SI	a	2	I1	a	6	12	\boldsymbol{A}	$\frac{5}{16}$	13	а	6	I4	а	8	15	\boldsymbol{A}	1
	b	54		b	12		B	60		b	*9 see the remarks		b	10		В	36
	c	2		c	10		C	15		c	16		c	3		C	$\frac{1}{2}$
	d	1		d	20		D	68		d	48		d	203		D	50

Group Events

SG	a	19	G6	a	$4, \frac{1}{2}$	G7	a	24	G8	a	56	G9	A	2	G10	a	10
	b	8		b	16		b	1024		b	83		В	1		b	$\sqrt{37}$
	c	$\frac{1}{50}$		c	$\frac{3}{7}$		c	2		c	256		C	4		c	$\frac{1}{16}$
	d	200		d	186		d	-1		d	711040		D	9		d	4

Sample Individual Event (1985 Final Sample Individual Event)

SI.1 The sum of two numbers is 40, their product is 20.

If the sum of their reciprocals is a, find the value of a.

Let the two numbers be x, y.

$$x + y = 40$$
; $xy = 20$

$$a = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}$$

$$=\frac{x+y}{xy}=\frac{40}{20}$$

$$= 2$$

SI.2 If $b \text{ cm}^2$ is the total surface area of a cube of side (a+1) cm, find the value of b.

$$b = 6(2+1)^2 = 54$$

SI.3 One ball is taken at random from a bag containing (b-4) white balls and (b+46) red balls.

If $\frac{c}{6}$ is the probability that the ball is white, find the value of c.

There are 50 white balls and 100 red balls.

P(white ball) =
$$\frac{50}{150} = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{c}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 2$$

SI.4 The length of a side of an equilateral triangle is c cm.

If its area is $d\sqrt{3}$ cm², find the value of d.

$$\frac{1}{2}(2)^2 \sin 60^\circ = d\sqrt{3}$$

$$\sqrt{3} = d\sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 1$$

I1.1 The equation $x^2 - ax + (a + 3) = 0$ has equal roots. Find a, if a is a positive integer.

$$\Delta = (-a)^2 - 4(a+3) = 0$$

$$a^2 - 4a - 12 = 0$$

$$(a-6)(a+2)=0$$

$$a = 6$$
 or $a = -2$ (rejected)

I1.2 In a test, there are 20 questions. *a* marks will be given to a correct answer and 3 marks will be deducted for each wrong answer. A student has done all the 20 questions and scored 48 marks. Find *b*, the number of questions that he has answered correctly.

Reference: 1998 HG10

$$6b - 3(20 - b) = 48$$

$$9b = 108$$

$$\Rightarrow b = 12$$

I1.3 If x: y = 2: 3, x: z = 4: 5, y: z = b: c, find the value of c.

$$x:y:z=4:6:5$$

$$y: z = 6: 5 = 12: 10$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 10$$

I1.4 Let P(x, d) be a point on the straight line x + y = 22 such that the slope of OP equals to c (O is the origin). Determine the value of d.

Reference: 1993 FI3.2

$$x + d = 22$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 22 - d$$

$$m_{OP} = \frac{d}{x} = c$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{22-d} = 10$$

$$d = 220 - 10d$$

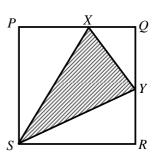
$$\Rightarrow d = 20$$

I2.1 In square *PQRS*, *Y* is the mid-point of the side *QR* and $PX = \frac{3}{4}PQ$. *P*

If A is the ratio of the area of the shaded triangle to the area of the square, find A.

Let
$$PQ = 4x$$
, $PX = 3x$, $QX = x$, $QY = YR = 2x$

$$A = \frac{(4x)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4x(3x) - \frac{1}{2} \cdot x(2x) - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4x(2x)}{(4x)^2}$$



$$=\frac{5}{16}$$

I2.2 A man bought a number of ping-pong balls where a 16A% sales tax is added. If he did not have to pay tax he could have bought 3 more balls for the same amount of money. If B is the total number of balls that he bought, find B.

