

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE**  
**CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016**  
**ROUND 1 TRIG: RIGHT ANGLE PROBLEMS, LAWS OF SINES AND COSINES**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

A) The short leg in right triangle  $ABC$  has length 16. The hypotenuse is 2 units longer than the long leg. Compute the area of  $\triangle ABC$ .

B) In  $\triangle ABC$ ,  $AB = 12$ ,  $BC = 15$ , and  $AC = 8$ . Compute  $\frac{\sin B + \sin C}{\sin A}$ .

C) In right triangle  $ABC$ ,  $m\angle C = 90^\circ$ , median  $AN = 2\sqrt{2}$ , and median  $BP = 3\sqrt{3}$ . Compute the length of median  $\overline{CM}$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 1**

A) Let the hypotenuse and long leg have lengths  $(x + 2)$  and  $x$ .

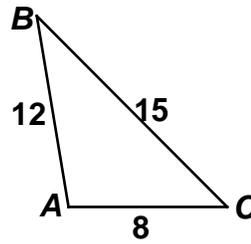
$$\text{Then: } 16^2 + x^2 = (x + 2)^2 \Leftrightarrow 256 + x^2 = x^2 + 4x + 4 \Rightarrow 64 = x + 1 \Rightarrow x = 63$$

$$\text{Thus, the area is } \frac{1}{2} \cdot 16 \cdot 63 = 8 \cdot 63 = \underline{504}.$$

B) According to the Law of Sines,

$$\frac{\sin A}{15} = \frac{\sin B}{8} = \frac{\sin C}{12} = n \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \sin A = 15n \\ \sin B = 8n \\ \sin C = 12n \end{cases}$$

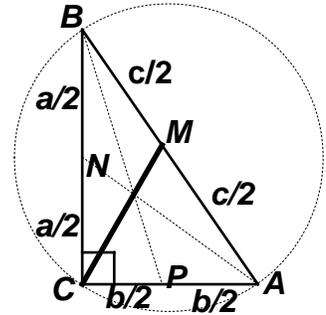
$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{\sin B + \sin C}{\sin A} = \frac{8n + 12n}{15n} = \frac{20}{15} = \underline{\frac{4}{3}}.$$



C) In right triangles  $BCP$  and  $ACN$ ,

$$\begin{cases} a^2 + \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = 8 \Rightarrow 4a^2 + b^2 = 32 \\ b^2 + \left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2 = 27 \Rightarrow a^2 + 4b^2 = 108 \end{cases} \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = \frac{140}{5} = 28$$

$$\text{But } a^2 + b^2 = c^2 = 28 \Rightarrow c = 2\sqrt{7} \Rightarrow CM = \underline{\sqrt{7}}.$$



FYI:

The midpoint of the hypotenuse is the center of the circumscribed circle, i.e. the circle which passes through the 3 vertices of the right triangle  $ABC$ .

The medians in ANY triangle are concurrent, i.e. pass through a common point.

The point of concurrency divides each median into segments whose lengths are in a 2 : 1 ratio.

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016  
ROUND 2 ARITHMETIC/NUMBER THEORY**

**ANSWERS**

A) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

- A) The value of  $n!$  gets large very quickly, but the sum of the digits of  $n!$  increases slowly. Let  $P =$  minimum value of  $n$  for which  $Q$ , the sum of the digits of  $n!$ , exceeds 10. Compute the ordered pair  $(P, Q)$ .

Note:  $n!$  (read  $n$  factorial) is defined as the product  $n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$ .

- B) Find the remainder when  $7^{355}$  is divided by 4.

- C) A two-digit positive integer  $N$  leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 5. If the digits are reversed, this new integer leaves a remainder of 3 when divided by 5. What is the remainder when the sum of all integers  $N$  satisfying these conditions is divided by 9?

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 2**

A) Simply build a table of  $n!$ -values.

$n$	$n!$	Digitsum	$n$	$n!$	Digitsum
2	2	2	7	5040	9
3	6	6	8	40320	9
4	24	6	<u>9</u>	362880	<u>27</u>
5	120	3	10		
6	720	9			

Thus,  $(P, Q) = (\underline{9}, \underline{27})$

B) Looking for a pattern:  $7^1 = 4 \cdot 1 + \boxed{3}$ ,  $7^2 = 49 = 4 \cdot 12 + \boxed{1}$ ,  $7^3 = 343 = 4 \cdot 85 + \boxed{3}$ ,  
 $7^4 = 2401 = 4 \cdot 600 + \boxed{1}$ ,  $7^5 = 16807 = 4 \cdot 4201 + \boxed{3}, \dots$

This suggests that the remainders alternate between 3 and 1 and that the required remainder is 3, since the exponent 355 is odd.

This can be summarized as  $7^{\text{odd}} \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $7^{\text{even}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , where  $\pmod{n}$  denotes the remainder upon division by  $n$  and  $\equiv$  is read "is congruent to".

Does this alternating pattern really continue? Removing any doubt .....

