

Answers: (1999-00 HKMO Final Events)

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Individual Events

SI	P	6	I1	P	25	I2	P	16	I3	P	1	I4	P	2	I5	P	2
	Q	7		Q	8		Q	81		Q	2		Q	12		Q	1
	R	2		R	72		R	1		R	3996		R	12		R	1
	S	9902		S	6		S	333332		S	666		S	2		S	0

Group Events

SG	a	1	G1	a	243	G2	a	9025	G3	a	3994001	G4	a	504	G5	a	729000
	b	15		b	25		b	9		b	5		b	3		b	12
	c	80		c	4		c	6		c	3		c	60		c	26
	d	1		d	3		d	-40		d	38		d	48		d	3

Sample Individual Event (1999 Individual Event 3)

SI.1 For all integers m and n , $m \otimes n$ is defined as $m \otimes n = m^n + n^m$. If $2 \otimes P = 100$, find the value of P .

$$2^P + P^2 = 100$$

$$64 + 36 = 2^6 + 6^2 = 100, P = 6$$

SI.2 If $\sqrt[3]{13Q + 6P + 1} - \sqrt[3]{13Q - 6P - 1} = \sqrt[3]{2}$, where $Q > 0$, find the value of Q .

$$\left(\sqrt[3]{13Q + 37} - \sqrt[3]{13Q - 37}\right)^3 = 2$$

$$13Q + 37 - 3\sqrt[3]{(13Q + 37)^2} \sqrt[3]{13Q - 37} + 3\sqrt[3]{(13Q - 37)^2} \sqrt[3]{13Q + 37} - (13Q - 37) = 2$$

$$24 = \sqrt[3]{(13Q)^2 - 37^2} \sqrt[3]{13Q + 37} - \sqrt[3]{(13Q)^2 - 37^2} \sqrt[3]{13Q - 37}$$

$$24 = \sqrt[3]{(13Q)^2 - 37^2} \sqrt[3]{2}; \quad (\because \sqrt[3]{13Q + 37} - \sqrt[3]{13Q - 37} = \sqrt[3]{2})$$

$$13824 = [(13Q)^2 - 1369] \times 2$$

$$6912 + 1369 = 169 Q^2$$

$$Q^2 = 49 \Rightarrow Q = 7$$

$$\text{Method 2 } \sqrt[3]{13b + 37} - \sqrt[3]{13b - 37} = \sqrt[3]{2},$$

We look for the difference of multiples of $\sqrt[3]{2}$

$$\sqrt[3]{8 \times 2} - \sqrt[3]{2} = \sqrt[3]{2} \Rightarrow 13b + 37 = 16, 13b - 37 = 2, \text{ no solution}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{27 \times 2} - \sqrt[3]{8 \times 2} = \sqrt[3]{2} \Rightarrow 13b + 37 = 54, 13b - 37 = 16, \text{ no solution}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{64 \times 2} - \sqrt[3]{27 \times 2} = \sqrt[3]{2} \Rightarrow 13b + 37 = 128, 13b - 37 = 54 \Rightarrow b = 7$$

SI.3 In figure 1, $AB = AC$ and $KL = LM$. If $LC = Q - 6$ cm and $KB = R$ cm, find the value of R .

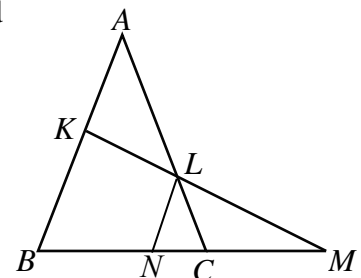
Draw $LN \parallel AB$ on BM .

$BN = NM$ intercept theorem

$\angle LNC = \angle ABC = \angle LCN$ (corr. \angle s, $AB \parallel LN$, base \angle s, isos. Δ)

$LN = LC = Q - 6$ cm = 1 cm (sides opp. eq. \angle s)

R cm = $KB = 2 LN = 2$ cm (mid point theorem)



SI.4 The sequence $\{a_n\}$ is defined as $a_1 = R$, $a_{n+1} = a_n + 2n$ ($n \geq 1$). If $a_{100} = S$, find the value of S .

$$a_1 = 2, a_2 = 2 + 2, a_3 = 2 + 2 + 4, \dots$$

$$a_{100} = 2 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 198$$

$$= 2 + \frac{1}{2}(2 + 198) \cdot 99 = 9902 = S$$

Individual Event 1

I1.1 Let $[x]$ represents the integral part of the decimal number x .

