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**PRMO  
2019**

**NATIONAL BOARD FOR HIGHER MATHEMATICS  
AND  
HOMI BHABHA CENTRE FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION  
TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH  
MATHEMATICS TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION  
MTA Pre-REGIONAL MATHEMATICAL OLYMPIAD (PRMO), 2019**

**QUESTION PAPER WITH SOLUTION  
& ANSWER KEY**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 | Time: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**



**RESONite Bagged  
SILVER MEDAL  
in 60<sup>th</sup> International  
Mathematical Olympiad  
(IMO) 2019, Bath (UK)  
and made INDIA PROUD**



**FEW OF HIS OTHER  
ACHIEVEMENT ARE**

- Won Bronze Medal at APMO 2019
- NSEA Qualified 2019
- KVPY Scholar 2018-19

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**TOTAL SELECTIONS**

**5162**

1 or 2 Yearlong Classroom: **3473** | Distance Learning & e-Learning: **1689**  
Kota Classroom : **2245** | All Study Centres (Classroom): **1228**



**AIR 73**  
**Ananjan Nandi**  
Classroom Student  
since Class XI

**AIR 80**  
**Tamajit Banerjee**  
Classroom Student  
since Class XII

List of all our selected students is available on our official website

HIGHEST\*  
CLASSROOM GIRL  
STUDENTS SELECTED

**353**

HIGHEST\* CLASSROOM  
HINDI MEDIUM  
STUDENTS SELECTED

**277**

**AIR 168**  
  
**KRITIN SHARMA**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI

**AIR 179**  
  
**ATREYA GOSWAMI**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI

**AIR 192**  
  
**SAPTARSHI DASGUPTA**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI

**AIR 212**  
  
**ATUR GUPTA**  
Classroom Student  
since class VIII

**AIR 216**  
  
**SHUBHANKAR**  
Classroom Student  
since class X

**AIR 225**  
  
**AMAN GUPTA**  
Classroom Student  
since class IX

**AIR 237**  
  
**KANISHK SINGHAL**  
Classroom Student  
since class VIII

**AIR 247**  
  
**RUPINDER GOYAL**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI

**BEST RANKS IN CATEGORIES**

**AIR 3**  
  
**ANSHUL NAVPHULE**  
Classroom Student  
since class VII  
SC

**AIR 4**  
  
**ATIN BAINADA**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI  
ST

**AIR 11**  
  
**SAHASRA RANJAN**  
Classroom Student  
since class XII  
OBC  
NCL

**AIR 21**  
  
**SOUMIL SARAWGI**  
Classroom Student  
since class XI  
GEN  
EWS

**Top 100 AIRs - Other Categories from Classroom Programs**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Gen - EWS | 21, 22, 23, 37, 42, 43, 54, 90, 94                                    |
| OBC - NCL | 11, 34, 40, 56, 72, 73, 76  |
| SC        | 3, 11, 30, 31, 36, 37, 53, 64, 72, 92, 94, 100                        |
| ST        | 4, 10, 13, 18, 21, 22, 30, 37, 43, 53, 68, 70, 74, 83, 89, 90, 91, 94 |

**Top 100 AIRs**  
Distance Learning Program

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 18 | 42 | 48 | 54 |
| 58 | 61 | 90 | 98 |

All from General Category

**JNV Bundi Result Highlight**

HIGHEST\* SELECTION RATIO  
amongst any JNV across India  
**84%** 84 students selected  
out of 100 students  
appeared

\*Based on the information collected from public domain till 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2019, 1:00 PM

## INSTRUCTION

**Number of Questions: 30**

**Max. Marks: 102**

1. Use of mobile phones, smartphones, iPads, calculators, programmable wrist watches is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. Only ordinary pens and pencils are allowed inside the examination hall.
2. The correction is done by machine through scanning. On OMR sheet, darken bubbles completely with a black pencil or a black blue pen. Darken the bubbles completely only after you are sure of your answer: else, erasing lead to the OMR sheet getting damaged and the machine may not be able to read the answer.
3. The name, email address and date of birth entered on the OMR sheet will be your login credentials for accessing your PROM score.
4. Incompletely, incorrectly and carelessly filled information may disqualify your candidature.
5. Each question has a one or two digit number as answer. The first diagram below shows improper and proper way of darkening the bubbles with detailed instructions. The second diagram shows how to mark a 2-digit number and a 1-digit number.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. "Think before your ink".
2. Marking should be done with Blue/Black Ball Point Pen only.
3. Darken only one circle for each question as shown in Example Below

|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <p><b>WRONG METHODS</b></p> | <p><b>CORRECT METHOD</b></p> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|

4. If more than one circle is darkened or if the response is marked in any other way as shown "WRONG" above, it shall be treated as wrong way of marking.
5. Make the marks only in the spaces provided.
6. Carefully tear off the duplicate copy of the OMR without tampering the Original.
7. Please do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Q. 1</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">47</div> | <p><b>Q. 2</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">05</div> |
|--|--|

6. The answer you write on OMR sheet is irrelevant. The darkened bubble will be considered as your final answer.
7. Questions 1 to 6 carry 2 marks each; Questions 7 to 21 carry 3 marks each; Questions 22 to 30 carry 5 marks each.
8. All questions are compulsory.
9. There are no negative marks.
10. Do all rough work in the space provided below for it. You also have pages at the end of the question paper to continue with rough work.
11. After the exam, you may take away the Candidate's copy of the OMR sheet.
12. Preserve your copy of OMR sheet till the end of current Olympiad season. You will need it later for verification purposes.
13. You may take away the question paper after the examination.

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1. Consider the sequence of number  $\left[ n + \sqrt{2n} + \frac{1}{2} \right]$  for  $n \geq 1$ , where  $[x]$  denotes the greatest integer not exceeding  $x$ . If the missing integers in the sequence are  $n_1 < n_2 < n_3 < \dots$  then find the  $n_{12}$ .