Consider that  $7^n = (4+3)^n$ . Each term in the expansion will contain a factor of 4, except the last term  $3^n$ , so we must examine powers of 3 to determine the remainder.

$3^n = (2+1)^n$  and the last terms in the expansion will be  $2n+1$ . If  $n$  is even, then this is 1 more than a multiple of 4 ( $n = 2k$  (i.e., even)  $\Rightarrow 2n+1 = 2(2k)+1 = 4k + \boxed{1}$ ); if  $n$  is odd, this is 3 more than a multiple of 4 ( $n = 2k+1$  (i.e., odd)  $\Rightarrow 2n+1 = 2(2k+1)+1 = 4k + \boxed{3}$ ).

Thus, the alternating pattern really does continue!

C) If  $N$  and  $N'$  denote the two-digit numbers and  $a$  and  $b$  denote the digits, then

$$\begin{cases} N = 10a + b = 5k + 1 \\ N' = 10b + a = 5j + 3 \end{cases} \text{ Adding, } N + N' = 11(a + b) = 5(j + k) + 4.$$

If  $j+k$  is even, then  $5(j+k)$  is a multiple of 10 and  $a+b = 4$  or 14.

If  $j+k$  is odd,  $a+b = 9$ . [19 is rejected, since the maximum digit sum is  $9+9=18$ .]

$$a+b=4 \Rightarrow N = \del{13}, \del{22}, 31$$

$$a+b=9 \Rightarrow N = \del{18}, \del{27}, 36, \del{45}, \del{54}, \del{63}, \del{72}, 81$$

$$a+b=14 \Rightarrow N = \del{77}, 86, \del{95}$$

The sum of all the numbers satisfying the specified conditions is 234 which leaves a remainder of 0 when divided by 9.

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016  
ROUND 3 COORDINATE GEOMETRY OF LINES AND CIRCLES**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )

C) \_\_\_\_\_

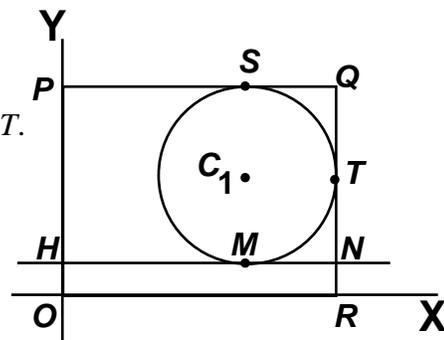
A) The equation of circle  $C_1$  is  $(x-6)^2 + (y-4)^2 = 5.0625$ .

Two sides of rectangle  $OPQR$  are tangent to circle  $C_1$  at points  $S$  and  $T$ .

$\overline{HN} \parallel \overline{OR}$  and intersects circle  $C_1$  at point  $M$ .

Compute the perimeter of rectangle  $HORN$ .

Recall:  $\frac{1}{8} = 0.125$ .

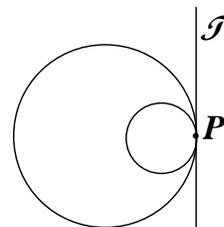


B) Line  $\mathcal{L}$  passes through points  $A(-4,1)$  and  $B(17,8)$ . The line perpendicular to  $\mathcal{L}$  has  $x$ -intercept at  $C(3,0)$  and intersects  $\mathcal{L}$  at  $D(p,q)$ . Compute the ordered pair  $(p,q)$ .

C) Given: Circle  $C_1 : x^2 + y^2 = 676$

How many unit circles, i.e. with radius 1, are internally tangent to  $C_1$  and have a center at a lattice point?

Note: Two circles are internally tangent if they share a common tangent line  $\mathcal{J}$  and the centers of the circles are on the same side of the tangent line  $\mathcal{J}$ .



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 3**

A) Since the center of  $C_1$  is at  $(6, 4)$  and  $r^2 = 5\frac{1}{16} = \frac{81}{16}$ , we have the radius is  $\frac{9}{4} = 2.25$

$Q(8.25, 6.25)$  and  $M(6, 1.75)$ .

Thus, rectangle *HORN* is  $1.75 \times 8.25$ , resulting in a perimeter of  $2(1.75 + 8.25) = \underline{20}$ .

B)  $m_{\mathcal{L}} = \frac{8-1}{17+4} = \frac{1}{3}$ .

The equation of  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $x - 3y = -7$ .

The equation of the perpendicular is  $(y - 0) = -3(x - 3)$

$\Rightarrow 3x + y = 9$  \*\*\*.