Given that $[3.126] + [3.126 + \frac{1}{8}] + [3.126 + \frac{2}{8}] + \dots + [3.126 + \frac{7}{8}] = P$, find the value of P .

$$\begin{aligned} P &= [3.126] + [3.126 + \frac{1}{8}] + [3.126 + \frac{2}{8}] + \dots + [3.126 + \frac{7}{8}] \\ &= 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 4 = 25 \end{aligned}$$

I1.2 Let $a + b + c = 0$. Given that $\frac{a^2}{2a^2 + bc} + \frac{b^2}{2b^2 + ac} + \frac{c^2}{2c^2 + ab} = P - 3Q$, find the value of Q .

$$\begin{aligned} a &= -b - c \quad \frac{a^2}{2a^2 + bc} + \frac{b^2}{2b^2 + ac} + \frac{c^2}{2c^2 + ab} \\ &= \frac{(b+c)^2}{2b^2 + 5bc + 2c^2} + \frac{b^2}{2b^2 - bc - c^2} + \frac{c^2}{2c^2 - bc - b^2} \\ &= \frac{a^2}{(2b+c)(b+2c)} + \frac{b^2}{(2b+c)(b-c)} + \frac{c^2}{(b+2c)(c-b)} \\ &= \frac{(b+c)^2(b-c) + b^2(b+2c) - c^2(2b+c)}{(2b+c)(b+2c)(b-c)} \\ &= \frac{(b+c)^2(b-c) + b^3 - c^3 + 2bc(b-c)}{(2b+c)(b+2c)(b-c)} \\ &= \frac{(b-c)(b^2 + 2bc + c^2 + b^2 + bc + c^2 + 2bc)}{(2b+c)(b+2c)(b-c)} \\ &= \frac{(2b^2 + 5bc + 2c^2)}{(2b+c)(b+2c)} = 1 = 25 - 3Q \Rightarrow Q = 8 \end{aligned}$$

Method 2

$$\therefore \frac{a^2}{2a^2 + bc} + \frac{b^2}{2b^2 + ac} + \frac{c^2}{2c^2 + ab} = 25 - 3Q$$

\therefore The above is an identity which holds for all values of a, b and c , provided that $a+b+c=0$

Let $a = 0, b = 1, c = -1$, then

$$0 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 25 - 3Q.$$

$$Q = 8$$

I1.3 In the first quadrant of the rectangular co-ordinate plane, all integral points are numbered as follows,

point $(0, 0)$ is numbered as 1,
point $(1, 0)$ is numbered as 2,
point $(1, 1)$ is numbered as 3,
point $(0, 1)$ is numbered as 4,
point $(0, 2)$ is numbered as 5,
point $(1, 2)$ is numbered as 6,
point $(2, 2)$ is numbered as 7,
point $(2, 1)$ is numbered as 8,

.....

Given that point $(Q-1, Q)$ is numbered as R , find the value of R .

point $(0, 1)$ is numbered as $4 = 2^2$
point $(2, 0)$ is numbered as $9 = 3^2$
point $(0, 3)$ is numbered as $16 = 4^2$
point $(4, 0)$ is numbered as $25 = 5^2$

.....

point $(0, 7)$ is numbered as $64 = 8^2$

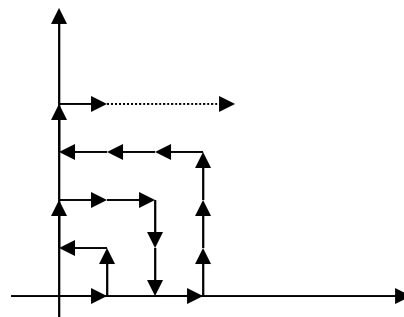
point $(0, 8)$ is numbered as 65, point $(1, 8)$ is numbered as 66, point $(2, 8)$ is numbered as 67

.....

$(Q-1, Q) = (7, 8)$ is numbered as 72

I1.4 When $x + y = 4$, the minimum value of $3x^2 + y^2$ is $\frac{R}{S}$, find the value of S .

$$3x^2 + y^2 = 3x^2 + (4 - x)^2 = 4x^2 - 8x + 16 = 4(x - 1)^2 + 12, \min = 12 = \frac{72}{S}; S = 6$$



Individual Event 2

I2.1 If $\log_2(\log_4 P) = \log_4(\log_2 P)$ and $P \neq 1$, find the value of P .

$$\frac{\log(\log_4 P)}{\log 2} = \frac{\log(\log_2 P)}{\log 4}$$

$$\frac{\log(\log_4 P)}{\log 2} = \frac{\log(\log_2 P)}{2 \log 2}$$

$$2 \log(\log_4 P) = \log(\log_2 P)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log(\log_4 P)^2 = \log(\log_2 P)$$

$$(\log_4 P)^2 = \log_2 P$$

$$\left(\frac{\log P}{\log 4}\right)^2 = \frac{\log P}{\log 2}$$

$$P \neq 1, \log P \neq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\log P}{(2 \log 2)^2} = \frac{1}{\log 2}$$

$$\log P = 4 \log 2 = \log 16$$

$$P = 16$$

I2.2 In the trapezium $ABCD$, $AB \parallel DC$. AC and BD intersect at O .

The areas of triangles AOB and COD are P and 25 respectively.

Given that the area of the trapezium is Q , find the value of Q .