Sol. (78)

$$S_n = n + \left[ \sqrt{2n} + 0.5 \right], n \geq 1$$

$[\cdot] = \text{G.I.F.}$

| n  | $\sqrt{2n}$ | $\left[ \sqrt{2n} + 0.5 \right]$ | $n + \left[ \sqrt{2n} + 0.5 \right]$ |
|----|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | 1.4         | 1                                | 2                                    |
| 2  | 2           | 2                                | 4                                    |
| 3  | 2.4         | 2                                | 5                                    |
| 4  | 2.8         | 3                                | 7                                    |
| 5  | 3.1         | 3                                | 8                                    |
| 6  | 3.4         | 3                                | 9                                    |
| 7  | 3.7         | 4                                | 11                                   |
| 8  | 4           | 4                                | 12                                   |
| 9  | 4.2         | 4                                | 13                                   |
| 10 | 4.4         | 4                                | 14                                   |
| 11 | 4.6         | 5                                | 16                                   |
| 12 | 4.8         | 5                                | 17                                   |
| 13 | 5.0         | 5                                | 18                                   |
| 14 | 5.2         | 5                                | 19                                   |
| 15 | 5.4         | 5                                | 20                                   |
| 16 | 5.6         | 6                                | 22                                   |
| 17 | 5.8         | 6                                | 23                                   |
| 18 | 6           | 6                                | 24                                   |
| 19 | 6.1         | 6                                | 25                                   |
| 20 | 6.3         | 6                                | 26                                   |
| 21 | 6.4         | 6                                | 27                                   |
| 22 | 6.6         | 7                                | 29                                   |

By observing pattern,

Missing numbers = 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55, 66, 78,.....

$\begin{matrix} \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright \\ +2 & +3 & +4 & +5 & +6 \end{matrix}$

$\therefore$  12<sup>th</sup> number in series = 78

2. If  $x = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6}$  is a root of  $x^4 + ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$  where a, b, c, d are integers, what is the value of  $|a+b+c+d|$ ?

Sol. (93)

$x = \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6}$  root of equation :

$$x^4 + ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0; a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Now,

$$(x - \sqrt{2})^2 = (\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6})^2 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x + 2 = 9 + 6\sqrt{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 7 = 2\sqrt{2}(3+x)$$

(On squaring both sides)

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$$\Rightarrow x^4 - 14x^2 + 49 = 8(x^2 + 6x + 9)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^4 - 22x^2 - 48x - 23 = 0$$

$$\therefore a = 0, b = -22, c = -48 \text{ and } d = -23$$

$$\therefore |a + b + c + d| = 93$$

3. Find the number of positive integers less than 101 that can not be written as the difference of two squares of integers.

**Sol. (25)**

Let,  $c \rightarrow$  be positive integer  $\leq 100$  such that  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$ ;  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**C – I :** Difference of a and b is 1.

$$\therefore \begin{aligned} 1^2 - 0^2 &= 1 \\ 2^2 - 1^2 &= 3 \\ 3^2 - 2^2 &= 5 \\ 4^2 - 3^2 &= 7 \\ 5^2 - 4^2 &= 9 \\ &\vdots \\ 50^2 - 49^2 &= 99 \end{aligned}$$

All odd number upto 100 can be expressed as difference of two squares.

**C – II :** Difference of a, b is 2

$$\begin{aligned} 2^2 - 0^2 &= 4 \\ 3^2 - 1^2 &= 8 \\ 4^2 - 2^2 &= 12 \\ &\vdots \\ 26^2 - 24^2 &= 100 \end{aligned}$$

All multiples of '4' upto 100 can be expressed as difference of two squares.

**C – III :** Difference of a, b is 3

This case will give odd numbers which are already counted

**C – IV :** Difference of a, b is 4

This case will give multiples of 4 which are already counted

Similarly, the remaining cases will all give number already counted in

C – I and C – II

$$\therefore \text{No. of numbers which can be expressed as difference of squares} \\ = (\text{odd numbers}) + (\text{multiples of 4}) = 50 + 25 = 75$$

$$\therefore \text{Required numbers which cannot be expressed as a difference of squares of two integers} \\ \text{are} = 100 - 75 = 25$$

4. Let  $a_1 = 24$  and form the sequence  $a_n, n \geq 2$  by  $a_n = 100a_{n-1} + 134$ . The first few terms are

$$24, 2534, 253534, 25353534, \dots$$

What is the least value of  $n$  for which  $a_n$  is divisible by 99?

**Sol. (88)**

$$a_1 = 24 \text{ \& } a_n = 100 \cdot a_{n-1} + 134$$

First few terms :

$$a_1 = 24$$

$$a_2 = 2534$$

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$$a_3 = 253534$$

$$a_4 = 25353534$$

$$\therefore a_n = \underbrace{2535353\dots\dots534}_{(n-1)\text{Times '53'}}$$

Now,  $a_n \rightarrow$  divisible by 99  $\Rightarrow$  by 9 & 11 both

$$\text{Sum of digits} = 6 + 8(n - 1)$$

To be divisible by 9,

$$n = 7, 16, 25, 34, 43, 52, 61, 70, 79, 88, \dots$$

$$a_7 = \underbrace{25353535353534}_{6\text{Times '53'}}$$

But  $a_7 \rightarrow$  Not divisible by 11.

$$a_{16} = \underbrace{25353535353\dots\dots534}_{15\text{Times '53'}}$$

Similarly,  $a_{16} \rightarrow$  Not divisible by 11.

Now,  $n = 88$

$$a_{88} = \underbrace{25353\dots\dots534}_{87\text{Times '53'}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Divisibility by 11} &\rightarrow |(2 + 3 + 3\dots) - (5 + 5 + \dots 4)| \\ &= |263 - 439| \\ &= 176 \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Least  $n = 88$

5. Let  $N$  be the smallest positive integer such that  $N + 2N + 3N + \dots + 9N$  is a number all whose digits are equal. What is the sum of the digits of  $N$ ?