Solving simultaneously,

$$3x + y = 9$$

$$x - 3y = -7$$

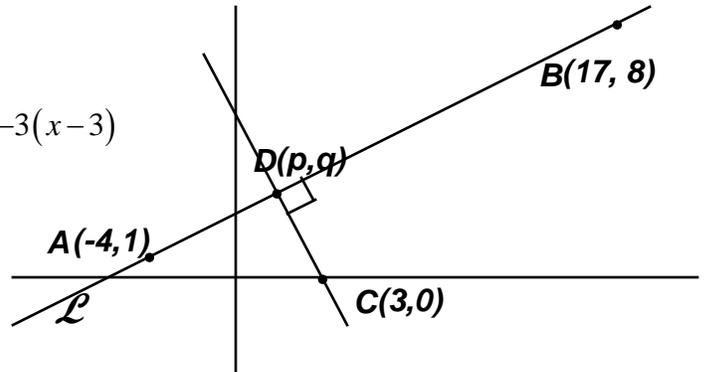
$$4x - 2y = 2$$

$$2x - y = 1$$
 \*\*\*

Adding,

$$5x = 10 \Rightarrow x = 2, y = 3$$

Thus,  $(p, q) = \underline{(2, 3)}$ .



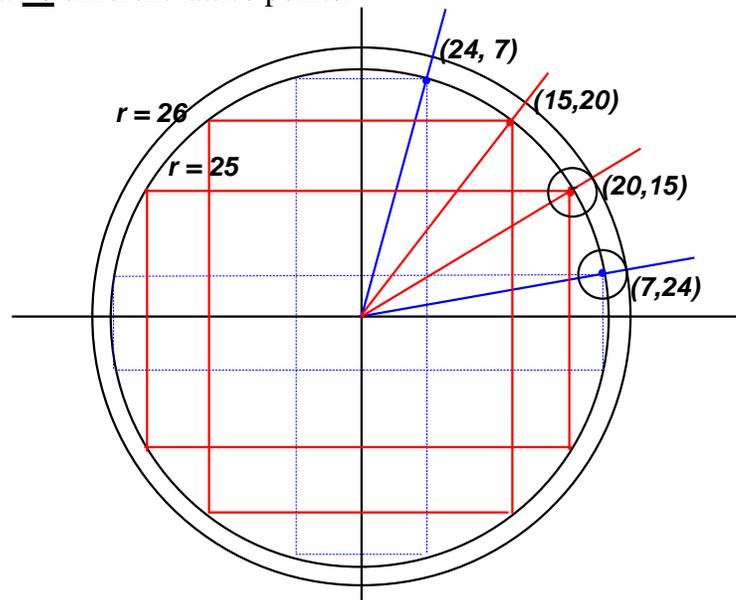
C) The given circle is origin-centered with radius 26. Thus, we are looking at two concentric origin-centered circles of radii 25 and 26. The equations of the required unit circles must be of the form  $(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = 1$ , where  $h^2 + k^2 = 25^2$ .

This suggests two possible Pythagorean Triples: 7-24-25 and 5(3-4-5) = (15-20-25)

For each triple there are 8 possibilities: two in each of the 4 quadrants, as the coordinates of the center are swapped and the signs are changed from  $(+, +)$  to  $(-, +)$ ,  $(-, -)$  and  $(+, -)$ .

We also must consider  $(\pm 25, 0)$  and  $(0, \pm 25)$ .

Therefore, the center can be located at 20 different lattice points.



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE**  
**CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016**  
**ROUND 4 ALG 2: LOG & EXPONENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

A) Compute the value(s) of  $x$  that satisfy the equation  $\log_2 x + \log_2 \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{2} \log_2 25$ .

B) If  $\log_3(\log_2(\log_2 x)) = 1$ , compute  $(\log_4 x)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \log_2 x$ .

C) Determine the domain of the real-valued function defined by  $y = \log_{10} \left( \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^3 - x} \right)$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 4**

A)  $\log_2 x + \log_2 \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{2} \log_2 25 \Leftrightarrow \log_2 \frac{x}{4} = \log_2 \left( 25^{\frac{3}{2}} \right) = \log_2 125 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{4} = 125 \Rightarrow x = \underline{500}$ .

B)  $\log_3 (\log_2 (\log_2 x)) = 1 \Rightarrow \log_2 (\log_2 x) = 3^1 \Rightarrow \log_2 x = 2^3 = 8 \Rightarrow x = 256$   
 $(\log_4 256)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \log_2 256 = \sqrt{4} \cdot 8 = \underline{16}$ .

C)  $x^3 - x = x(x+1)(x-1) \neq 0 \Rightarrow x \neq 0, \pm 1$

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

As a real-valued function,  $y = \log_{10} \left( \frac{x^3 + 1}{x^3 - x} \right)$  must have a positive argument.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}}{x(x-1)} > 0. \text{ Since the numerator is always positive, the denominator determines the}$$

sign of the quotient. For  $x < 0$  or  $x > 1$ , both factors in the denominator have the same parity (i.e. both are positive or both are negative) and the quotient will be positive.

Thus, the domain (*which must exclude -1*) is  $x < -1, -1 < x < 0, x > 1$ .