Reference 1993 HI2, 1997 HG3, 2002 FI1.3, 2004 HG7, 2010HG4, 2013 HG2

$\triangle AOB \sim \triangle COD$ (equiangular)

$$\frac{\text{area of } \triangle AOB}{\text{area of } \triangle COD} = \left(\frac{OA}{OC}\right)^2; \quad \frac{16}{25} = \left(\frac{OA}{OC}\right)^2$$

$$OA : OC = 4 : 5$$

$$\frac{\text{area of } \triangle AOB}{\text{area of } \triangle BOC} = \frac{4}{5} \quad (\text{the two triangles have the same height, but different bases.})$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle BOC = 16 \times \frac{5}{4} = 20$$

Similarly, area of $\triangle AOD = 20$

$$Q = \text{the area of the trapezium} = 16 + 25 + 20 + 20 = 81$$

I2.3 When 1999^Q is divided by 7, the remainder is R . Find the value of R .

$$1999^{81} = (7 \times 285 + 4)^{81}$$

$$= 7m + 4^{81}$$

$$= 7m + (4^3)^{27}$$

$$= 7m + (7 \times 9 + 1)^{27}$$

$$= 7m + 7n + 1, \text{ where } m \text{ and } n \text{ are integers}$$

$$R = 1$$

I2.4 If $11111111111 - 222222 = (R + S)^2$ and $S > 0$, find the value of S .

Reference: 1995 FG7.4

$$11111111111 - 222222 = (1 + S)^2$$

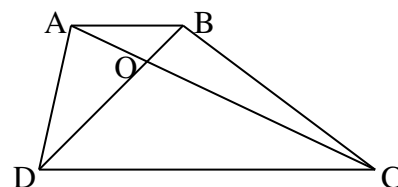
$$111111(1000001 - 2) = (1 + S)^2$$

$$111111 \times 999999 = (1 + S)^2$$

$$3^2 \times 111111^2 = (1 + S)^2$$

$$1 + S = 333333$$

$$S = 333332$$



Individual Event 3

I3.1 Given that the units digit of $1+2+3+\cdots+1997+1998+1999+1998+1997+\cdots+3+2+1$ is P , find the value of P .

$$\begin{aligned}
 &1+2+3+\cdots+1997+1998+1999+1998+1997+\cdots+3+2+1 \\
 &= 2(1+2+\cdots+1998) + 1999 \\
 &= (1+1998) \times 1998 + 1999 \\
 &P = \text{units digit} = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

I3.2 Given that $x + \frac{1}{x} = P$. If $x^6 + \frac{1}{x^6} = Q$, find the value of Q .

$$\begin{aligned}
 x + \frac{1}{x} &= 1 \\
 \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 &= 1 \\
 \Rightarrow x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} &= -1 \\
 \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)^3 &= -1 \\
 \Rightarrow x^6 + \frac{1}{x^6} + 3\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right) &= -1 \\
 \Rightarrow x^6 + \frac{1}{x^6} &= 2 \\
 \therefore Q &= 2
 \end{aligned}$$

I3.3 Given that $\frac{Q}{\sqrt{Q} + \sqrt{2Q}} + \frac{Q}{\sqrt{2Q} + \sqrt{3Q}} + \cdots + \frac{Q}{\sqrt{1998Q} + \sqrt{1999Q}} = \frac{R}{\sqrt{Q} + \sqrt{1999Q}}$, find the value of R .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{2}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{4}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{6}} + \cdots + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3996} + \sqrt{3998}} &= \frac{R}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3998}} \\
 2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{4} - \sqrt{2}}{4 - 2} + \frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{4}}{6 - 4} + \cdots + \frac{\sqrt{3998} - \sqrt{3996}}{3998 - 3996} \right) &= \frac{R}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3998}} \\
 \sqrt{3998} - \sqrt{2} &= \frac{R}{\sqrt{3998} + \sqrt{2}} \\
 R = (\sqrt{3998} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{3998} + \sqrt{2}) &= 3996
 \end{aligned}$$

I3.4 Let $f(0) = 0$; $f(n) = f(n-1) + 3$ when $n = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$. If $2f(S) = R$, find the value of S .
 $f(1) = 0 + 3 = 3$, $f(2) = 3 + 3 = 3 \times 2$, $f(3) = 3 \times 3$, \dots , $f(n) = 3n$
 $R = 3996 = 2f(S) = 2 \times 3S$
 $S = 666$

Individual Event 4

I4.1 Suppose $a + \frac{1}{a+1} = b + \frac{1}{b-1} - 2$, where $a \neq -1$, $b \neq 1$, and $a - b + 2 \neq 0$.

Given that $ab - a + b = P$, find the value of P .

$$a - b + 2 + \frac{1}{a+1} - \frac{1}{b-1} = 0$$

$$(a - b + 2) \left[1 - \frac{1}{(a+1)(b-1)} \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow ab + b - a - 2 = 0$$

$$P = 2$$

I4.2 In the following figure, AB is a diameter of the circle. C and D divide the arc AB into three equal parts. The shaded area is P .

If the area of the circle is Q , find the value of Q .

