

Q1(1):

$$\log_3 6 - \log_9 x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\log_3 6 - \frac{1}{2} \log_3 x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\log_3 6^2 - \log_3 x = 1$$

$$\log_3 \frac{36}{x} = 1$$

$$\frac{36}{x} = 3$$

$$x = \boxed{12}$$

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Q1(2):

If  $\alpha + \beta = \frac{\pi}{4}$ , then  $\beta = \frac{\pi}{4} - \alpha$ .

We have  $\tan \beta = \tan(\frac{\pi}{4} - \alpha) = \frac{\tan \frac{\pi}{4} - \tan \alpha}{1 + \tan \frac{\pi}{4} \tan \alpha} = \frac{1 - \tan \alpha}{1 + \tan \alpha}$ .

Therefore,  $(\tan \alpha + 1)(\tan \beta + 1) = (\tan \alpha + 1)(\frac{2}{\tan \alpha + 1}) = \boxed{2}$ .

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Q1(3):

When  $x + y = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , we have  $y = \frac{2\pi}{3} - x$ .

Then,  $\sin y = \sin(\frac{2\pi}{3} - x) = \sin \frac{2\pi}{3} \cos x - \sin x \cos \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{1}{2} \sin x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x$ .

Moreover,  $\sin x + \sin y = \frac{3}{2} \sin x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x$

$= \sqrt{3}(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \cos x) = \sqrt{3} \sin(x + \frac{\pi}{6})$ .\*

For  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , the maximum of the expression is  $\boxed{\sqrt{3}}$  and the minimum is  $\boxed{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}$ .

(\*: Search for how to express  $a \sin \theta + b \cos \theta$  in a form of  $R \sin(\theta + \alpha)$ .)

**Alternative** We have the expression is equal to  $\frac{3}{2} \sin x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x$ .

Consider the derivative,  $\frac{3}{2} \cos x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x$ . To find the extremum, we set the derivative to be 0. Then, for  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , we have  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .

Consider the second derivative,  $-\frac{3}{2} \sin x - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos x$ , which valued less than 0 when  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ . Therefore, the expression takes maximum when  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .

Check the boundaries:

When  $x = 0$ , the expression is valued  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .

When  $x = \frac{2\pi}{3}$ , the expression is valued  $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .

Given the above, the maximum of the expression is  $\boxed{\sqrt{3}}$  and the minimum is  $\boxed{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}$ .

Q1(4):

As  $M = 2 \implies N = 2$ , we have  $N \neq 2 \implies M \neq 2$ , i.e. if  $N = 1$  then  $M = 1$ .

Therefore the conclusion 1 is true.

The conclusions 2 and 3 are false as there is a counter example 211.

Therefore, the answer is  $\boxed{1}, \boxed{0}, \boxed{0}$ .

Q1(5):

Denote the upper point in the middle as  $A$  and the lower point as  $B$ .

By counting directly, there are 2 routes from  $L$  to  $A$  and 3 routes from  $L$  to  $B$ .

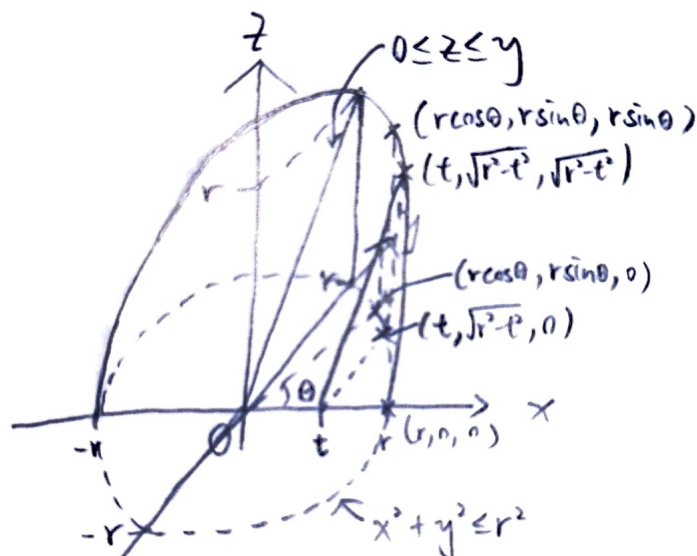
On the other hand, there are 3 routes from  $A$  to  $R$  and 2 routes from  $B$  to  $R$ .

The total number of routes from  $L$  to  $R$  is  $2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 2 = \boxed{12}$ .

(Note: There are many ways to count the number of routes. Here I suggested a way that will make mistake less easily.)

Q2:

Refer to the sketch:



(1): Note that the intersection region is a triangle.

The plane  $x = t$  cut the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$  on the  $x$ - $y$  plane with  $y$ -coordinate  $\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}$ . Therefore, the base length of the triangle is  $\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}$ .