Interval notation is also acceptable:

$$(-\infty, -1), (-1, 0), (1, \infty)$$

Commas may be replaced by "or"s. Also accept  $x < 0, x > 1$  ( $x \neq -1$ ) or , since "and"s are evaluated before "or"s,  $x < 0$  and ( $x \neq -1$ ) or  $x > 1$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016  
ROUND 5 ALG 1: RATIO, PROPORTION OR VARIATION**

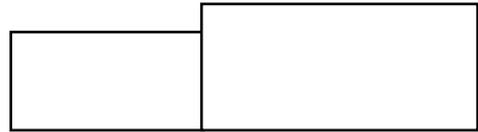
**ANSWERS**

A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_

C) \_\_\_\_\_

- A) Suppose the amount of light reflected by a set of mirrors is directly proportional to the surface area of the mirrors. 50 lumens of light are reflected off a mirror whose dimensions are 3 inches by 5 inches. How many lumens of light are reflected off two mirrors placed side-by-side made of the same material given that the first is 4 inches by 6 inches and the second is 5 inches by 9 inches?



- B) Given:  $\begin{cases} \frac{A}{B} = \frac{7}{9} \\ \frac{C}{D} = \frac{5}{3} \end{cases}$  If  $B = 4D$ , compute  $\frac{A+B}{C+D}$ .

- C) As a 3-point shooter in basketball, I have currently hit on 60% of my attempts. If 8 of my hits had been misses, I would have only been a 50% 3-point shooter. Suppose I hit on my next  $k$  3-point shots. What is the minimum value of  $k$  for which I hit at least 70% of my 3-point attempts?

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 5**

A)  $\frac{50}{3 \cdot 5} = \frac{10}{3}$  lumens per in<sup>2</sup>.  $\frac{10}{3}(24 + 45) = 80 + 150 = \underline{\underline{230}}$  lumens.

B)  $\frac{A+B}{C+D} = \frac{\frac{7}{9}B+B}{\frac{5}{3}D+D} = \frac{\frac{16}{9}B}{\frac{8}{3}D} = \frac{2B}{3D} = \frac{2(4D)}{3D} = \underline{\underline{\frac{8}{3}}}$ .

C) Assume currently I have hit  $x$  3-pointers in  $y$  attempts. Then:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x}{y} = 0.6 = \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{x-8}{y} = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} 5x = 3y \\ y = 2x - 16 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow 5x = 3(2x - 16) \Rightarrow x = 48, y = 80$$

$$\frac{48+k}{80+k} \geq 0.70 = \frac{7}{10} \Leftrightarrow 480 + 10k \geq 560 + 7k \Rightarrow 3k \geq 80 \Rightarrow k_{\min} = \underline{\underline{27}}.$$

Check:  $k = 26 \Rightarrow \frac{74}{106} \approx 0.6981$ ,  $k = 27 \Rightarrow \frac{75}{107} \approx 0.7009$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016  
ROUND 6 PLANE GEOMETRY: POLYGONS (no areas)**

**ANSWERS**

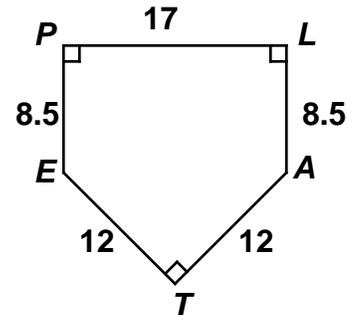
A) \_\_\_\_\_

B) \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ O \_\_\_\_\_ R

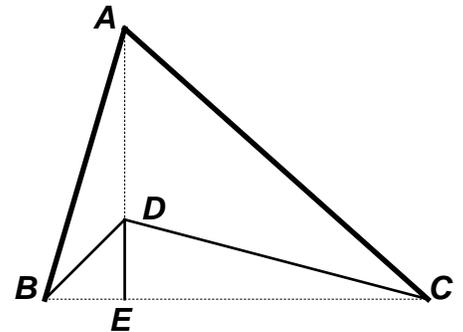
C) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )

- A) In a polygon with  $n$  sides, the ratio of the sum of the measures of the exterior angles (one at each vertex) to the sum of the measure of the interior angles is  $\frac{1}{8}$ . How many diagonals does this polygon have, *originating from any single vertex*?

- B) In baseball, home plate according to the MLB rulebook, has 3 right angles and dimensions shown at the right. Rules may be rules, but, as students of mathematics, we realize that *this shape cannot exist*.  $m\angle ETA$  may be close to  $90^\circ$ , but  $\angle ETA$  is **not** a right angle. Is interior  $\angle ETA$  Acute, Obtuse or Reflexive? Circle the correct letter in the answer blank above.



- C) The diagonals of quadrilateral  $ABCD$  (segments  $\overline{AD}$  and  $\overline{BC}$ ) do not intersect. This is always the case for a concave quadrilateral. Note: Points  $A, B, C, D,$  and  $E$  all lie in the same plane. Assume  $E$  lies on  $\overline{BC}$ . If  $\overline{ADE} \perp \overline{BC}$ ,  $AB = BC = 25$ ,  $AC = 30$ ,  $BD = BE + 3$ ,  $AE = 3(BE + 1)$ , compute the ordered pair  $(DC, d)$ , where  $d$  denotes the absolute value of the difference between the lengths of the diagonals.



