

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 1 ALGEBRA 2: SIMULTANEOUS EQUATIONS & DETERMINANTS
ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) (____, ____)

A) Find x if $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ x & 2 & x \\ 0 & x & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 5$

B) Find all ordered pairs (x, y) that satisfy this system:

$$\frac{-1}{1-x} = \frac{1}{2y+1}$$
$$(x-1)^2 + (2y+1)^2 = 50$$

C) If A is the sum of the x -coordinates of the ordered pairs (x, y) satisfying:

$$(1+x\sqrt{2})^2(1-x\sqrt{2})^2 = y^2$$
$$3x = y - 1$$

and N is the number of ordered pairs satisfying the system, find (A, N) .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 2 ALGEBRA 1: RATIONAL EXPONENTS/RADICALS**

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

A) If $\sqrt{2^{3^2}} + \sqrt{2^{2^3}} = a + 8\sqrt{b}$, find the ordered pair (a, b) .

B) Express the sum below as a simplified radical:

$$\frac{2}{2\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{7}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{6}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{5}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{5} + 2} + \frac{2}{2 + \sqrt{3}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2}}$$

C) Solve for x : $\frac{(1/4)^{3x}}{2(4)^7} = (8^{x+4})^x$

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 3 ALGEBRA 2: POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS
ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

A) Determine k so that -1 is a root of $(k - 3)x^3 + (2k - 5)x^2 + (k - 7)x + (k - 10) = 0$.

B) The polynomial function $f(x)$ has exactly three distinct zeros at $x = 1$, $x = -4/3$ and $x = 3/2$. If $f(0) = -12$, find $f(-1)$.

C) The polynomial $P(x)$ has integer coefficients and leaves a remainder of -3 when divided by $(x - 2)$. The remainder is 17 when $P(x)$ is divided by $(x + 3)$. What is the remainder when $P(x)$ is divided by $(x - 2)(x + 3)$?

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 4 ALGEBRA ONE: ANYTHING**

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

- A) Find the sum of the 4 numbers that form the coordinates for the intercepts of the line

$$20x + 30y = 24,072$$

- B) A company makes school sweatshirts and sweatpants. Five sweatshirts and six sweatpants cost a total of \$147. For orders totaling more than 30 items, the company reduced by 40% the price of sweatshirts and cuts the price of sweatpants in half. Forty sweatshirts and forty sweatpants, therefore, cost a total of \$578. Find the original cost of a single pair of sweatpants.
- C) If $|x - a| = a + 2$, $x > 0$ and $a \leq 668$, find the maximum possible value of $x + a$.

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 5: PLANE GEOMETRY ANYTHING

ANSWERS

A) _____

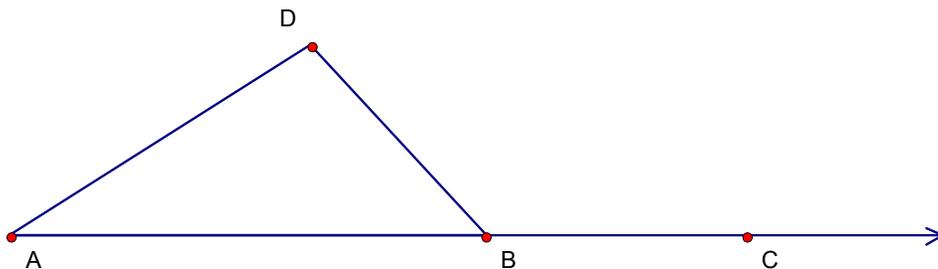
B) _____

C) _____

A) In isosceles triangle ABC , $m\angle B = 7(m\angle A)$. Find both possible measures for $\angle C$.

B) In $\triangle JKP$, $m\angle P = 90$. M is on \overline{JK} so that $\overline{PM} \perp \overline{JK}$ and N is on \overline{KP} so that $\overline{MN} \perp \overline{KP}$. If $JP = 450$ and $KP = 600$, find MN .

C) In $\triangle ABD$, $AD = 12$, $DB = 8$ and $BA = 16$. The bisector of exterior $\angle DBC$ intersects line AD at E ; F is on \overline{AB} so that $FDEB$ is a trapezoid. If \overline{FE} intersects \overline{BD} at G , find BG .



MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 6: PROBABILITY & BINOMIAL THEOREM
ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

- A) Suppose “numerical key” refers to: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 and
“operation key” refers to: \wedge (raise to a power), \div (divide), \times (multiply),
 $+$ (add) or $-$ (subtract)

I pressed 4 keys on my TI-84: a numerical key, then an operation key, then a numerical key and then ENTER. The answer displayed on the screen was 16. If each key sequence that could generate this answer is equally likely, what is the probability that I pressed the 4 key twice?

- B) If $(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})^6 = a + b\sqrt{6}$, where a and b are integers, find the value of $a + b$.

- C) Suppose we call a^n the first term in the expansion of $(a + b)^n$. Find both values of n , if the coefficients of the fifth, sixth and seventh terms in the expansion form an arithmetic sequence.

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 7: TEAM QUESTIONS**

******* NO CALCULATORS ON THIS ROUND *******

ANSWERS

A) _____ D) _____

B) _____ E) _____

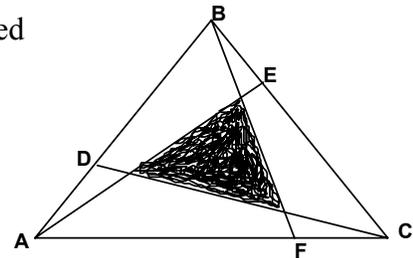
C) (_____, _____, _____) F) _____

- A) Let A be the product of all values for the constant k for which the system has no solutions for (x, y) . Let B be the product of all values for the constant k for which the system has infinitely many solutions for (x, y) . Find $A + B$.

$$\begin{aligned} 4x + k^2y &= -4 - 2k \\ (k^2 - 5)x - y &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

- B) Let A be a positive two-digit integer with the property that if the digits are reversed to form the smaller integer B , then $A^2 - B^2$ is a perfect square. Find the sum of all values of A with this property.
- C) The zeros of $y = f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + 7$ are one more than the reciprocals of the zeros of $y = g(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2$. Determine (a, b, c) .
- D) $ABCD$ is a parallelogram. Three of the vertices are $(1, 7)$, $(-3, 1)$ and $(9, 4)$. The fourth vertex has several possible locations. If P is the one furthest from the line $y = x$, exactly how far is P from the origin?

- E) $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral with $AB = 26$. Points D, E and F are placed so that $AD = \frac{1}{4}(AB)$, $BE = \frac{1}{4}(BC)$ and $CF = \frac{1}{4}(CA)$ as shown. Find the exact area of the shaded region.



- F) Assume n is a positive integer. Find the sum of all different values of n for which the expansion of $(4x^n + \frac{x^{-3}}{2})^{10}$ will contain an x -free term, i.e. a constant term.

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006 ANSWERS**

Round 1: Algebra 2 – Simultaneous Equations and Determinants

A) -3 B) (6, 2) (-4, -3) C) (0, 4)

Round 2: Algebra 1 – Rational Exponents and Radicals

A) (16, 8) B) $2\sqrt{2}$ C) -1, -5

Round 3: Polynomial Functions

A) 5 B) -10 C) $-4x + 5$

Round 4: Algebra 1 – Anything

A) 2006 B) \$14.50 C) 2006

Round 5: Plane Geometry - Anything

A) 20, 84 B) 288 C) $16/3$

Round 6: Algebra 2 – Probability & Binomial Theorem

A) $1/8$ B) 683 C) 7, 14

Team Round

A) -4 B) 65 C) (-2, 11, -17)

D) $\sqrt{137}$ E) $52\sqrt{3}$ F) 51

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006 BRIEF SOLUTIONS**

Round One:

- A. $(2 + 0 + x^2) - (0 + x^2 + x) = 5$ means $2 - x = 5$, so $x = -3$.
- B. First equation simplifies to $x - 1 = 2y + 1$; sub for $2y + 1$ in second to get $2(x - 1)^2 = 50$, so $x - 1 = \pm 5$. If $x = 6$, $y = 2$; if $x = -4$, $y = -3$.
- C. First eqn: $y^2 = [(1 + x\sqrt{2})(1 - x\sqrt{2})]^2$ so $y = \pm(1 - 2x^2)$ so $3x + 1 = 1 - 2x^2$ meaning $x = 0$ or $x = -3/2$; or $3x + 1 = 2x^2 - 1$ meaning $x = 2$ or $x = -1/2$
The sum of the four numbers is 0.