Sol. (37)

$$N \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

$$P = N + 2N + 3N + \dots + 9N = 45N$$

$$45 = \underbrace{555\dots\dots5}_{a \text{ times}}$$

Only 55 ..... 5 can be repeated as  $45N$  will have units place = 0 or 5

Also as  $45N \rightarrow$  multiple of '9' also.

$$\therefore \text{If } a = 9 \Rightarrow \frac{555555555}{45} = N$$

$$\therefore N = 12345679$$

Sum of digits of  $N = 37$ .

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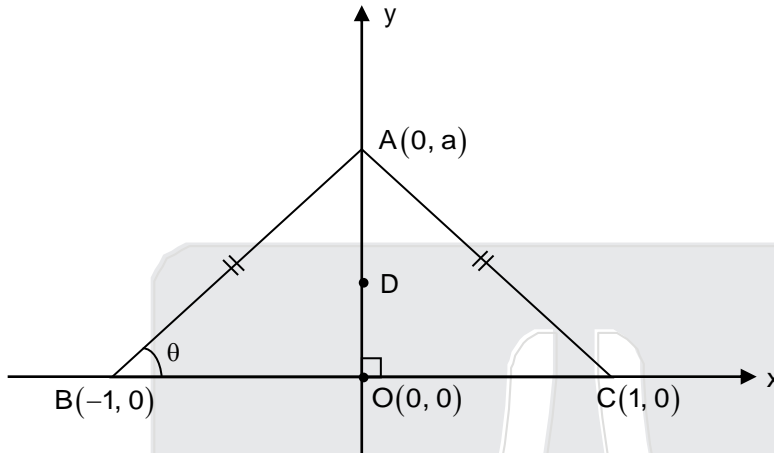
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6. Let ABC be a triangle such that AB = AC. Suppose the tangent to the circumcircle of ABC at B is perpendicular of AC. Find  $\angle ABC$  measured in degrees.

Sol. (30)

Consider the Isosceles triangle with vertex A, B, C such that AB = AC



By symmetry  $\rightarrow$  circumcentre will lie on  $y$  – axis

$\therefore D \equiv (0, k) \rightarrow$  circumcenter

Radius of circumcircle = DA = DB = DC

$$\therefore \sqrt{(a-k)^2} = \sqrt{k^2 + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + k^2 - 2ak = k^2 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 - 2ak = 1 \quad \dots(1)$$

Now

$$\text{Circumcircle : } x^2 + (y-k)^2 = k^2 + 1$$

$\therefore$  Slope of tangent at B,

$$2x + 2(y-k)y' = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y'|_B = \frac{-x}{y-k}|_B = \frac{1}{-k}$$

Also,  $m_{AC} = -a$

$$\text{By given condition, } (-a) \times \left(-\frac{1}{k}\right) = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow a = -k \quad \dots(2)$$

From (1) & (2),  $a^2 + 2a^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow a = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{If } a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \quad \Rightarrow k = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore \tan \theta = m_{AB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \quad \Rightarrow \theta = 30^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow \angle ABC = 30^\circ$$

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7. Let  $s(n)$  denote the sum of the digits of a positive integer  $n$  in base 10. If  $s(m) = 20$  and  $s(33m) = 120$ , what is the value of  $s(3m)$ ?

Sol. (60)

$S(m) = 20$  and  $S(33m) = 120$  is possible only for  $m$  having digits '0' or '1'  
 $\therefore S(3m) = 60$

8. Let  $F_k(a,b) = (a+b)^k - a^k - b^k$  and let  $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$ . For how many ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  with  $a, b \in S$  and  $a \leq b$  is  $\frac{F_5(a,b)}{F_3(a,b)}$  an integer?

Sol. (22)

$$\frac{F_5(a,b)}{F_3(a,b)} = \frac{(a+b)^5 - a^5 - b^5}{(a+b)^3 - a^3 - b^3}$$

$$= \frac{5}{3}(a^2 + b^2 + ab) \in \mathbb{I}$$

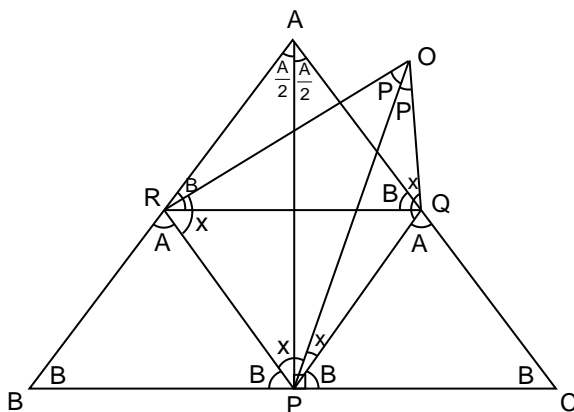
$a = 3k_1$  or  $3k_1+1$  or  $3k_1+2$   
 and  $b = 3k_2$  or  $3k_2+1$  or  $3k_2+2$

only when  $a$  and  $b$  give same remainder  $a^2 + b^2 + ab$  is divisible by 3.

|              |                          |                        |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| $\therefore$ | $a = 1, b = 1, 4, 7, 10$ | $\rightarrow 4$        |
|              | $a = 2, b = 2, 5, 8$     | $\rightarrow 3$        |
|              | $a = 3, b = 3, 6, 9$     | $\rightarrow 3$        |
|              | $a = 4, b = 4, 7, 10$    | $\rightarrow 3$        |
|              | $a = 5, b = 5, 8$        | $\rightarrow 2$        |
|              | $a = 6, b = 6, 9$        | $\rightarrow 2$        |
|              | $a = 7, b = 7, 10$       | $\rightarrow 2$        |
|              | $a = 8, b = 8$           | $\rightarrow 1$        |
|              | $a = 9, b = 9$           | $\rightarrow 1$        |
|              | $a = 10, b = 10$         | $\rightarrow 1$        |
|              | <b>Total</b>             | <b>22 ordered pair</b> |

9. The centre of the circle passing through the midpoints of the sides of an isosceles triangle  $ABC$  lies on the circumcircle of triangle  $ABC$ . If the larger angle of triangle  $ABC$  is  $\alpha^\circ$  and the smaller one  $\beta^\circ$  then what is the value of  $\alpha - \beta$ ?