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 6**

A)  $\frac{360}{180(n-2)} = \frac{2}{n-2} = \frac{1}{8} \Rightarrow n-2 = 16 \Rightarrow n = 18.$

Diagonals in a polygon from any single vertex can be drawn to any other vertex, except the two adjacent vertices, eliminating 3 vertices. Thus,  $18 - 3 = \underline{15}$ .

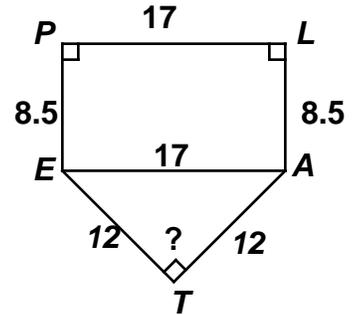
B) Reflexive refers to an angle whose measure is greater than  $180^\circ$  and less than  $360^\circ$ .

The exterior angle at  $T$  is a reflexive angle.

The interior angle must be either acute or obtuse.

If  $\angle ETA$  were a right, then angle  $EA^2 = (12\sqrt{2})^2 = 144 \cdot 2 = 288.$

However,  $EA^2 = 17^2 = 289.$  Since the square of the actual length is slightly longer,  $\angle ETA$  must be obtuse.



C) Either by invoking the Pythagorean theorem,

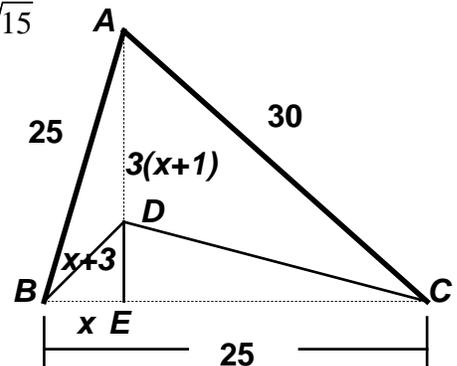
$$x^2 + 9(x+1)^2 = 625 \Rightarrow 10x^2 + 18x - 616 = 0 \Rightarrow 5x^2 + 9x - 308 = (5x+44)(x-7) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 7,$$

or, recognizing special right triangles (7-24-25, 18-24-30), we have  $CE = 18, AE = 24$

$$\Rightarrow BD = 10 \Rightarrow DE = \sqrt{51} \Rightarrow DC^2 = 51 + 18^2 = 375 \Rightarrow DC = 5\sqrt{15}$$

$$d = 25 - (24 - \sqrt{51}) = 1 + \sqrt{51}$$

Thus, the required ordered pair is  $\underline{(5\sqrt{15}, 1 + \sqrt{51})}$ .

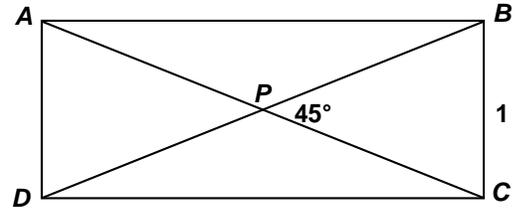


**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016  
ROUND 7 TEAM QUESTIONS**

**ANSWERS**

- A) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )    D) \_\_\_\_\_  
 B) \_\_\_\_\_ E) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 C) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ ) F) ( \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ )

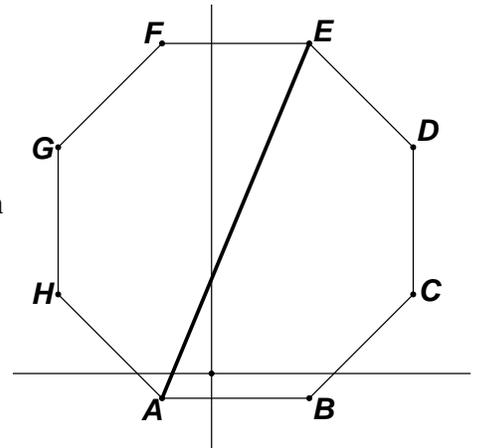
- A) The perimeter of the rectangle  $ABCD$ , where  $BC = 1$ , and the diagonals intersect at a  $45^\circ$  angle may be expressed in the form  $s + t\sqrt{r}$ , where  $\sqrt{r}$  is a simplified radical. Compute the ordered triple  $(s, t, r)$ .



- B) Find all integer ordered pairs  $(n, k)$  which satisfy the following equation:

$$n^3 - 3n^2 + 3n = k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k - 17$$

- C) A regular octagon is placed on a coordinate system as shown in the diagram. If  $A(-2, -1)$  and  $B(4, -1)$ , compute the coordinates of the  $x$ -intercept of  $\overline{AE}$ .