Round Two:

- A. $\sqrt{2^9} + \sqrt{2^8} = 2^{4.5} + 2^4 = 16 + 2^3 2^{1.5} = 16 + 8\sqrt{8}$ so $(a, b) = (16, 8)$.
- B. Replace $2\sqrt{2}$ with $\sqrt{8}$. Note $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}} \right) = \sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}$ so
 $2(\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} - \sqrt{5} + \dots + \sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}) = 2(\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{2}) = 2(2\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2})$
- C. $2^{-(6x)} / 2^{-(15)} = 2^{-(3(x+4)x)}$ so $-6x - 15 = 3x^2 + 12x$ etc.

Round Three:

- A. $(k-3)(-1)^3 + (2k-5)(-1)^2 + (k-7)(-1) + (k-10) = 0$ simplifies to $k - 5 = 0$
- B. $k(x-1)(3x+4)(2x-3) = k(6x^3 - 7x^2 - 11x + 12) \rightarrow 12k = -12 \rightarrow k = -1$
 $\rightarrow f(x) = -6x^3 + 7x^2 + 11x - 12 \rightarrow f(-1) = 6 + 7 - 11 - 12 = -10$.
- C. $P(x) = Q_1(x)(x-2)(x+3) + ax + b$ [2nd degree divisor can leave a 1st degree remainder.]
 $P(x) = Q_2(x)(x-2) - 3 \rightarrow P(2) = -3 = 2a + b$
 $P(x) = Q_3(x)(x+3) + 2 \rightarrow P(-3) = 17 = -3a + b \rightarrow a = -4, b = 5$

Round Four:

- A. $30y = 24,072 \rightarrow y\text{-intercept} = (0, 802.4)$ $20x = 24,072 \rightarrow x\text{-intercept} = (1203.6, 0)$
- B. $5s + 6p = 147$ and $40(0.60s) + 40(0.5p) = 578$ or $24s + 20p = 578$; system solves to $s = 12, p = 14.5$.
- C. If $x - a$ is negative, $|x - a| = a - x = a + 2$ means $x = -2$ violating $x > 0$. Thus, $x - a$ is nonnegative so $|x - a| = x - a = a + 2$, so $x + a = a + 2 + (2a) = 3a + 2$ maximized when $a = 668$, so $x = 2006$.

Round Five:

- A. If A is a base angle $180 = A + A + 7A$. $A = C = 20$; if B is a base angle $180 = 7A + 7A + A$. $A = 12, C = B = 7(12) = 84$.
- B. $JK = 750$ (Pythagoras, or 3-4-5 scaled by 150) $\triangle MKP \sim \triangle PKJ$ so $MK/600 = 600/750$ and $MK = 480$. $\triangle MNK \sim \triangle JPK$, so $MN/450 = 480/750$ and $MN = 288$.

- C. Transversal DB gives $m\angle FDB = m\angle DBE$; transversal FB gives $m\angle DFB = m\angle CBE$, so $FB = DB$ (isos triangle) and DF is midline of $\triangle AEB$, so $DE = AD$.
In $\triangle AEB$, both BD and EF are medians so $BG = 2/3 (BD)$.

Round Six:

- A. The possible key sequences were: 4^2 , 2^4 , 4×4 , 8×2 , $8 + 8$, and 2×8 , $9 + 7$ and $7 + 9$, so prob = $1/8$.