Sol. (90)



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$$A + 2B = 180$$

$$\frac{A}{2} = 90 - B$$

$$2x + 2B = 180$$

$$x = 90 - B$$

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

$$\Rightarrow OP \perp BC$$

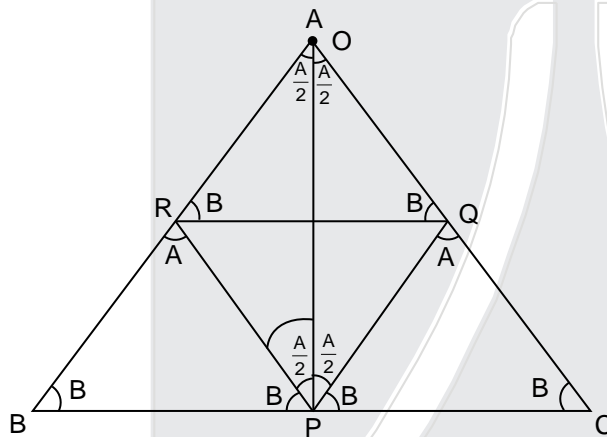
$\therefore$  O and A coincide

$$\therefore \angle ORP = \angle OPR = \angle RAP = 60^\circ$$

$$\therefore \alpha = 120^\circ \quad \beta = 30^\circ$$

$$\alpha - \beta = 90^\circ$$

By drawing properly we get



10. One day I went for a walk in the morning at  $x$  minutes past 5'O clock, where  $x$  is a two digit number. When I returned, it was  $y$  minutes past 6'O clock, and I noticed that (i) I walked exactly for  $x$  minutes and (ii)  $y$  was a 2 digit number obtained by reversing the digits of  $x$ . How many minutes did I walk?

Sol. (42)

At  $x = ab$  minutes past 5 hr =  $5 \times 60 + 10a + b$  minutes

At  $y = bc$  minutes past 6 hr =  $6 \times 60 + 10b + a$  minutes

$$\text{Total minutes of walk} = 60 + 9b - 9a = 10a + b$$

$$= 60 + 8b = 19a$$

$$a = 4, b = 2$$

I walked for 42 minutes

11. Find the largest value of  $a^b$  such that the positive integers  $a, b > 1$  satisfy  $a^b b^a + a^b + b^a = 5329$ .

Sol. (81)

$$(a^b + 1)(b^a + 1) = 5330 = 2 \times 5 \times 13 \times 41$$

$$\Rightarrow a^b = 81 = 3^4 \text{ and } b^a = 64 = 4^3$$

$$\text{Or } a^b = 64 = 4^3 \text{ and } b^a = 81 = 3^4$$

$$\therefore a^b = 81$$

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12. Let N be the number of ways of choosing a subset of 5 distinct numbers from the set

$$\{10a + b : 1 \leq a \leq 5, 1 \leq b \leq 5\}$$

where a, b are integers, such that no two of the selected numbers have the same units digit and no two have the same tens digit. What is the remainder when N is divided by 73?

Sol. (47)

$$10a + b; 1 \leq a \leq 5, 1 \leq b \leq 5$$

Let us divide numbers into different sets, such as

$$\text{Set 1} = \{11, 12, 13, 14, 15\}$$

$$\text{Set 2} = \{21, 22, 23, 24, 25\}$$

$$\text{Set 3} = \{31, 32, 33, 34, 35\}$$

$$\text{Set 4} = \{41, 42, 43, 44, 45\}$$

$$\text{Set 5} = \{51, 52, 53, 54, 55\}$$

Now to make a number having no two digits and no two ten's digit same, we can select any 1 number from each of set 1, set 2, set 3, set 4, set 5.

$$\therefore \text{No. of ways} = {}^5C_1 \times {}^4C_1 \times {}^3C_1 \times {}^2C_1 \times {}^1C_1 = 120$$

$$\therefore 120 \div 73$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Remainder} = 47$$

13. Consider the sequence

$$1, 7, 8, 49, 50, 56, 57, 343, \dots$$

which consists of sums of distinct powers of 7, that is,  $7^0, 7^1, 7^0 + 7^1, 7^2, \dots$ , in increasing order. At what position will 16856 occur in this sequence?

Sol. (36)

|                   |                         |                         |             |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| $7^0$             | $7^0 + 7^3$             | $7^2 + 7^4$             | $7^5$       |
| $7^1$             | $7^1 + 7^3$             | $7^3 + 7^4$             | $7^0 + 7^5$ |
| $7^0 + 7^1$       | $7^2 + 7^3$             | $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^4$       | $7^1 + 7^5$ |
| $7^2$             | $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^3$       | $7^0 + 7^2 + 7^4$       | $7^2 + 7^5$ |
| $7^0 + 7^2$       | $7^0 + 7^2 + 7^3$       | $7^0 + 7^3 + 7^4$       | $= 16856$   |
| $7^1 + 7^2$       | $7^1 + 7^2 + 7^3$       | $7^1 + 7^2 + 7^4$       |             |
| $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^2$ | $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^2 + 7^3$ | $7^1 + 7^3 + 7^4$       |             |
| $7^3$             | $7^4$                   | $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^2 + 7^4$ |             |
|                   | $7^0 + 7^4$             | $7^0 + 7^1 + 7^3 + 7^4$ |             |
|                   | $7^1 + 7^4$             | $7^0 + 7^2 + 7^3 + 7^4$ |             |
|                   |                         | $7^1 + 7^2 + 7^3 + 7^4$ |             |
|                   |                         | $7^2 + 7^3 + 7^4$       |             |

i.e. we get 16856 at 36<sup>th</sup> position

14. Let R denote the circular region in the xy-plane bounded by the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 36$ . The lines  $x = 4$  and  $y = 3$  divide R into four regions  $R_i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . If  $|R_i|$  denotes the area of the region  $R_i$  and if  $|R_1| > |R_2| > |R_3| > |R_4|$ , determine  $|R_1| - |R_2| - |R_3| + |R_4|$ .