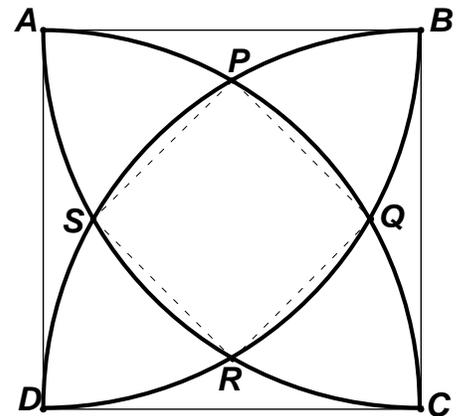


- D) Given:  $\log 250 = N$   
 Give a simplified expression for  $\log_5 250$  in terms of  $N$ .

- E) The golden rectangle is a rectangle with dimensions  $L_g \times W_g$ , where  $L_g > W_g$  which satisfies the proportion  $\frac{L_g}{W_g} = \frac{L_g + W_g}{L_g}$ . Define a silver rectangle to be a rectangle with dimensions  $L_s \times W_s$ , where  $L_s > W_s$  and diagonal  $D_s$  which satisfies the proportion

$$\frac{L_s}{W_s} = \frac{D_s}{L_s}. \text{ The ratio } \frac{L_g}{W_g} : \frac{L_s}{W_s} = \frac{\sqrt{B}}{A}, \text{ where } A > 1 \text{ is an integer}$$

and  $A \cdot B$  is a minimum. Compute the ordered pair  $(A, B)$ .



- F) Given square  $ABCD$  with side of length 4. Arcs are drawn from each vertex and the points of intersection form square  $PQRS$  as shown. In simplified radical form, the perimeter of  $PQRS$  is  $a(\sqrt{b} - \sqrt{c})$ , where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are positive integers. Compute the ordered triple  $(a, b, c)$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round**

A) Solution #1:

Let  $PB = PC = x$ . Using the Law of Cosines on  $\triangle BPC$ ,

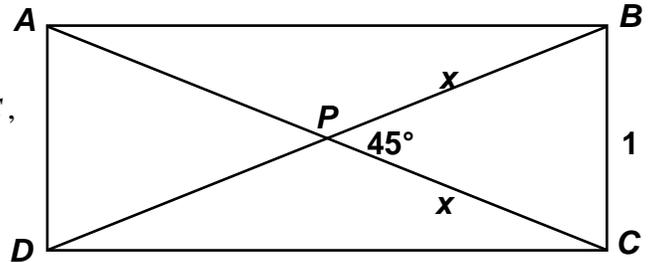
$$x^2 + x^2 - 2x^2 \cos 45^\circ = 1 \Rightarrow (2 - \sqrt{2})x^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{1}{2 - \sqrt{2}} = \frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow BD = 2x = 2\sqrt{\frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{2}}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \text{Perimeter} = 2(1 + \sqrt{2}) + 2 = 4 + 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow (s, t, r) = \underline{(4, 2, 2)}.$$



Solution #2:

Drop a perpendicular from  $B$  to  $\overline{AC}$

$$EC = x\sqrt{2} - x = x(\sqrt{2} - 1)$$

In  $\triangle BEC$ ,

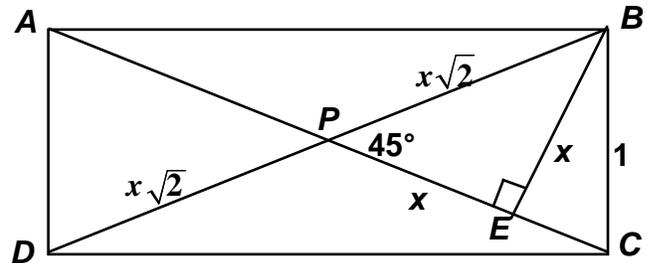
$$x^2 + (\sqrt{2} - 1)^2 x^2 = 1^2 \Rightarrow x^2(1 + 2 + 1 - 2\sqrt{2}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{1}{4 - 2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4 + 2\sqrt{2}}{8} = \frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{4}$$

$$BD = 2x\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow BD^2 = 8x^2 = 8\left(\frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{4}\right) = 4 + 2\sqrt{2}$$

But  $DC^2 = BD^2 - 1 = 4 + 2\sqrt{2} - 1 = 3 + 2\sqrt{2}$  and the same result follows.

Note that the perimeter is numerically equal to  $BD^2$  !!