- B. Expand via binomial theorem or

$$(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})^{2(3)} = (5 + 2\sqrt{6})^3 = 5^3 + 3(25)2\sqrt{6} + 3(5)4(6) + 8(6)\sqrt{6} = 485 + 198\sqrt{6}$$

- C. If ${}_n C_6 = {}_n C_5 = {}_n C_4$ then

$$\frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)(n-4)(n-5)}{6!} = \frac{2n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)(n-4)}{5!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)}{4!}$$

so $\frac{(n-4)(n-5)}{6(5)} = \frac{2(n-4)}{5} - \frac{1}{1}$ so $n^2 - 9n + 20 = 12(n-4) - 30 \dots n = 7$ or 14

Team Round:

- A. Find k so coeff. matrix has determinant = 0: $k^2(k^2 - 5) + 4 = 0$ gives $k = \pm 2$ or ± 1
Substitute to find inconsistent when $k = 1$ or -2 ; dependent when $k = 2$ or -1 .
 $A = B = -2$, so sum is -4 .

- B. $A = 10a + b \rightarrow B = 10b + a$. $A^2 - B^2 = 99(a - b)^2 = 9[(11)(a - b)]^2 = 9[(11)(a + b)(a - b)]$. Since $a > b$ and a and b represent base 10 digits, the latter factor can be a perfect square, if $a + b$ is a multiple of 11 and $a - b = 1$, which only happens for $(a, b) = (6, 5)$.

- C. Let the roots of $y = g(x)$ be r, s and t . Then: $r + s + t = -1$, $rs + rt + st = -5$ and $rst = -2$
If $f(x)$ has zeros: $1 + 1/r, 1 + 1/s$ and $1 + 1/t$:

$$(1 + 1/r) + (1 + 1/s) + (1 + 1/t) = \frac{3rst + rs + rt + st}{rst} = \frac{-6 + (-5)}{-2} = \frac{11}{2}$$

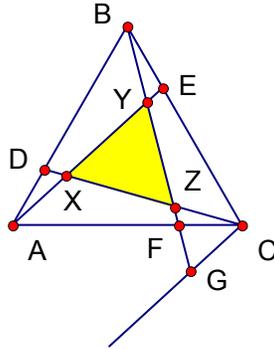
$$(1 + 1/r)(1 + 1/s) + (1 + 1/r)(1 + 1/t) + (1 + 1/s)(1 + 1/t) = \frac{3rst + 2(rs + rt + st) + (r + s + t)}{rst} = \frac{-17}{-2} = \frac{17}{2}$$

$$(1 + 1/r)(1 + 1/s)(1 + 1/t) = 1 + \frac{1 + (r + s + t) + (rs + rt + st)}{rst} = 1 + \frac{1 + (-1) + (-5)}{-2} = \frac{7}{2}$$

$$f(x) = k(x^3 - (11/2)x^2 + (17/2)x - 7/2) = -2x^3 + 11x^2 - 17x + 7$$

- D. The possible locations of the 4th vertex are: $(13, 10)$, $(-11, 4)$ and $(5, -2)$. Note that A, B and C are midpoints of the triangle formed by connecting these three points. The one furthest from $y = x$ is $(-11, 4)$ which is $\sqrt{137}$ from the origin.

- E. $\text{Area}(\triangle ABE) = \frac{1}{4} \text{Area}(\triangle ABC)$. To find $\text{Area}(\triangle ABY)$, find ratio of bases AY to AE . Add parallel to AE from C , extend BF to G . $\triangle AYF \sim \triangle CGF$ gives $AY = 3CG$ $\triangle BYE \sim \triangle BGC$ gives $CG = 4YE$ so $AY = 12YE$ and $\text{Area}(\triangle ABY) = \frac{12}{13} \text{Area}(\triangle ABE) = \frac{3}{13} \text{Area}(\triangle ABC)$. Removing 3 of these leaves $\text{Area}(\triangle XYZ) = \frac{4}{13} \text{Area}(\triangle ABC) = \frac{4}{13} 169\sqrt{3}$.



- F. The k^{th} term in the expansion will be given by $\binom{10}{k} (4x^n)^{10-k} \left(\frac{x^{-3}}{2}\right)^k$
 $= C(x^{10n-nk-3k})$, where C is a numerical constant. x^0 insures that this is a constant term $\rightarrow k = 10n/(n+3) = 10 - 30/(n+3)$ Thus, $n+3$ must be a divisor of $30 = (2)(3)(5)$
 The factors of 30 are: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15 and 30 so n may be 2, 3, 7, 12, and 27. The total is 51.