Reference: 2004 HI9, 2005 HG7, 2018 HI12

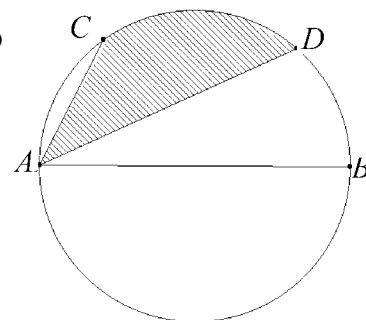
Let O be the centre.

$$\text{Area of } \triangle ACD = \text{area of } \triangle OCD$$

(same base, same height) and $\angle COD = 60^\circ$

$$\text{Shaded area} = \text{area of sector } COD = 2$$

$$\therefore \text{area of the circle} = 6 \times 2 = 12$$



I4.3 Given that there are R odd numbers in the digits of the product of the two Q -digit numbers $1111 \dots 11$ and $9999 \dots 99$, find the value of R .

Reference: 2015 FI1.2

Note that $99 \times 11 = 1089$; $999 \times 111 = 110889$.

Deductively, $999999999999 \times 111111111111 = 111111111110888888888889$

$R = 12$ odd numbers in the digits.

I4.4 Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_R be positive integers such that $a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < \dots < a_{R-1} < a_R$. Given that the sum of these R integers is 90 and the maximum value of a_1 is S , find the value of S .

$$a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{12} = 90$$

$$a_1 + (a_1 + 1) + (a_1 + 2) + \dots + (a_1 + 11) \leq 90$$

$$12a_1 + 55 \leq 90$$

$$a_1 \leq 2.9167$$

$S = \text{maximum value of } a_1 = 2$

Individual Event 5

- I5.1** If $\left(\frac{1 \times 2 \times 4 + 2 \times 4 \times 8 + 3 \times 6 \times 12 + \dots + 1999 \times 3998 \times 7996}{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 1999^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = P$, find the value of P .

Reference: 2015 FG1.1

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \left(\frac{1 \times 2 \times 4 + 2 \times 4 \times 8 + 3 \times 6 \times 12 + \dots + 1999 \times 3998 \times 7996}{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 1999^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ &= \left[\frac{1 \times 2 \times 4 (1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 1999^3)}{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 1999^3} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ &= 8^{\frac{1}{3}} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

- I5.2** If $(x - P)(x - 2Q) - 1 = 0$ has two integral roots, find the value of Q .

Reference: 2001 FI2.1, 2010 FI2.2, 2011 FI3.1, 2013 HG1

$$(x - 2)(x - 2Q) - 1 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 2(1 + Q)x + 4Q - 1 = 0$$

Two integral roots $\Rightarrow \Delta$ is perfect square

$$\Delta = 4[(1 + Q)^2 - (4Q - 1)]$$

$$= 4(Q^2 - 2Q + 2)$$

$$= 4(Q - 1)^2 + 4$$

It is a perfect square $\Rightarrow Q - 1 = 0, Q = 1$

Method 2

$$(x - 2)(x - 2Q) = 1$$

$$(x - 2 = 1 \text{ and } x - 2Q = 1) \text{ or } (x - 2 = -1 \text{ and } x - 2Q = -1)$$

$$(x = 3 \text{ and } Q = 1) \text{ or } (x = 1 \text{ and } Q = 1)$$

$$\therefore Q = 1$$

- I5.3** Given that the area of the $\triangle ABC$ is $3Q$; D, E and F are the points on AB, BC and CA respectively such that $AD = \frac{1}{3} AB$,

$$BE = \frac{1}{3} BC, CF = \frac{1}{3} CA. \text{ If the area of } \triangle DEF \text{ is } R, \text{ find}$$

the value of R . (**Reference: 1993 FG9.2**)

$$R = 3 - \text{area } \triangle ADF - \text{area } \triangle BDE - \text{area } \triangle CEF$$

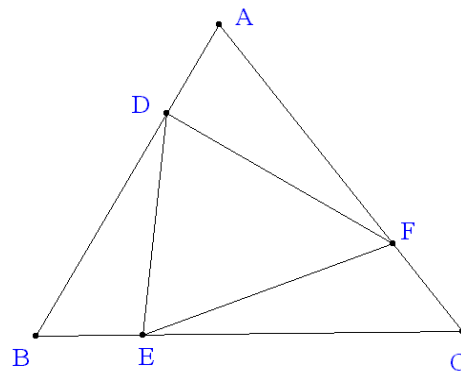
$$= 3 - \left(\frac{1}{2} AD \cdot AF \sin A + \frac{1}{2} BE \cdot BD \sin B + \frac{1}{2} CE \cdot CF \sin C \right)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{c}{3} \cdot \frac{2b}{3} \sin A + \frac{2c}{3} \cdot \frac{a}{3} \sin B + \frac{2a}{3} \cdot \frac{b}{3} \sin C \right)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{2}{9} \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot bc \sin A + \frac{1}{2} \cdot ac \sin B + \frac{1}{2} \cdot ab \sin C \right)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{2}{9} (3 \times \text{area of } \triangle ABC)$$

$$= 3 - \frac{2}{9} \times 9 = 1$$



- I5.4** Given that $(Rx^2 - x + 1)^{1999} \equiv a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_{3998}x^{3998}$.

