

2023 AMC 12B Problem 16

In Coinland, there are three types of coins, each worth 6, 10, and 15. What is the sum of the digits of the maximum amount of money that is impossible to have?

- (A) 8 (B) 10 (C) 7 (D) 11 (E) 9

Solution I: During Test

Key Word Pattern Recognition

The method is to utilize the fact that when a number could form with 6, 10 and 15, numbers formed by adding multiples of 6 to the initial number also could form. Number "6" was chosen to minimize the range of period of the pattern.

Choose an arbitrary integer 20.

$20 + 6k$ is valid.

$21 + 6k$ is valid.

$22 + 6k$ is valid.

23 is not valid.

$24 + 6k$ is valid.

$25 + 6k$ is valid.

It is likely that $23 + 6k$ produces the maximum amount of money that is impossible to have. 29 is impossible to have. However, from 35, moneys could form. Therefore, $2 + 9 = \boxed{11}$.

Solution II: Generalizing Method

Key Word Forming a Generalized Relationship

Let a, b and c be the number of coins that worth 6, 10 and 13 respectively. If $6a + 10b + 15c = k$, then $6(a+1) + 10(b-2) + 15(c+1) = k+1$. The following represents the relationship between an arbitrary triple of (a, b, c) .

$$(1, 6, 2) \rightarrow (2, 4, 3) \rightarrow (3, 2, 4) \rightarrow (4, 0, 5) \leftarrow (0, 10, 0) \leftarrow (1, 8, 1) \leftarrow (2, 6, 2)$$

96	97	98	99	100	101	102
----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

By induction, it is evident that all natural numbers greater than or equal to 96 may form. Because a limit is given, same method used in Solution I may be utilized to obtain $\boxed{(D) 11}$.

2023 AMC 12B Problem 18

Last academic year Yolanda and Zelda took different courses that did not necessarily administer the same number of quizzes during each of the two semesters. Yolanda's average on all the quizzes she took during the first semester was 3 points higher than Zelda's average on all the quizzes she took during the first semester. Yolanda's average on all the quizzes she took during the second semester was 18 points higher than her average for the first semester and was again 3 points higher than Zelda's average on all the quizzes Zelda took during her second semester. Which one of the following statements cannot possibly be true?

- (A) Yolanda's quiz average for the academic year was 22 points higher than Zelda's.
- (B) Zelda's quiz average for the academic year was higher than Yolanda's.
- (C) Yolanda's quiz average for the academic year was 3 points higher than Zelda's.
- (D) Zelda's quiz average for the academic year equaled Yolanda's.
- (E) If Zelda had scored 3 points higher on each quiz she took, then she would have had the same average for the academic year as Yolanda.

Solution

Key Word Property of Fraction

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Yolanda's 1st Semester Average} &= \frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n}{n} \\ \text{Yolanda's 2nd Semester Average} &= \frac{a'_1 + \dots + a'_n}{n'} \\ \text{Zelda's 1st Semester Average} &= \frac{b_1 + \dots + b_m}{m} \\ \text{Zelda's 2nd Semester Average} &= \frac{b'_1 + \dots + b'_m}{m'}. \end{aligned}$$

According to the problem, $\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n}{n} + 18 = \frac{a'_1 + \dots + a'_n}{n'}$. Moreover, $\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n}{n} = \frac{b_1 + \dots + b_m}{m} + 3$ and $\frac{a'_1 + \dots + a'_n}{n'} = \frac{b'_1 + \dots + b'_m}{m'} + 3$ are true. In another words,

$$\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n}{n} = \frac{a'_1 + \dots + a'_n - 18n'}{n'} = \frac{b_1 + \dots + b_m + 3m}{m} = \frac{b'_1 + \dots + b'_m - 15m'}{m'}.$$

The relationship leads to

$$\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n + a'_1 + \dots + a'_n - 18n'}{n + n'} = \frac{b_1 + \dots + b_m + b'_1 + \dots + b'_m + 3m - 15m'}{m + m'}, \text{ or}$$

$$\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_n + a'_1 + \dots + a'_n}{n + n'} - \frac{18n'}{n' + n} - \frac{3m}{m + m'} + \frac{15m'}{m + m'} = \frac{b_1 + \dots + b_m + b'_1 + \dots + b'_m}{m + m'}.$$

For choice (A) to be true, $-\frac{18n'}{n' + n} - \frac{3m}{m + m'} + \frac{15m'}{m + m'}$ must be -22 .

Let $n' = kn$ and $m' = k'm$.

$$-\frac{18n'}{n' + n} - \frac{3m}{m + m'} + \frac{15m'}{m + m'} = -\frac{18kn}{n(k+1)} - \frac{3m}{m(k'+1)} + \frac{15k'm}{m(k'+1)} = -\frac{18kn}{n(k+1)} + \frac{3m(5k' - 1)}{m(k'+1)}$$

n, n', m, m', k and k' must be non-zero integer to satisfy the condition in the question. While the equation above is a multiple of three, 22 is not. Therefore, choice (A) cannot be true. \square

2023 AMC 12B Problem 20

Cyrus the frog jumps 2 units in a direction, then 2 more in another direction. What is the probability that he lands less than 1 unit away from his starting position?

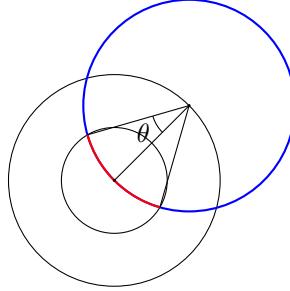
- (A) $\frac{1}{6}$ (B) $\frac{1}{5}$ (C) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{8}$ (D) $\frac{\arctan \frac{1}{2}}{\pi}$ (E) $\frac{2 \arcsin \frac{1}{4}}{\pi}$

Solution

Key Word Law of Cosines, Inverse Trigonometric Identities

WLOG, the probability that Cyrus lands less than 1 unit away from the starting position is

$$\frac{\text{Length of Red Curve}}{\text{Length of Red Curve} + \text{Length of Blue Curve}}.$$



The length of blue curve and red curve is the circumference of a circle with radius of 2, or 4π . The length of the red curve may be found by computing the value of θ , where θ is in radians for convenience. Using Law of Cosines, $\cos \theta = \frac{2^2+2^2-1^2}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2} = \frac{7}{8}$. Using a right triangle with lengths 7, 8 and $\sqrt{15}$, it is evident that $\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Probability} &= \frac{4\pi \cdot \frac{2\theta}{2\pi}}{4\pi} \\ &= \frac{\theta}{\pi}\end{aligned}$$

Assume (E) is the correct answer. If $\arcsin \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} = 2 \arcsin \frac{1}{4}$ is true, choice (E) is the answer.

$$\begin{aligned}\arcsin \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} &= 2 \arcsin \frac{1}{4} \\ \sin \left(\arcsin \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} \right) &= \sin \left(2 \arcsin \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} &= 2 \cdot \sin \left(\arcsin \frac{1}{4} \right) \cdot \cos \left(\arcsin \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} &= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{1}{4} \right)^2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8} &= \frac{\sqrt{15}}{8}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the probability that Cyrus lands less than 1 unit away from his starting position is

(E) $\frac{2 \arcsin \frac{1}{4}}{\pi}$

□