

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
CONTEST 4 - JANUARY 2015 SOLUTION KEY**

Team Round - continued

$$E) \triangle TAP \sim \triangle WAD \Rightarrow \frac{\text{short}}{\text{hypot}} = \frac{TP}{DW} = \frac{d}{a} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$$

$$\text{Also, } \frac{\text{long}}{\text{hypot}} = \frac{AP}{AW} = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{a+b}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{a(a+b)}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$$

Therefore, the side of the square $PS = AW - (c + d)$

$$= \sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}} + \frac{a(a+b)}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}} \right)$$

Expressing with a common denominator, this is $\frac{((a+b)^2 + a^2) - a^2 - a(a+b)}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$

Expanding and simplifying the numerator, this is $\frac{b(a+b)}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}}$

Finally, the required ratio is

$$\frac{\text{area}(ABCD)}{\text{area}(PQRS)} = \frac{(a+b)^2}{\left(\frac{b(a+b)}{\sqrt{(a+b)^2 + a^2}} \right)^2} = \frac{(a+b)^2 ((a+b)^2 + a^2)}{b^2 (a+b)^2} = \frac{a^2 + (a+b)^2}{b^2} = 1 + \frac{2(a^2 + ab)}{b^2}$$

$\Rightarrow k = \underline{a^2 + ab}$ or equivalent.