If $S = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{3997}$, find the value of S .

$$(x^2 - x + 1)^{1999} \equiv a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_{3998}x^{3998}$$

Compare coefficients of x^{3998} on both sides, $a_{3998} = 1$

$$\text{Put } x = 1, 1^{1999} = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{3998}$$

$$S = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{3997}$$

$$= (a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{3998}) - a_{3998}$$

$$= 1 - 1 = 0$$

Sample Group Event (1999 Final Group Event 1)

SG.1 Let $x * y = x + y - xy$, where x, y are real numbers. If $a = 1 * (0 * 1)$, find the value of a .

$$0 * 1 = 0 + 1 - 0 = 1$$

$$a = 1 * (0 * 1)$$

$$= 1 * 1$$

$$= 1 + 1 - 1 = 1$$

SG.2 In figure 1, AB is parallel to DC , $\angle ACB$ is a right angle,

$AC = CB$ and $AB = BD$. If $\angle CBD = b^\circ$, find the value of b .

$\triangle ABC$ is a right angled isosceles triangle.

$$\angle BAC = 45^\circ \text{ (}\angle\text{s sum of } \triangle, \text{ base } \angle\text{s isos. } \triangle\text{)}$$

$$\angle ACD = 45^\circ \text{ (alt. } \angle\text{s, } AB \parallel DC\text{)}$$

$$\angle BCD = 135^\circ$$

Apply sine law on $\triangle BCD$,

$$\frac{BD}{\sin 135^\circ} = \frac{BC}{\sin D}$$

$$AB\sqrt{2} = \frac{AB \sin 45^\circ}{\sin D}, \text{ given that } AB = BD$$

$$\sin D = \frac{1}{2}; D = 30^\circ$$

$$\angle CBD = 180^\circ - 135^\circ - 30^\circ = 15^\circ \text{ (}\angle\text{s sum of } \triangle BCD\text{)}$$

$$b = 15$$

SG.3 Let x, y be non-zero real numbers. If x is 250% of y and $2y$ is $c\%$ of x , find the value of c .

$$x = 2.5y \text{(1)}$$

$$2y = \frac{c}{100} \cdot x \text{(2)}$$

$$\text{sub. (1) into (2): } 2y = \frac{c}{100} \cdot 2.5y$$

$$c = 80$$

SG.4 If $\log_p x = 2$, $\log_q x = 3$, $\log_r x = 6$ and $\log_{pqr} x = d$, find the value of d .

$$\frac{\log x}{\log p} = 2; \frac{\log x}{\log q} = 3; \frac{\log x}{\log r} = 6$$

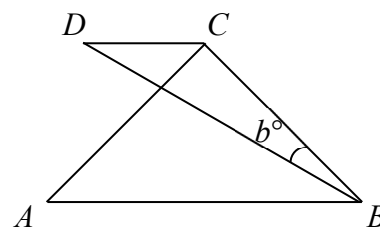
$$\frac{\log p}{\log x} = \frac{1}{2}; \frac{\log q}{\log x} = \frac{1}{3}; \frac{\log r}{\log x} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\frac{\log p}{\log x} + \frac{\log q}{\log x} + \frac{\log r}{\log x} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} = 1$$

$$\frac{\log pqr}{\log x} = 1$$

$$\frac{\log x}{\log pqr} = 1$$

$$d = \log_{pqr} x = 1$$



Group Event 1

G1.1 Given that when 81849, 106392 and 124374 are divided by an integer n , the remainders are equal. If a is the maximum value of n , find a .

Reference: 2016 FI4.2

$$81849 = pn + k \dots\dots (1)$$

$$106392 = qn + k \dots\dots (2)$$

$$124374 = rn + k \dots\dots (3)$$

$$(2) - (1): 24543 = (q - p)n \dots\dots (4)$$

$$(3) - (2): 17982 = (r - q)n \dots\dots (5)$$

$$(4): 243 \times 101 = (q - p)n$$

$$(5): 243 \times 74 = (r - q)n$$

$$a = \text{maximum value of } n = 243$$

G1.2 Let $x = \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{1+\sqrt{3}}$ and $y = \frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{1-\sqrt{3}}$. If $b = 2x^2 - 3xy + 2y^2$, find the value of b .

Reference: 2019 FG1.4

$$b = 2x^2 - 3xy + 2y^2 = 2x^2 - 4xy + 2y^2 + xy = 2(x - y)^2 + xy$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{1+\sqrt{3}} - \frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{1-\sqrt{3}} \right)^2 + \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{1+\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{1-\sqrt{3}}$$

$$= 2 \left[\frac{(1-\sqrt{3})^2 - (1+\sqrt{3})^2}{1-3} \right]^2 + 1$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{-4\sqrt{3}}{-2} \right)^2 + 1 = 25$$

G1.3 Given that c is a positive number. If there is only one straight line which passes through point $A(1, c)$ and meets the curve $C: x^2 + y^2 - 2x - 2y - 7 = 0$ at only one point, find the value of c .

The curve is a circle.