[Here  $|\Omega|$  denotes the area of the region  $\Omega$  in the plane.]

Sol. (48)

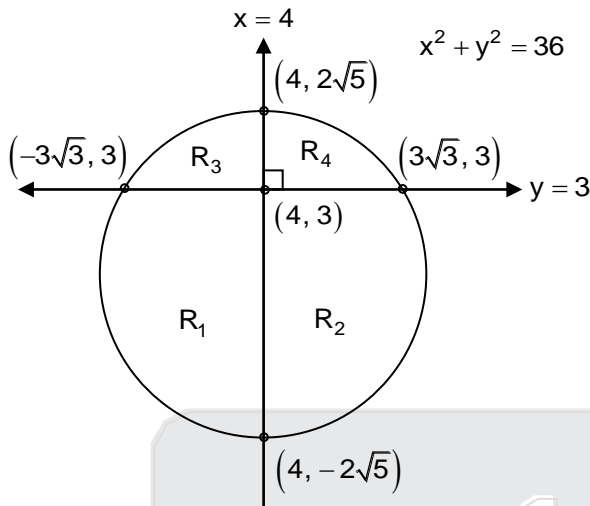
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$$R_1 = \int_{-2\sqrt{5}}^3 \sqrt{36-y^2} dy = \frac{1}{2}y\sqrt{36-y^2} + \frac{1}{2}(36)\sin^{-1}\frac{y}{6}$$

Similarly for using integration. we can find

$$R_1 + R_4 = \frac{1}{2}\pi(6)^2 + 2(3)(4)$$

$$\therefore \text{Remaining circle area} = R_2 + R_3 = \frac{1}{2}\pi(6)^2 - 2(3)(4)$$

Hence,

$$R_1 + R_4 - (R_2 + R_3) = 24 + 24 = 48$$

15. In base  $-2$  notation, digits are 0 and 1 only and the places go up in powers of  $-2$ . For example, 11011 stands for  $(-2)^4 + (-2)^3 + (-2)^1 + (-2)^0$  and equals number 7 in base 10. If the decimal number 2019 is expressed in base  $-2$  how many non zero digits does it contain?

Sol. (06)

Since 2019 is closest to  $2^{11} = 2048$

But since base is  $-2$

Hence we will require  $(-2)^{12}$  as maximum no. as well as  $(-2)^{11}$  to compensate

The series can then be worked out as the following permutation.

1100000100111

Hence no. of non zero digits = 6

16. Let  $N$  denote the number of all natural numbers  $n$  such that  $n$  is divisible by a prime  $p > \sqrt{n}$  and  $p < 20$ . What is the value of  $N$ ?

Sol. (69)

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Since  $P > \sqrt{n}$  and  $P > 20$

Hence for the times from 2 to 20 we calculate possibilities that that  $n < P^2$

| Prime No. | Natural Number n  |
|-----------|---|
| 2         | 2   |
| 3         | 3, 6  |
| 5         | 5, 10, 15, 20   |
| 7         | 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, 42   |
| 11        | 11, 22, 33, 44, 55, 66, 77, 88, 99, 110   |
| 13        | 13, 26, 39, 52, 65, 78, 91, 104, 117, 130, 143, 156                                 |
| 17        | 17, 34, 51, 68, 85, 102, 119, 136, 153, 170, 187, 204, 221, 238, 255, 272           |
| 19        | 19, 38, 57, 76, 95, 114, 133, 152, 171, 190, 209, 228, 247, 266, 285, 304, 323, 342 |

Total numbers = 69

17. Let a, b, c be distinct positive integers such that  $b + c - a$ ,  $c + a - b$  and  $a + b - c$  are all perfect squares. What is the largest possible value of  $a + b + c$  smaller than 100?

Sol. (91)

$b + c - a$ ,  $c + a - b$ ,  $a + b - c$  ..... integer

Add these three

$$b + c - a + c + a - b + a + b - c = a + b + c$$

$$\therefore a + b + c < 100$$

$\therefore$  Possible value of  $b + c - a$ ,  $c + a - b$ ,  $a + b - c$  are 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81.

Either  $b + c - a$ ,  $a + b - c$ ,  $c + a - b$  all three will odd or all will even.

$\therefore$  Largest possible value of  $a + b + c$  is possible.

If  $b + c - a = 81$

$$c + a - b = 9$$

$$a + b - c = 1$$

$$\therefore a + b + c = 91$$

18. What is the smallest prime number p such that  $p^3 + 4p^2 + 4p$  has exactly 30 positive divisors?

Sol. (43)

$$p^3 + 4p^2 + 4p$$

$$= p(p^2 + 4p + 4)$$

$$= p'(p + 2)^2$$

Number of divisors for  $a^m \cdot b^n \cdot c^p \dots$  is  $(m + 1)(n + 1)(p + 1) \dots$

For 30 divisors we will need 15 divisors from  $(p + 2)^2$






If  $p = 43$  [for less than 43 we will have maximum 5 divisors] number of divisors