Moreover, as  $C$  is bounded by  $z \leq y$ , in the space, when the x-coordinate is  $t$  and y-coordinate is  $\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}$ , it represents a straight line joining  $(t, \sqrt{r^2 - t^2}, 0)$  and  $(t, \sqrt{r^2 - t^2}, \sqrt{r^2 - t^2})$ . Therefore, the hight of the triangle is  $\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}$ .

Given the above, the area of the intersection is  $\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{r^2 - t^2})(\sqrt{r^2 - t^2}) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}(r^2 - t^2)}$ .

(2): The volume of  $C$  equals to the integral of its cross section area over the bounaries.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, we have the volume} &= \int_{-r}^r \left( \frac{1}{2}(r^2 - t^2) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ r^2 t - \frac{1}{3} t^3 \right]_{-r}^r \\ &= \boxed{\frac{2}{3} r^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(3): Note that  $\theta$  represents the angle of the arc from  $(r, 0, 0)$  to  $(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, 0)$ .

As  $\theta$  is in radian measure, by definition, we have  $a = \boxed{r\theta}$ .

Moreover,  $b = \boxed{r \sin \theta}$  as it is a straight line parallel to the z-axis.

(4): We separate the side of  $C$  into  $n$  parts with respect to  $\theta$ . Let  $A_i$  be the area of the  $i$ th part from  $\theta = 0$  to  $\theta = \pi$ . Moreover, let  $a_i$  be the arc length and of the  $i$ th part and let  $b_i^+, b_i^-$  be the height of the  $i$ th part measured closer to the  $\theta = \pi$  side and the  $\theta = 0$  side respectively. Then, we have:

$$a_i b_i^- \leq A_i \leq a_i b_i^+$$

By the results in (2),  $a_i = r \left( \frac{i\pi}{n} - \frac{(i-1)\pi}{n} \right) = r \frac{\pi}{n}$ ,

$b_i^+ = r \sin \left( \frac{i\pi}{n} \right)$  and  $b_i^- = r \sin \left( \frac{(i-1)\pi}{n} \right)$ .

Therefore,

$$r^2 \sin \left( \frac{(i-1)\pi}{n} \right) \frac{1}{n} = \left( r \frac{\pi}{n} \right) \left( r \sin \left( \frac{(i-1)\pi}{n} \right) \right) \leq A_i \leq \left( r \frac{\pi}{n} \right) \left( r \sin \left( \frac{i\pi}{n} \right) \right) = r^2 \sin \left( \frac{i\pi}{n} \right) \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (r^2 \sin(\frac{(i-1)\pi}{n}) \frac{1}{n}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n A_n \leq \sum_{i=1}^n (r^2 \sin(\frac{i\pi}{n}) \frac{1}{n})$$

By taking  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we have the required area  $= \int_0^\pi r^2 \sin \theta d\theta$

$$= r^2 [-\cos \theta]_0^\pi$$

$$= \boxed{2r^2}.$$

(Note: Here I used the Riemann sum for precision, as no steps are required in the exam, one can evaluate  $\int_0^\pi r \sin \theta d(r\theta)$  directly for the area without proof. However, note that  $\int_0^\pi r \sin \theta d\theta$  is wrong as  $d\theta$  is not the arc length we demanded for calculating the area.)

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Q3:

$$(1): f^n(x) = f(f^{n-1}(x)) = af^{n-1}(x) + b.$$

To solve the recurrence, we suppose  $f^n(x) - k = a(f^{n-1}(x) - k)$ . Then, we have

$$k = \frac{b}{1-a}.$$

Therefore, we have  $f^n(x) - \frac{b}{1-a} = a^{n-1}(f^1(x) - \frac{b}{1-a})$ , i.e.

$$f^n(x) = a^{n-1}(ax + b - \frac{b}{1-a}) + \frac{b}{1-a} = \boxed{a^n x + \frac{(a^n - 1)b}{a - 1}}.$$

$$(2): \frac{f^n(x) - f^{n-1}(x)}{a^n} = \frac{a^n x + \frac{(a^n - 1)b}{a - 1} - a^{n-1}x - \frac{(a^{n-1} - 1)b}{a - 1}}{a^n}$$

$$= (1 - \frac{1}{a})x + \frac{(1 - \frac{1}{a})b}{a - 1}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{a-1}{a}x + \frac{b}{a}}.$$

$$(3): \text{Solving } ax + b = \frac{a-1}{a}x + \frac{b}{a}, \text{ we have } x = \frac{b(1-a)}{a^2 - a + 1}, \text{ i.e. } x_n = \boxed{\frac{b(1-a)}{a^2 - a + 1}}.$$

$$\text{Substitute it into } y = ax + b, \text{ we have } y_n = \boxed{\frac{-b}{a^2 - a + 1}}.$$

$$(4): \text{As } -1 < a < 1, \text{ we have } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a^n = 0.$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a^n x + \frac{(a^n - 1)b}{a - 1}) = \boxed{\frac{b}{1 - a}}.$