Solution #3

Note that  $m\angle BDC = \frac{1}{2}m\angle BPC$ . So, using  $\tan \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{\sin \theta}{1 + \cos \theta}$ , we have

$$\tan(\angle BDC) = \frac{\sin 45^\circ}{1 + \cos 45^\circ} = \frac{\sqrt{2}/2}{1 + \sqrt{2}/2} = \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow DC = 1 + \sqrt{2} \text{ and the same result follows.}$$

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round - continued**

B)  $n^3 - 3n^2 + 3n = k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k - 17 \Leftrightarrow (n^3 - 3n^2 + 3n - 1) = (k^3 + 3k^2 + 3k + 1) - 19$

$\Leftrightarrow (n-1)^3 - (k+1)^3 = -19$

As the difference of perfect squares, the left hand side of this equation factors as

$(n-k-2) \left[ (n-1)^2 + (n-1)(k+1) + (k+1)^2 \right] = -19$

Since  $n$  and  $k$  are integers and 19 is prime, we have two possibilities,

(1)  $\begin{cases} n-k-2 = -19 \\ (n-1)^2 + (k+1)^2 + (n-1)(k+1) = 1 \end{cases}$  or (2)  $\begin{cases} n-k-2 = -1 \\ (n-1)^2 + (k+1)^2 + (n-1)(k+1) = 19 \end{cases}$

Notice we are tacitly assuming that the second equation must be equal to a positive number. The reasoning will be given at the end.

(1)  $\Rightarrow n = -17 + k$

Substituting, we have  $(k-18)^2 + (k+1)^2 + (k-18)(k+1) = 1 \Leftrightarrow 3k^2 - 51k + 18(17) + 1 = 0$  which has no rational solutions, since the discriminant is negative (-1083).

(2)  $\Rightarrow n = k + 1$

Substituting, we have

$k^2 + (k+1)^2 + k(k+1) = 19 \Leftrightarrow 3k^2 + 3k - 18 = 3(k^2 + k - 6) = 3(k-2)(k+3) = 0 \Rightarrow k = 2, -3$   
 $\Rightarrow (n, k) = \underline{\underline{(3, 2) \text{ or } (-2, -3)}}$ .

Clearly, an expression of the form  $A^2 + AB + B^2$  is positive if  $A$  and  $B$  are either both positive or both negative, but what about when they have opposite signs?

Completing the square,  $A^2 + AB + B^2 = A^2 + 2AB + B^2 - AB = (A+B)^2 - AB$ .

If  $A$  and  $B$  have opposite signs, then we are subtracting a negative and again the expression is positive.

C) Solution #1:  $\triangle AQP \sim \triangle ABE$

$\frac{AQ}{AB} = \frac{PQ}{EB} \Leftrightarrow \frac{x+2}{6} = \frac{1}{6+2(3\sqrt{2})}$

$\Rightarrow x+2 = \frac{6}{6+6\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{1+\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{1-\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2} - 1$

$\Rightarrow x = \sqrt{2} - 3$

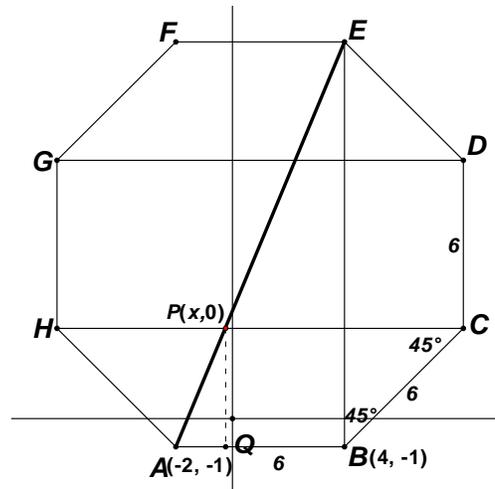
Thus, the  $x$ -intercept of  $\overline{AE}$  is at  $\underline{\underline{(-3 + \sqrt{2}, 0)}}$ .

Solution #2:

The equation of  $\overline{AE}$  is

$(y+1) = \frac{6+6\sqrt{2}}{6}(x+2) = (\sqrt{2}+1)(x+2)$ . Substituting  $y=0$  into  $(y+1) = (\sqrt{2}+1)(x+2)$  gives

the same result.



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round - continued**

D) Let  $A$  denote  $\log 2$ .

$$\log_5 250 = \frac{\log 250}{\log 5} = \frac{N}{\log\left(\frac{10}{2}\right)} = \frac{N}{\log 10 - \log 2} = \frac{N}{\mathbf{1-A}}$$

$$\text{But } N = \log 250 = \log(2 \cdot 5^3) = \log 2 + 3\log\left(\frac{10}{2}\right) = 3 - 2\log 2 = 3 - 2A \Rightarrow A = \frac{3-N}{2}$$

$$\text{Substituting, } \log_5 250 = \frac{N}{1-A} = \frac{N}{1-\frac{3-N}{2}} = \frac{N}{\frac{N-1}{2}} = \frac{\mathbf{2N}}{\mathbf{N-1}}.$$

E)  $\frac{L_g}{W_g} = \frac{L_g + W_g}{L_g} \Rightarrow L_g^2 - L_g W_g - W_g^2 = 0$ . Dividing by  $W_g^2$ ,  $\left(\frac{L_g}{W_g}\right)^2 - \frac{L_g}{W_g} - 1 = 0$ .