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$$(p + 2)^2 = (43 + 2)^2 = 45^2$$

$$= 3^{2 \times 2} \times 5^2$$

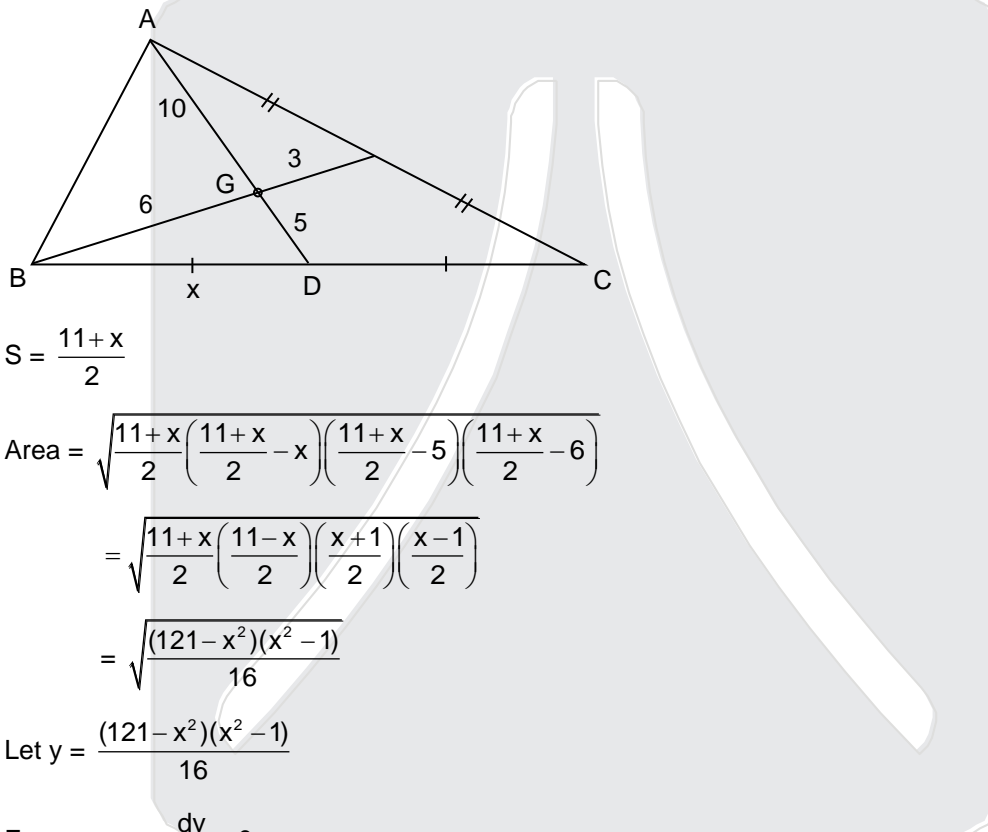
∴ Number of divisors = (4 + 1) (2 + 1) = 15

∴ Ans. is 43

19. If 15 and 9 are lengths of two medians of a triangle, what is the maximum possible area of the triangle to the nearest integer?

Sol. (90)

Area of  $\triangle BDG$



$$S = \frac{11+x}{2}$$

$$\text{Area} = \sqrt{\frac{11+x}{2} \left( \frac{11+x}{2} - x \right) \left( \frac{11+x}{2} - 5 \right) \left( \frac{11+x}{2} - 6 \right)}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{11+x}{2} \left( \frac{11-x}{2} \right) \left( \frac{x+1}{2} \right) \left( \frac{x-1}{2} \right)}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{(121-x^2)(x^2-1)}{16}}$$

$$\text{Let } y = \frac{(121-x^2)(x^2-1)}{16}$$

$$\text{For max area } \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$-2x(x^2-1) + (121-x^2)2x = 0$$

$$-x^2 + 1 + 121 - x^2 = 0$$

$$2x^2 = 122$$

$$x^2 = 61$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle BDG = \sqrt{\frac{(121-61)(61-1)}{16}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{60 \times 60}{16}} = \frac{60}{4} = 15$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle ABC = 6 \times 15 = 90$$

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20. How many 4-digit numbers  $\overline{abcd}$  are there such that  $a < b < c < d$  and  $b - a < c - b < d - c$ ?

Sol. (07)

$$a < b < c < d$$

$$b - a < c - b < d - c$$

possibilities are

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 4, d = 7$$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 4, d = 8$$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 4, d = 9$$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 5, d = 9$$

$$a = 1, b = 3, c = 6, d = \text{no possible}$$

$$a = 2, b = 3, c = 5, d = 8$$

$$a = 2, b = 3, c = 5, d = 9$$

$$a = 2, b = 3, c = 6, d = \text{not possible}$$

$$a = 3, b = 4, c = 6, d = 9$$

$$a = 4, b = 5, c = 7, d = \text{not possible}$$

Ans. 7

21. Consider the set E of all positive integers n such that when divided by 9, 10, 11 respectively, the remainders (in that order) are all  $> 1$  and form a non-constant geometric progression. If N is the largest element of E, find the sum of digits of E.

Sol. (Bonus)

Remainder will be less than 11, only possible set of remainders is 1,2,4 or 2,4,8 or 1,3,9. But r greater than 1 so 2, 4, 8. But Since E is set of numbers, how can we find the sum of digits of E.

They meant "sum of digits of N.

But question should have been

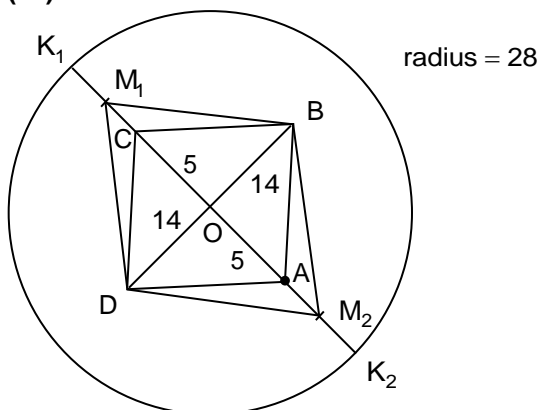
"Smallest element of E is N" and sum of N.

Then there is answer. 74 : for ratio 2,4,8 as ratio greater than 1

So Bonus

22. In parallelogram ABCD, AC = 10 and BD = 28. The points K and L in the plane of ABCD move in such a way that AK = BD and BL = AC. Let M and N be the midpoints of CK and DL, respectively. What is the maximum value of  $\cot^2(\angle BMD/2) + \tan^2(\angle ANC/2)$  ?