There is only one straight line which passes through point A and meets the curve at only one point \Rightarrow the straight line is a tangent and the point $A(1, c)$ lies on the circle.

(otherwise two tangents can be drawn if A lies outside the circle)

Put $x = 1, y = c$ into the circle.

$$1 + c^2 - 2 - 2c - 7 = 0$$

$$c^2 - 2c - 8 = 0$$

$$(c - 4)(c + 2) = 0$$

$$c = 4 \text{ or } c = -2 \text{ (rejected)}$$

G1.4 In Figure 1, PA touches the circle with centre O at A .

If $PA = 6, BC = 9, PB = d$, find the value of d .

It is easy to show that $\triangle PAB \sim \triangle PCA$

$$\frac{PA}{PB} = \frac{PC}{PA} \quad (\text{ratio of sides, } \sim \Delta\text{'s})$$

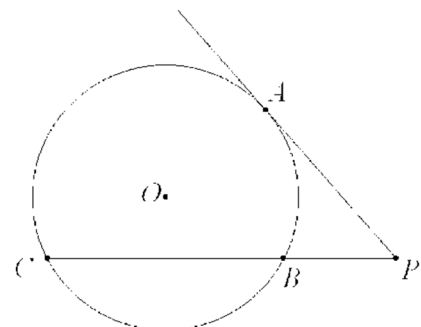
$$\frac{6}{d} = \frac{9+d}{6}$$

$$36 = 9d + d^2$$

$$d^2 + 9d - 36 = 0$$

$$(d - 3)(d + 12) = 0$$

$$d = 3 \text{ or } -12 \text{ (rejected)}$$



Group Event 2

G2.1 If 191 is the difference of two consecutive perfect squares, find the value of the smallest square number, a .

Let $a = t^2$, the larger perfect square is $(t+1)^2$

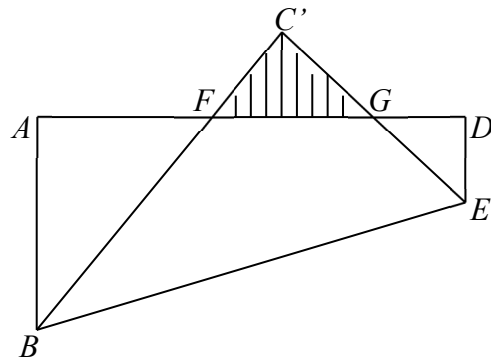
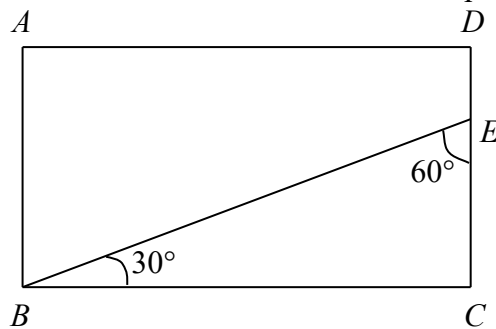
$$(t+1)^2 - t^2 = 191$$

$$2t + 1 = 191$$

$$t = 95$$

$$a = 95^2 = 9025$$

G2.2 In Figure 2(a), $ABCD$ is a rectangle. $DE:EC = 1:5$, and $DE = 12^{\frac{1}{4}}$. $\triangle BCE$ is folded along the side BE . If b is the area of the shaded part as shown in Figure 2(b), find the value of b .



Let $DE = t$, then $CE = 5t$. Suppose BC' intersects AD at F , $C'E$ intersects AD at G .

$$BC = BC' = AD = 5t \tan 60^\circ = 5\sqrt{3}t$$

$$\angle C'ED = 60^\circ, \angle ABC' = 30^\circ, \angle C'FG = 60^\circ, \angle C'GF = 30^\circ$$

$$AF = 6t \tan 30^\circ = 2\sqrt{3}t, DG = t \tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}t$$

$$FG = 5\sqrt{3}t - 2\sqrt{3}t - \sqrt{3}t = 2\sqrt{3}t$$

$$C'F = 2\sqrt{3}t \cos 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}t, C'G = 2\sqrt{3}t \cos 30^\circ = 3t$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle C'FG = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3}t \times 3t = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2}t^2 = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} \sqrt{12} = 9$$

G2.3 Let the curve $y = x^2 - 7x + 12$ intersect the x -axis at points A and B , and intersect the y -axis at C . If c is the area of $\triangle ABC$, find the value of c .

$$x^2 - 7x + 12 = (x-3)(x-4)$$

The x -intercepts of 3, 4.

$$\text{Let } x = 0, y = 12$$

$$c = \frac{1}{2}(4-3) \cdot 12 = 6 \text{ sq. units}$$

G2.4 Let $f(x) = 41x^2 - 4x + 4$ and $g(x) = -2x^2 + x$. If d is the smallest value of k such that $f(x) + kg(x) = 0$ has a single root, find d .