Let the price of 1 ping-pong ball be x. Sales tax = 5%

$$Bx(1+5\%) = (B+3)x$$

$$\frac{21}{20}B = B + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 21 $B = 20B + 60$

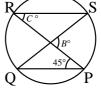
$$\Rightarrow B = 60$$

12.3 Refer to the diagram, find *C*.

$$\angle PQS = C^{\circ}$$
 (\angle s in the same segment)

$$C + 45 = B \text{ (ext. } \angle \text{ of } \Delta)$$

$$C = 60 - 45 = 15$$



I2.4 The sum of 2C consecutive even numbers is 1170. If D is the largest of them, find D.

$$\frac{30}{2} [2D + (30 - 1) \cdot (-2)] = 1170$$

$$\Rightarrow D = 68$$

I3.1 If 183a8 is a multiple of 287, find the value of a.

$$287 = 7 \times 41$$
 and $2614 \times 7 = 18298$
 $183a8 - 18298 = 10(a + 1)$, a multiple of 7

$$a = 6$$

Method 2 The quotient $\frac{183a8}{287}$ should be a two digit number.

The first digit of $\frac{183}{3}$ (approximate value) is 6. The last digit must be 4 (: $7\times4=28$)

$$\therefore 287 \times 64 = 18368$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 6$$

I3.2 The number of positive factors of a^2 is b, find the value of b.

Reference 1993 HI8, 1997 HI3, 1998 HI10, 1998 FI1.4, 2002 FG4.1, 2005 FI4.4

Remark: The original question is: The number of factors of $a^2 \cdots$, which may include negative factors.

$$6^2 = 2^2 \times 3^2$$

Factors of 36 are in the form $2^x \times 3^y$, where $0 \le x \le 2$, $0 \le y \le 2$.

The number of factors = (1 + 2)(1 + 2) = 9

I3.3 In an urn, there are c balls, b of them are either black or red, (b + 2) of them are either red or white and 12 of them are either black or white. Find the value of c.

Suppose there are *x* black balls, *y* red balls, *z* white balls.

$$x + y = 9 \dots (1)$$

$$y + z = 11 \dots (2)$$

$$z + x = 12 \dots (3)$$

$$(1) + (2) + (3)$$
: $2(x + y + z) = 32$

$$c = x + y + z = 16$$

I3.4 Given f(3 + x) = f(3 - x) for all values of x, and the equation f(x) = 0 has exactly c distinct roots. Find d, the sum of these roots.

Reference: 2010 FG3.4

Let one root be $3 + \alpha$.

$$f(3 + \alpha) = 0 = f(3 - \alpha)$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 3 – α is also a root.

$$3 + \alpha + 3 - \alpha = 6$$

 \therefore Sum of a pair of roots = 6

There are 16 roots, i.e. 8 pairs of roots

Sum of all roots = $8 \times 6 = 48$

I4.1 The remainder when $x^6 - 8x^3 + 6$ is divided by (x - 1)(x - 2) is 7x - a, find a.

Let
$$f(x) = x^6 - 8x^3 + 6$$

$$f(1) = 1 - 8 + 6 = 7 - a$$

$$a = 8$$

I4.2 If $x^2 - x + 1 = 0$ and $b = x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x + a$, find b.

$$b = x(x^2 - x + 1) - 2(x^2 - x + 1) + 10$$

= 10

I4.3 Refer to the diagram, find c.

Reference: 1989 FG10.2

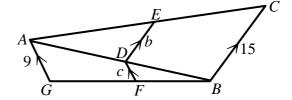
$$\triangle ADE \sim \triangle ABC, AD : AB = 10 : 15 = 2 : 3$$

$$AD : DB = 2 : 1$$

$$BD : AB = 1 : 3$$

$$\triangle BDF \sim \triangle BAG$$
, $c:9=1:3$

$$c = 3$$



I4.4 If c boys were all born in June 1990 and the probability that their birthdays are all different is

$$\frac{d}{225}$$
, find the value of d.

P(3 boys were born in different days) =
$$1 \times \frac{29}{30} \times \frac{28}{30} = \frac{d}{225}$$

$$d = 203$$

I5.1 Given $1 - \frac{4}{x} + \frac{4}{x^2} = 0$. If $A = \frac{2}{x}$, find the value of A.