Sol. (02)



$$CK_1 = 18$$

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$$OM_1 = 5 + 9 = 14$$

$$\therefore \angle BM_1D = 90^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{ in semicircle)}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } CK_2 = 10 + 28 = 38$$

$$\therefore CM_2 = 19$$

$$AM_2 = 9$$

$$OM_2 = 5 + 9 = 14$$

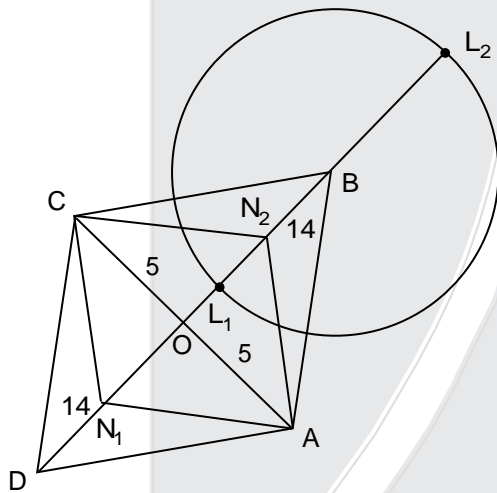
$$\therefore \angle BM_2D = 90^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{ in semicircle)}$$

If  $K_1$  or  $K_2$  moves  $\angle BMD$  will increase

$$\text{By observation : } \frac{\angle BMD}{2} \uparrow \quad \therefore \cot\left(\frac{\angle BMD}{2}\right) \downarrow$$

$$\therefore \text{For maximum } \angle BMD = 90^\circ$$

$$\cot^2\left(\frac{\angle BMD}{2}\right) = 1$$



$$BL_1 = 10, OL_1 = 4, DL_1 = 18, DN_1 = 9, ON_1 = 5$$

$$\therefore \angle AN_1C = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ (}\angle \text{ in semicircle)}$$

For  $L_2$  point,

$$DL_2 = 14 + 14 + 10$$

$$DL_2 = 38$$

$$DN_2 = 19$$

$$ON_2 = 5$$

$$\angle AN_2C = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ (}\angle \text{ in semicircle)}$$

Now if  $L_1$  or  $L_2$  moves,

$$\angle ANC \downarrow \quad \frac{\angle ANC}{2} \downarrow \quad \tan \frac{\angle ANC}{2} \downarrow \text{ (Observation)}$$

Hence for maximum,

$$\angle ANC = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\therefore \tan^2\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1$$

$$\therefore \text{Maximum} = 1 + 1 = 2$$

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23. Let  $t$  be the area of a regular pentagon with each side equal to 1. Let  $P(x) = 0$  be the polynomial equation with least degree, having integer coefficients, satisfied by  $x = t$  and the gcd of all the coefficients equal to 1. If  $M$  is the sum of the absolute values of the coefficients of  $P(x)$ . What is the integer closest to  $\sqrt{M}$ ? ( $\sin 18^\circ = (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2$ ).

Sol. (16)

$$\text{Area of regular pentagon} = \frac{a^2 n}{4 \tan\left(\frac{180}{n}\right)}$$

$n \Rightarrow$  No. of sides

$a \Rightarrow$  Length of side

$\therefore$  For regular pentagon by side length 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area (t)} &= \frac{5}{4 \tan 36^\circ} \\ &= \frac{5}{4(0.73)} \\ &= 1.71 \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $P(1.71) = 0$  to be found with least degree and integer coefficient soon that gcd of all coefficient is 1.

Let  $x = 1.71$

$$100x = 171$$

$\therefore P(x) = 100x - 171 = 0$  is the polynomial which satisfied all the conditions.

$$\therefore m = 100 + 171 = 271$$

$$\therefore \sqrt{m} = 16.46$$

$\therefore$  Nearest integer = 16

But this question can have multiple solutions as student can take  $\tan 36$  as 0.72, 0.726 or even 0.7. Every time we will get different answers. So this question should be Bonus.

24. For  $n \geq 1$ , let  $a_n$  be the number beginning with  $n$  9's followed by 744 ; e.g.,  $a_4 = 9999744$ . Define  $f(n) = \max \{m \in \mathbb{N} \mid 2^m \text{ divides } a_n\}$ , for  $n \geq 1$ . Find  $f(1) + f(2) + f(3) + \dots + f(10)$ .

Sol. (75)

$$\therefore n \geq 1$$

$$a_1 = 9744$$

$$a_2 = 99744$$

$$a_3 = 999744$$

$\vdots$

$$a_{10} = \underbrace{999\dots9}_{10 \text{ times}}744$$

$$\therefore f(n) = \max \left\{ m \in \mathbb{N} \mid \frac{N}{2^m} \text{ divides } a_n \right\}$$

$$f(1) = 2^m \text{ divides } 9744$$

$$9744 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 609$$

$$= 2^4 \times 609$$

9744 is divided by  $2^4$

$$\therefore m = 4$$

$f(2) = 2^m$  should divide 99744

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$$99744 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3117$$

$$99744 = 2^5 \times 3117$$

$$a_2 = 99744 \text{ divided by } 2^5$$

$$\therefore m = 5$$

$$f(3) = 2^m \text{ should divide } 999744$$

$$999744 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 15621$$

$$999744 = 2^6 \times 15621$$

$$a_3 = 999744 \text{ divided by } 2^6$$

$$\therefore m = 6$$

$$\text{Similarly } a_4 \text{ divided by } 2^7$$

$$\therefore m = 7$$

$$a_5 \text{ divides by } 2^{13}$$

$$a_6 \text{ divides by } 2^8$$

$$a_7 \text{ divides by } 2^8$$

$$a_8 \text{ divides by } 2^8$$

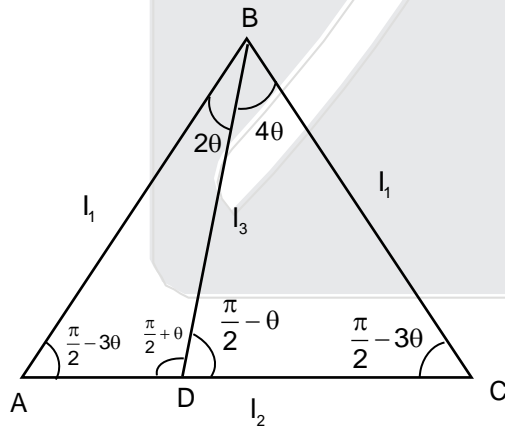
$$a_9 \text{ divides by } 2^8$$

$$a_{10} \text{ divides by } 2^8$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore f(1) + f(2) + f(3) + \dots + f(10) \\ = 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 13 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 \\ = 75 \end{aligned}$$