$$\text{Applying the Q.F., } \frac{L_g}{W_g} = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = n.$$

$$\frac{L_s}{W_s} = \frac{D_s}{L_s} \Rightarrow L_s^2 = W_s \sqrt{L_s^2 + W_s^2} \Rightarrow L_s^4 = W_s^2 (L_s^2 + W_s^2)$$

$$\text{Multiplying out, dividing by } W_s^4 \text{ and transposing terms } \Rightarrow \left(\frac{L_s}{W_s}\right)^4 - \left(\frac{L_s}{W_s}\right)^2 - 1 = 0. \text{ Applying}$$

$$\text{the Q.F. again, we have } \left(\frac{L_s}{W_s}\right)^2 = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = n. \text{ Therefore, the required ratio is}$$

$$\frac{n}{\sqrt{n}} = \sqrt{n} = \sqrt{\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2+2\sqrt{5}}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{2+2\sqrt{5}}}{2}$$

Multippliers other than  $\frac{2}{2}$  were possible.  $\frac{8}{8} \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{8+8\sqrt{5}}}{4}$ ,  $\frac{18}{18} \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{18+18\sqrt{5}}}{6}$ , but in all these cases, the product  $A \cdot B$  is larger. Since it was given that  $A > 1$ ,  $A = 2$  is a minimum and we have  $(A, B) = \left(\mathbf{2, 2+2\sqrt{5}}\right)$ .

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 SOLUTION KEY**

**Team Round - continued**

- F) Let  $D$  be the origin,  $\overline{DC}$  lie on the positive  $x$ -axis, and  $\overline{DA}$  lie on the positive  $y$ -axis.  $R$  and  $S$  (and  $P$  and  $Q$ ) are images across  $y = x$ , so we need only find the coordinates of one point and the coordinates of the other is found by simply interchanging the coordinates. Clearly, the  $x$ -coordinate of points  $P$  and  $R$  is 2 and the  $y$ -coordinate of points  $Q$  and  $S$  is 2 as well.

The equation of the arc  $\overline{APQC}$  is  $x^2 + y^2 = 16$ .

$$x = 2 \Rightarrow y = 2\sqrt{3}$$

Therefore, the coordinates are  $P(2, 2\sqrt{3})$ ,  $Q(2\sqrt{3}, 2)$ .

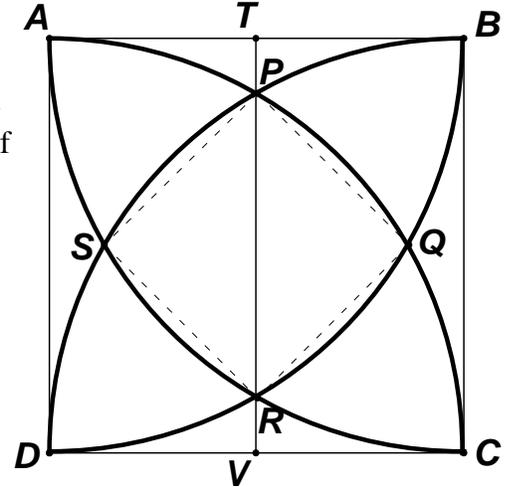
$$TP + PV = TV \Leftrightarrow TP + 2\sqrt{3} = 4 \Rightarrow TP = 4 - 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$TP = RV \Rightarrow R(2, 4 - 2\sqrt{3}), S(4 - 2\sqrt{3}, 2)$$

$$PR = 2\sqrt{3} - (4 - 2\sqrt{3}) = 4\sqrt{3} - 4$$

$$PQ = \frac{PR}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4(\sqrt{3} - 1)}{\sqrt{2}} = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{3} - 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Perimeter} = 4PQ = 8\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{3} - 1) = 8(\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}) \Rightarrow (a, b, c) = \underline{(8, 6, 2)}.$$



**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 3 - DECEMBER 2016 ANSWERS**

**Round 1 Trig: Right Triangles, Laws of Sine and Cosine**

- A) 504                      B)  $\frac{4}{3}$                       C)  $\sqrt{7}$

**Round 2 Arithmetic/Elementary Number Theory**

- A) (9, 27)                      B) 3                      C) 0

**Round 3 Coordinate Geometry of Lines and Circles**

- A) 20                      B) (2,3)                      C) 20

**Round 4 Alg 2: Log and Exponential Functions**

- A) 500                      B) 16                      C)  $x < -1, -1 < x < 0, x > 1$

**Round 5 Alg 1: Ratio, Proportion or Variation**

- A) 230                      B)  $\frac{8}{3}$                       C) 27

**Round 6 Plane Geometry: Polygons (no areas)**

- A) 15                      B) obtuse                      C)  $(5\sqrt{15}, 1+\sqrt{51})$

**Team Round**

- A) (4, 2, 2)                      D)  $\frac{2N}{N-1}$
- B) (-2, -3) and (3, 2)                      E)  $(2, 2+2\sqrt{5})$
- C)  $(-3+\sqrt{2}, 0)$                       F) (8, 6, 2)