A$  is even, then so are the coordinates of the endpoints  $P$  and  $Q$ . Since this a strict inequality, the endpoints are excluded and there are always 4 integer solutions.



If  $A$  is odd (say  $2k + 1$  for some integer  $k$ ), then the coordinates of the endpoints  $P$  and  $Q$  are

$k + \frac{1}{2}$  and  $k + 5\frac{1}{2}$ . There are 5 integer solutions, namely  $(k + 1) \dots (k + 5)$



Thus, only D and E are true statements.

C)  $x^2 + y^2 = k(2xy)$  Moving all terms to the left side and

dividing both sides by  $y^2$ , we get a quadratic equation in  $\frac{x}{y}$ :

$$\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2 - 2k\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) + 1 = 0$$

Using the quadratic formula,

$$\frac{x}{y} = \frac{2k \pm \sqrt{(2k)^2 - 4}}{2} = k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - 1}.$$

Since  $x > y$ , the required ratio is greater than 1 and

$$\frac{x}{y} = \underline{k + \sqrt{k^2 - 1}}$$

The same result is obtained if  $x^2 - (2ky)x + y^2 = 0$  is treated as a

quadratic in  $x$  and solved for  $x$  in terms of  $k$  and  $y$ . Verify that you get  $x = ky \pm y\sqrt{k^2 - 1}$  and the same result follows.

