

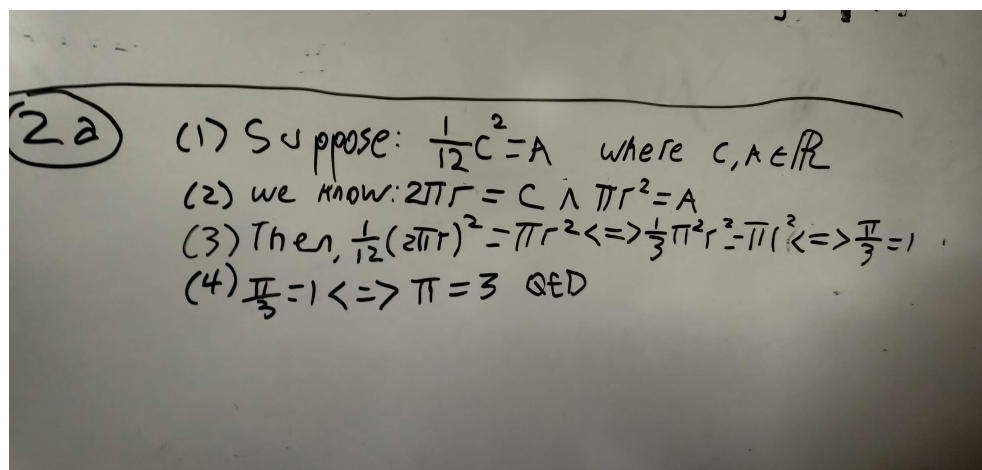
MATH4350

Homework Assignment

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2a. The Babylonians generally determined the area of a circle by taking it as equal to $\frac{1}{12}$ the square of the circle's circumference. Show that this is equivalent to letting $\pi = 3$.

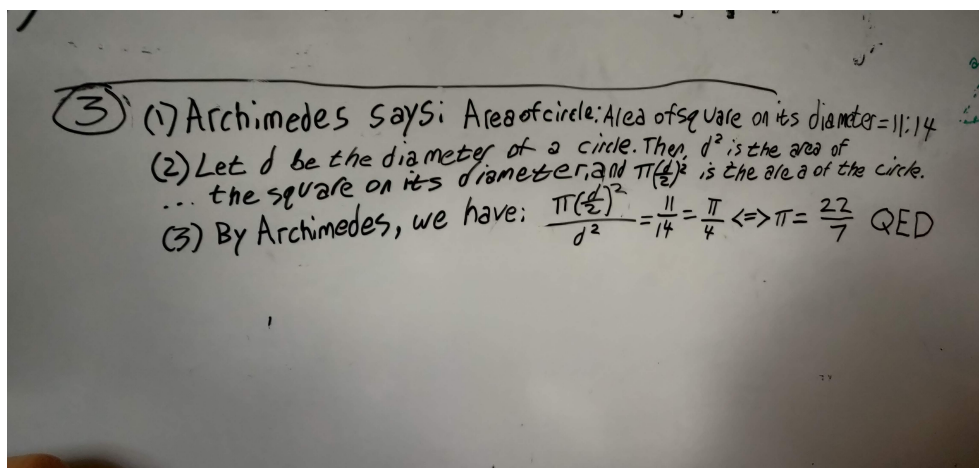


2b. A Babylonian tablet excavated in 1936 asserts that when a more accurate determination of area is needed, the $\frac{1}{12}$ should be multiplied by 0;57,36, that is, by $\frac{24}{25}$. What value for π does this correction factor yield?

Handwritten solution for problem 2b:

$$\begin{aligned} (2b) \quad (1) & \text{ Suppose } \left(\frac{24}{25} \cdot \frac{1}{12}\right) C^2 = A \\ (2) & \text{ we know: } C = 2\pi r \wedge A = \pi r^2 \\ (3) & \frac{24}{25} \cdot \frac{1}{12} \cdot \frac{24}{300} = \frac{2}{25} \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{24}{25} \cdot \frac{1}{12}\right) C^2 = A \Leftrightarrow \frac{2}{25} (2\pi r)^2 = \pi r^2 \\ (4) & \frac{8}{25} \pi^2 r^2 = \pi r^2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{8\pi}{25} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \pi = \frac{25}{8} = 3.125 \text{ QED} \end{aligned}$$

3. Archimedes (about 287–212 B.C.) in his book *Measurement of a Circle* stated: The area of a circle is to the square on its diameter as 11 to 14. Show that this geometric rule leads to $\frac{22}{7}$ for the value of π .



4. The sixth-century Hindu mathematician Aryabhata had the following procedure for finding the area of a circle: Half the circumference multiplied by half the diameter is the area of a circle. How accurate is this rule?

(4) (1) Aryabhata says: $A = \left(\frac{c}{2}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)$ where:

(2) we know: $A = \pi r^2$

(3) $c = 2\pi r$ and $d = 2r$, so $A = \left(\frac{2\pi r}{2}\right) \left(\frac{2r}{2}\right)$

(4) Then, $A = (\pi r)(r) = \pi r^2$, which is ... exactly the area of a circle.