Reference: 1999 FI5.2

$$\left(1 - \frac{2}{x}\right)^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{2}{x} = 1$$

I5.2 If B circular pipes each with an internal diameter of A cm carry the same amount of water as a pipe with an internal diameter 6 cm, find the value of B.

$$\pi(1)^2 \cdot B = \pi(6)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow B = 36$$

I5.3 If C is the area of the triangle formed by x-axis, y-axis and the line Bx + 9y = 18, find the value of C.

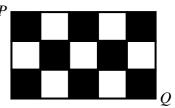
Reference: 1990 FI3.3

$$36x + 9y = 18$$

$$x$$
-intercept = $\frac{1}{2}$, y -intercept = 2

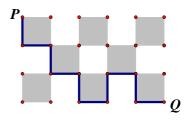
$$C = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

I5.4 Fifteen square tiles with side 10C units long are arranged as P shown. An ant walks along the edges of the tiles, always keeping a black tile on its left. Find the shortest distance D that the ant would walk in going from P to Q.



Length of a square = 10C = 5

As shown in the figure, D = 10(10C) = 50



Answers: (1993-94 HKMO Final Events) Created by: Mr. Francis Hung

Last updated: 28 August 2018

Sample Group Event (1985 Sample Group Event)

SG.1 If x*y = xy + 1 and a = (2*4)*2, find the value of a.

$$2*4 = 2(4) + 1 = 9$$

$$(2*4)*2 = 9*2 = 9(2) + 1 = 19$$

SG.2 If the b^{th} prime number is a, find the value of b.

List the prime number in ascending order: 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19.

$$b = 8$$

SG.3 If $c = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\cdots\left(1 - \frac{1}{50}\right)$, find the value of c in the simplest fractional form.

$$c = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{49}{50} = \frac{1}{50}$$

SG.4 If d is the area of a square inscribed in a circle of radius 10, find the value of d.

Diameter = 20 = diagonal of the square

Let the side of the square be x.

By Pythagoras' Theorem, $2x^2 = 20^2 = 400$

$$d = x^2 = 200$$

Last updated: 28 August 2018

Group Event 6

G6.1 If $\log_2 a - 2 \log_a 2 = 1$, find the value of *a*.

$$\frac{\log a}{\log 2} - \frac{2\log 2}{\log a} = 1$$

$$(\log a)^2 - 2 (\log 2)^2 = \log 2 \log a$$

$$(\log a)^2 - \log 2 \log a - 2 (\log 2)^2 = 0$$

$$(\log a - 2 \log 2)(\log a + \log 2) = 0$$

$$\log a = 2 \log 2 \text{ or } -\log 2$$

$$a = 4 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}$$

G6.2 If $b = \log_3[2(3+1)(3^2+1)(3^4+1)(3^8+1)+1]$, find the value of b.

Reference: 2016 FG1.4

$$b = \log_3[(3-1)(3+1)(3^2+1)(3^4+1)(3^8+1)+1]$$

$$= \log_3[(3^2-1)(3^2+1)(3^4+1)(3^8+1)+1]$$

$$= \log_3[(3^4-1)(3^4+1)(3^8+1)+1]$$

$$= \log_3[(3^8-1)(3^8+1)+1]$$

$$= \log_3(3^{16}-1+1) = 16$$

G6.3 If a 31-day month is taken at random, find c, the probability that there are 5 Sundays in the month.

$$1^{st}$$
 day = Sunday $\Rightarrow 29^{th}$ day = 5^{th} Sunday 1^{st} day = Saturday $\Rightarrow 30^{th}$ day = 5^{th} Sunday 1^{st} day = Friday $\Rightarrow 31^{st}$ day = 5^{th} Sunday Probability = $\frac{3}{7}$

G6.4 A group of 5 people is to be selected from 6 men and 4 women. Find *d*, the number of ways that there are always more men than women.

3 men and 2 women, number of combinations = $C_3^6 \cdot C_2^4 = 120$

4 men and 1 woman, number of combinations = $C_4^6 \cdot C_1^4 = 60$

5 men, number of combinations = $C_5^6 = 6$

Total number of ways = 120 + 60 + 6 = 186

Group Event 7

- **G7.1** There are a zeros at the end of the product $1\times2\times3\times...\times100$. Find the value of a.
 - Reference: 1990 HG6, 1996 HI3, 2004 FG1.1, 2011 HG7, 2012 FI1.4, 2012 FG1.3

When each factor of 5 is multiplied by 2, a trailing zero will appear in the product. The number of factors of 2 is clearly more than the number of factors of 5 in 100!