$$41x^2 - 4x + 4 + k(-2x^2 + x) = 0$$

$$(41 - 2k)x^2 + (k - 4)x + 4 = 0$$

It has a single root $\Rightarrow \Delta = 0$ or $41 - 2k = 0$

$$(k-4)^2 - 4(41-2k)(4) = 0 \text{ or } k = \frac{41}{2}$$

$$k^2 - 8 + 16 - 16 \times 41 + 32k = 0 \text{ or } k = \frac{41}{2}$$

$$k^2 + 24k - 640 = 0 \text{ or } k = \frac{41}{2}$$

$$k = 16 \text{ or } -40 \text{ or } \frac{41}{2}, d = \text{the smallest value of } k = -40$$

Group Event 3

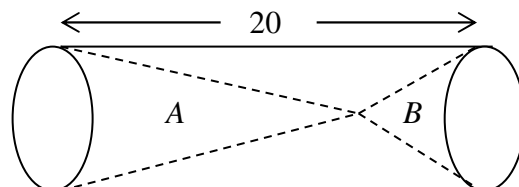
G3.1 Let $a = \sqrt{1997 \times 1998 \times 1999 \times 2000 + 1}$, find the value of a .

Reference: 1993 HG6, 1995 FI4.4, 1996 FG10.1, 2004 FG3.1, 2012 FI2.3

Let $t = 1998.5$, then $1997 = t - 1.5$, $1998 = t - 0.5$, $1999 = t + 0.5$, $2000 = t + 1.5$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{1997 \times 1998 \times 1999 \times 2000 + 1} &= \sqrt{(t-1.5) \times (t-0.5) \times (t+0.5) \times (t+1.5) + 1} \\ &= \sqrt{(t^2 - 2.25) \times (t^2 - 0.25) + 1} = \sqrt{\left(t^2 - \frac{9}{4}\right) \times \left(t^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) + 1} \\ &= \sqrt{t^4 - \frac{10}{4}t^2 + \frac{25}{16}} = \sqrt{\left(t^2 - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2} = t^2 - 1.25 \\ &= 1998.5^2 - 1.25 = (2000 - 1.5)^2 - 1.25 \\ &= 4000000 - 6000 + 2.25 - 1.25 = 3994001 \end{aligned}$$

G3.2 In Figure 3, A and B are two cones inside a cylindrical tube with length of 20 and diameter of 6. If the volumes of A and B are in the ratio 3:1 and b is the height of the cone B , find the value of b .



$$\frac{1}{3}\pi \cdot 3^2(20-b) : \frac{1}{3}\pi \cdot 3^2b = 3:1$$

$$20 - b = 3b$$

$$b = 5$$

G3.3 If c is the largest slope of the tangents from the point $A\left(\frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}\right)$ to the circle $C: x^2 + y^2 = 1$, find the value of c .

$$\text{Let the equation of tangent be } y - \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2} = c\left(x - \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}\right)$$

$$cx - y + \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}(1 - c) = 0$$

Distance from centre $(0, 0)$ to the straight line = radius

$$\frac{\left|0 - 0 + \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}(1 - c)\right|}{\sqrt{c^2 + (-1)^2}} = 1$$

$$\frac{5}{2}(1 - c)^2 = c^2 + 1$$

$$5 - 10c + 5c^2 = 2c^2 + 2$$

$$3c^2 - 10c + 3 = 0$$

$$(3c - 1)(c - 3) = 0$$

$$c = \frac{1}{3} \text{ or } 3. \text{ The largest slope } = 3.$$

G3.4 P is a point located at the origin of the coordinate plane. When a dice is thrown and the number n shown is even, P moves to the right by n . If n is odd, P moves upward by n . Find the value of d , the total number of tossing sequences for P to move to the point $(4, 4)$.

Possible combinations of the die:

2,2,1,1,1,1. There are $6C_2$ permutations, i.e. 15.

4,1,1,1,1. There are $5C_1$ permutations, i.e. 5.

2,2,1,3. There are $4C_2 \times 2$ permutations, i.e. 12.

4,1,3. There are $3!$ permutations, i.e. 6.

Total number of possible ways = $15 + 5 + 12 + 6 = 38$.

Group Event 4

G4.1 Let a be a 3-digit number. If the 6-digit number formed by putting a at the end of the number 504 is divisible by 7, 9, and 11, find the value of a .

Reference: 2010 HG1

Note that 504 is divisible by 7 and 9. We look for a 3-digit number which is a multiple of 63 and that $504000 + a$ is divisible by 11. 504504 satisfied the condition.

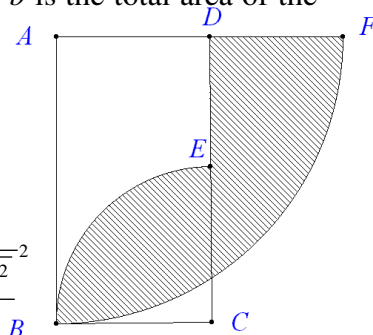
G4.2 In Figure 4, $ABCD$ is a rectangle with $AB = \sqrt{\frac{8 + \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}}$ and $BC = \sqrt{\frac{8 - \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}}$. BE

and BF are the arcs of circles with centres at C and A respectively. If b is the total area of the shaded parts, find the value of b .

