

2014 AUMC Solutions

1. Logarithms and exponents.

The solutions are $x = 10^5$ and $x = 10^{-5}$. If we take base 10 logs on each side of the equation we get

$$2(\log_{10} x)(\log_{10} x) = 50,$$

so $(\log_{10} x)^2 = 25$ and $\log_{10} x = \pm 5$. Thus $x = 10^5$ or $x = 10^{-5}$.

2. Base b integers.

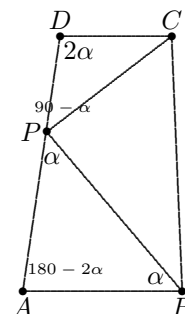
We show that $b = 11$ and $n = 1766$ in base 10. We have $n = b^3 + 3b^2 + 6b + 6$, so $2n = 2b^3 + 6b^2 + 12b + 12$. Also, from the base b representation of $2n$ we have $2n = 2b^3 + 7b^2 + 2b + 1$. Equating the two expressions for $2n$ we get $b^2 - 10b - 11 = 0$; i.e., $(b - 11)(b + 1) = 0$. As b is positive, it follows that in base 10, $b = 11$, and $n = 1 \cdot 11^3 + 2 \cdot 11^2 + 6 \cdot 11 + 6 = 1766$

3. Lists of 2014 words.

It is 1866 . If the lists of A and B have no words in common, then the 114 words removed from A 's list and the 34 removed from B 's list constitute 148 distinct words, all of which had to be removed from C 's list. In this case 1866 words remain on C 's list, and it is clear that this is the smallest number which can remain there.

4. It's a right angle.

Let $\alpha = \angle APB$. Triangle PAB is isosceles with $AP = AB$, so $\angle ABP = \alpha$ also. Then $\angle BAP = 180^\circ - 2\alpha$. Because $CD \parallel AB$, $\angle PDC = 2\alpha$. Triangle PDC is isosceles with $PD = DC$, so angles DPC and DCP are equal, with sum $180^\circ - 2\alpha$, so each is $90^\circ - \alpha$. Then $\angle DPC + \angle APB = (90^\circ - \alpha) + \alpha = 90^\circ$, so $\angle CPB = 90^\circ$.



5. A quadratic with real roots.

Because r and s are solutions, $r^2 = ar - a$ and $s^2 = as - a$, so $r^2 + s^2 = a(r + s) - 2a$. But $r + s = a$ (the coefficient of x is the sum of the roots), so $r^2 + s^2 = a^2 - 2a$. Finally, because the roots are real, the discriminant is non-negative; i.e., $a^2 - 4a \geq 0$. Thus $a^2 \geq 4a$, and

$$r^2 + s^2 = a^2 - 2a \geq 4a - 2a = 2a = 2(r + s).$$

6. Floor function equation.

There are $\boxed{167}$ solutions. Because $\lfloor x \rfloor \leq x$ for all x , with equality if and only if x is an integer, the left member is smaller than the right unless all three of $n/2$, $n/3$ and $n/4$ are integers. This is the case if and only if n is a multiple of 12, and there are 167 multiples of 12 in the range from 1 to 2014.

7. Integral inequality.

For t in the interval $(5, 10)$, we have $t^2 - 24 > 0$, so

$$0 < \frac{t^3}{t^7 + t^2 - 24} < \frac{t^3}{t^7} = \frac{1}{t^4}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &< \int_5^{10} \frac{t^3 dt}{t^7 + t^2 - 24} < \int_5^{10} t^{-4} dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{10^3} - \frac{1}{5^3} \right) = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{2^3}{10^3} - \frac{1}{10^3} \right) \\ &= \frac{7}{3 \cdot 10^3} < (2.5)10^{-3} = .0025. \end{aligned}$$

8. Coefficient of x^2 , with constant term 2014.

The only value of k which satisfies these conditions is $\boxed{k = 23}$. Let the four roots be r, s, t, u , with $rs = -53$. Then $rstu = -2014$, so $tu = 38$. We also have

$$-1976 = rst + rsu + rtu + stu = rs(t + u) + tu(r + s) = -53(t + u) + 38(r + s),$$

and $39 = r + s + t + u$, so if $p = r + s$ and $q = t + u$ we have $-1976 = 38p - 53q$ and $p + q = 39$. These two linear equations yield $p = 1$ and $q = 38$. Finally, then,

$$k = rs + rt + ru + st + su + tu = -53 + (r + s)(t + u) + 38 = -15 + (1)(38) = 23.$$

9. The square of an integer.

The values are $n = -3, -8, -11$ and -16 . Here is one way to find them. The following equations are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 + 19n + 97 &= m^2 = (n + k)^2; \\ \left(n + \frac{19}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{27}{4} &= (n + k)^2; \\ \frac{27}{4} &= (n + k)^2 - \left(n + \frac{19}{2}\right)^2 = \left(k - \frac{19}{2}\right)\left(2n + k + \frac{19}{2}\right); \\ (2k - 19)(4n + 2k + 19) &= 27. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $2k - 19$ must be one of $\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9, \pm 27$.

If $2k - 19 = 1$ then $k = 10$, $4n + 2k + 19 = 27$, and $n = -3$, in which case $n^2 + 19n + 97 = 49 = 7^2$. Checking the other possibilities similarly leads to the following table of results:

$2k - 19$	k	n	$n^2 + 19n + 97$
1	10	-3	49
-1	9	-16	49
3	11	-8	9
-3	8	-11	9
9	14	-11	9
-9	5	-8	9
27	23	-16	49
-27	-4	-3	49

(1)
10. A global minimum.

The minimum value of $f(x)$ is -2 . Substitute $\cos 2x = 2\cos^2 x - 1$ to obtain

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4x \cos x + 4\cos^2 x - 2 = (x - 2\cos x)^2 - 2.$$

From this it is clear that $f(x) \geq -2$ for all real x . We show that the value -2 occurs, and therefore it is the minimum value. If $g(x) = x - 2\cos x$, then $g(0) = -2$ and $g(\pi/2) = \pi/2$, so by the Intermediate Value Theorem for the continuous function g we conclude that $g(x) = 0$ for some x between 0 and $\pi/2$. At this x we have $f(x) = -2$, which is therefore the minimum value.