The number of factors of 2 is clearly more than the number of factors of 5 in 100! It is sufficient to find the number of factors of 5.

- 5, 10, 15, ..., 100; altogether 20 numbers, have at least one factor of 5.
- 25, 50, 75, 100; altogether 4 numbers, have two factors of 5.
- \therefore Total number of factors of 5 is 20 + 4 = 24

There are 24 trailing zeros of 100!

- $\Rightarrow a = 24$
- **G7.2** Find b, if b is the remainder when 1998^{10} is divided by 10^4 .

$$1998^{10} = (2000 - 2)^{10}$$

$$=\sum_{k=0}^{10} C_k^{10} \cdot 2000^{10-k} \cdot 2^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{9} C_k^{10} \cdot 2000^{10-k} \cdot 2^k + 2^{10}$$

- $\equiv 2^{10} \mod 10^4 \ (\because C_9^{10} \cdot 2000^{10-9} \cdot 2^1 = 10000m, \text{ where } m \text{ is an integer})$
- $\equiv 1024 \bmod 10^4$
- $\Rightarrow b = 1024$
- **G7.3** Find the largest value of c, if $c = 2 x + 2\sqrt{x-1}$ and x > 1.

$$(c+x-2)^2 = 4(x-1)$$

$$c^{2} + x^{2} + 4 + 2cx - 4x - 4c = 4x - 4$$

$$x^{2} + 2(c-4)x + (c^{2} - 4c + 8) = 0$$

For real values of x, $\Delta \ge 0$

$$4(c-4)^2 - 4(c^2 - 4c + 8) \ge 0$$

$$c^2 - 8c + 16 - c^2 + 4c - 8 \ge 0$$

$$8 \ge 4c$$

$$\Rightarrow c \leq 2$$

 \Rightarrow The largest value c = 2

Method 2

Let
$$y = \sqrt{x-1}$$
, then $y^2 = x - 1$

$$\Rightarrow x = y^2 + 1$$

$$c = 2 - (y^2 + 1) + 2y = 2 - (1 - y)^2 \le 2$$

The largest value of c = 2.

G7.4 Find the least value of d, if $\left| \frac{3-2d}{5} + 2 \right| \le 3$.

$$-3 \le \frac{3 - 2d}{5} + 2 \le 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -5 \le \frac{3-2d}{5} \le 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$
 $-25 \le 3 - 2d \le 5$

$$\Leftrightarrow$$
 $-28 \le -2d \le 2$

$$\Leftrightarrow 14 \ge d \ge -1$$

The least value of d = -1

Group Event 8

G8.1 From 1 to 121, there are a numbers which are multiplies of 3 or 5. Find the value of a.

Reference: 1993 FG8.3-4, 1998 HI6, 2015 FI3.1

Number of multiples of 3 = 40 ($120 = 3 \times 40$)

Number of multiples of 5 = 24 (120 = 5×24)

Number of multiples of 15 = 8 ($120 = 15 \times 8$)

Number of multiples of 3 or 5 = a = 40 + 24 - 8 = 56

G8.2 From 1 to 121, there are b numbers which are not divisible by 5 nor 7. Find the value of b.

Number of multiples of 5 = 24 (120 = 5×24)

Number of multiples of 7 = 17 (119 = 7×17)

Number of multiples of 35 = 3 ($105 = 35 \times 3$)

Number of multiples of 5 or 7 = 24 + 17 - 3 = 38

Number which are not divisible by 5 nor 7 = 121 - 38 = 83

From the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, when each digit can be used repeatedly, 4-digit numbers are formed. Find

G8.3 c, the number of 4-digit numbers that can be formed.

$$c = 4^4 = 256$$

G8.4 *d*, the sum of all these 4-digit numbers.