$AB = AF$, $BC = CE$

Shaded area = sector ABF – rectangle $ABCD$ + sector BCE

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\pi}{4} AB^2 - AB \cdot BC + \frac{\pi}{4} BC^2 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{8 + \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}}^2 - \sqrt{\frac{8 + \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{8 - \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}} + \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{8 - \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi}}^2 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{8 + \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi} + \frac{8 - \sqrt{64 - \pi^2}}{\pi} \right) - \sqrt{\frac{64 - (64 - \pi^2)}{\pi^2}} \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4} \left(\frac{16}{\pi} \right) - \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2}{\pi^2}} = 4 - 1 = 3 = b \end{aligned}$$



G4.3 In Figure 5, O is the centre of the circle and $c^\circ = 2y^\circ$. Find the value of c .

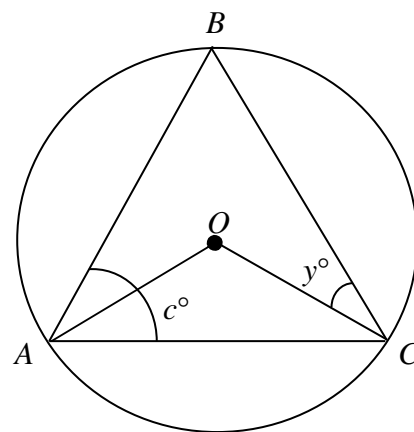
$\angle BOC = 2c^\circ$ (\angle at centre twice \angle at \odot^{ce})

$y + y + 2c = 180$ (\angle s sum of $\triangle OBC$)

$2y + 2c = 180$

$c + 2c = 180$

$c = 60$



G4.4 A, B, C, D, E, F, G are seven people sitting around a circular table. If d is the total number of ways that B and G must sit next to C , find the value of d .

Reference: 1998 FI5.3, 2011 FI1.4

If B, C, G are neighbours, we can consider these persons bound together as one person. So, there are 5 persons sitting around a round table. The number of ways should be $5!$. Since it is a round table, every seat can be counted as the first one. That is, $ABCDE$ is the same as $BCDEA$, $CDEAB$, $DEABC$, $EABCD$. Therefore every 5 arrangements are the same. The number of arrangement should be $5! \div 5 = 4! = 24$. But B and G can exchange their seats. \therefore Total number of arrangements = $24 \times 2 = 48$.

Group Event 5

G5.1 If a is the smallest cubic number divisible by 810, find the value of a .

Reference: 2002 HI2

$$810 = 2 \times 3^4 \times 5$$

$$a = 2^3 \times 3^6 \times 5^3 = 729000$$

G5.2 Let b be the maximum of the function $y = |x^2 - 4| - 6x$ (where $-2 \leq x \leq 5$), find the value of b .

$$\text{When } -2 \leq x \leq 2, y = 4 - x^2 - 6x = -(x + 3)^2 + 13$$

$$\text{Maximum value occurs at } x = -2, y = -(-2 + 3)^2 + 13 = 12$$

$$\text{When } 2 \leq x \leq 5, y = x^2 - 4 - 6x = (x - 3)^2 - 13$$

$$\text{Maximum value occurs at } x = 5, y = -9$$

$$\text{Combining the two cases, } b = 12$$

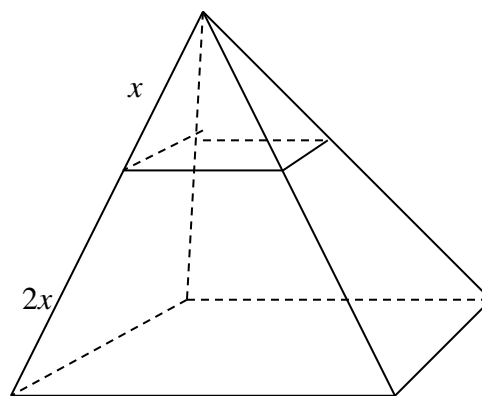
G5.3 In Figure 6, a square-based pyramid is cut into two shapes by a cut running parallel to the base and made $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way up. Let $1 : c$ be the ratio of the volume of the small pyramid to that of the truncated base, find the value of c .

Reference: 2001 HG5

The two pyramids are similar.

$$\frac{\text{volume of the small pyramid}}{\text{volume of the big pyramid}} = \left(\frac{x}{3x}\right)^3 = \frac{1}{27}$$

$$c = 27 - 1 = 26$$



G5.4 If $\cos^6 \theta + \sin^6 \theta = 0.4$ and $d = 2 + 5 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta$, find the value of d .

$$(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)(\cos^4 \theta - \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta + \cos^4 \theta) = 0.4$$

$$\cos^4 \theta + 2 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta + \cos^4 \theta - 3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta = 0.4$$

$$(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta)^2 - 3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta = 0.4$$

$$1 - 0.4 = 3 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta$$

$$\sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \theta = 0.2$$

$$d = 2 + 5 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta = 2 + 5 \times 0.2 = 3$$