Reference: 2002 HI4

: There are 256 different numbers

∴ 1, 2, 3, 4 each appears 64 times in the thousands, hundreds, tens and units digit.

$$d = [1000(1 + 2 + 3 + 4) + 100(1 + 2 + 3 + 4) + 10(1 + 2 + 3 + 4) + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4] \times 64$$
$$= 1111(10) \times 64 = 711040$$

A B A

Group Event 9

$$(ABA)^2 = (CCDCC) < 100000$$
.

$$\times$$
 ABA

Find the values of A, B, C and D.

$$(ABA) < \sqrt{100000} < 316$$

$$A = 1, 2 \text{ or } 3$$

When A = 1, then $A^2 = 1 = C$ contradict that A and C must be different : rejected

When
$$A = 2$$
, $C = 4$

$$(202 + 10B)^2 = 44044 + 100D$$

$$40804 + 4040B + 100B^2 = 44044 + 100D$$

$$4040B + 100B^2 = 3240 + 100D$$

$$404B + 10B^2 = 324 + 10D$$

$$B = 1,414 = 324 + 10D$$

$$\Rightarrow D = 9$$

When
$$A = 3$$
, $C = 9$

$$(303 + 10B)^2 = 99099 + 100D$$

$$91809 + 6060B + 100B^2 = 99099 + 100D$$

$$606B + 10B^2 = 729 + 10D$$

$$B = 1,616 = 729 + 10D$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 no solution for D

$$A = 2, B = 1, C = 4, D = 9$$

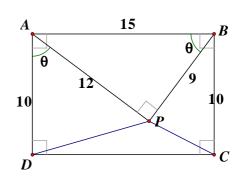
Group Event 10

In rectangle ABCD, AD = 10, CD = 15, P is a point inside the rectangle such that PB = 9, PA = 12. Find (Reference: 2001 FG2.2, 2003 FI3.4, 2018 HI7)

G10.1 a, the length of PD and

$$AP^2 + BP^2 = 12^2 + 9^2 = 144 + 81 = 225 = 15^2 = AB^2$$

 $\therefore \angle APB = 90^\circ$ (Converse, Pythagoras' theorem)
Let $\angle ABP = \theta$, then $\cos \theta = \frac{9}{15} = \frac{3}{5}$, $\sin \theta = \frac{4}{5}$
 $\angle BAP = 90^\circ - \theta$ (\angle s sum of Δ)
 $\angle DAP = \theta$
 $\angle PBC = 90^\circ - \theta$
 $a = PD = \sqrt{10^2 + 12^2 - 2 \cdot 10 \cdot 12 \cdot \frac{3}{5}}$ (Cosine rule on ΔADP)



G10.2 *b*, the length of *PC*.

a = 10

$$b = CP = \sqrt{10^2 + 9^2 - 2 \cdot 10 \cdot 9 \cdot \frac{4}{5}} = \sqrt{37}$$

G10.3 It is given that $\sin 2\theta = 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta$. Find c, if $c = \frac{\sin 20^\circ \cos 20^\circ \cos 40^\circ \cos 60^\circ \cos 80^\circ}{\sin 160^\circ}$.

$$C = \frac{2\sin 20^{\circ}\cos 20^{\circ}\cos 40^{\circ}\cos 60^{\circ}\cos 80^{\circ}}{2\sin 160^{\circ}} = \frac{2\sin 40^{\circ}\cos 40^{\circ}\cos 40^{\circ}\cos 80^{\circ}}{4\sin 160^{\circ}}$$
$$= \frac{2\sin 80^{\circ}\cos 60^{\circ}\cos 80^{\circ}}{8\sin 160^{\circ}} = \frac{\sin 160^{\circ} \times \frac{1}{2}}{8\sin 160^{\circ}} = \frac{1}{16}$$

G10.4 It is given that
$$tan(A + B) = \frac{tan A + tan B}{1 - tan A tan B}$$
. Find d, if

$$d = (1 + \tan 21^\circ)(1 + \tan 22^\circ)(1 + \tan 23^\circ)(1 + \tan 24^\circ).$$

If
$$A + B = 45^{\circ}$$
, $1 = \tan(A + B) = \frac{\tan A + \tan B}{1 - \tan A \tan B}$

$$1 - \tan A \tan B = \tan A + \tan B$$

$$2 = 1 + \tan A + \tan B + \tan A \tan B$$

$$(1 + \tan A)(1 + \tan B) = 2$$

$$d = (1 + \tan 21^\circ) (1 + \tan 24^\circ)(1 + \tan 22^\circ)(1 + \tan 23^\circ)$$

= 2×2 = 4