25. Let ABC be an isosceles triangle with AB = BC. A trisector of  $\angle B$  meets AC at D. If AB, AC and BD are integers and  $AB - BD = 3$ , find AC.

Sol. (26)



$$\frac{l_1}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \theta\right)} = \frac{l_3}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 3\theta\right)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{put } l_3 = l_1 - 3$$

$$\Rightarrow l_1 = \frac{3}{4} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta$$

$$\text{If } \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta = 36$$

$$\text{i.e. } \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta = 6$$

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$$\text{i.e. } \sin \theta = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$l_1 = \frac{3}{4} \times 36 = 27$$

$$l_3 = 24$$

$$\frac{l_1}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)} = \frac{DC}{\sin 4\theta} \quad \& \quad \frac{l_1}{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \theta\right)} = \frac{AD}{\sin 2\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow l_2 = \frac{l_1 \sin 4\theta}{\cos \theta} + \frac{l_1 \sin 2\theta}{\cos \theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow l_2 = l_1 \times 2 \times \sin 3\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3}{4} \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta \times 2 \times \sin 3\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{3}{\sin \theta} - 4 \sin \theta \right)$$

$$l_2 = \frac{3}{2} \left( 3 \times 6 - \frac{4}{6} \right)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \left( 18 - \frac{2}{3} \right)$$

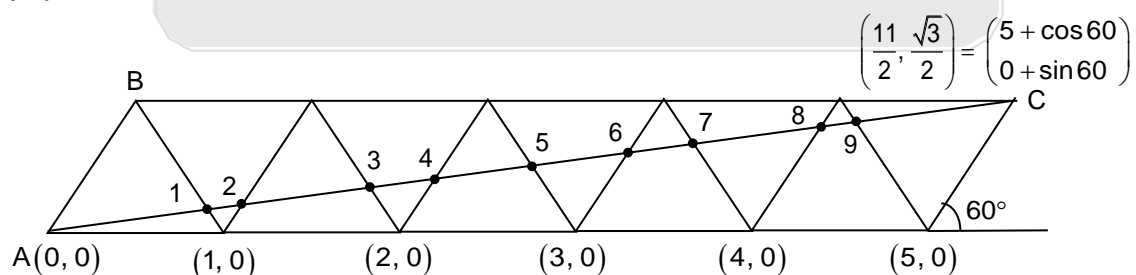
$$= \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{54 - 2}{3} \right)$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{52}{3}$$

$$l_2 = 26$$

26. A friction-less board has the shape of an equilateral triangle of side length 1 meter with bouncing walls along the sides. A tiny super bouncy ball is fired from vertex A towards the side BC. The ball bounces off the walls of the board nine times before it hits a vertex for the first time. The bounces are such that the angle of incidence equal the angle of reflection. The distance traveled by the ball in meters is of the form  $\sqrt{N}$ , where N is an integer. What is the value of N ?

Sol. (31)



$$AX = \sqrt{N}$$

$$AX^2 = \sqrt{\frac{121}{4} + \frac{3}{4}} = \sqrt{31}$$

$$N = 31$$

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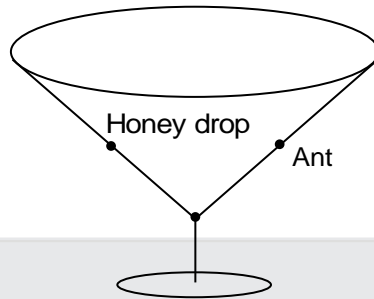
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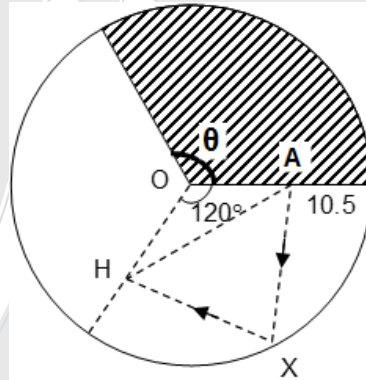
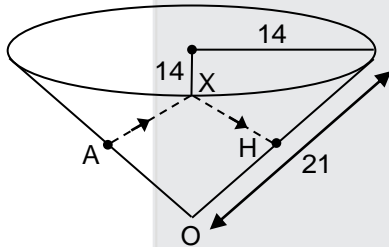
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27. A conical glass is in the form of a right circular cone. The slant height is 21 and the radius of the top rim of the glass is 14. An ant at the mid point of a slant line on the outside wall of the glass sees a honey drop diametrically opposite to it on the inside wall of the glass. (see the figure ). If  $d$  the shortest distance it should crawl to reach the honey drop, what is the integer part of  $d$  ? (Ignore the thickness of the glass)



Sol. (36)

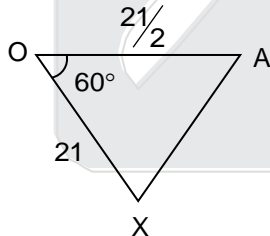


Assume we open the cone, it will become a section of a bigger circle with radius 21.

$$\text{Section of the circle used to make cone} = \frac{2\pi \cdot 14}{2\pi \cdot 21} = \frac{2}{3} \quad (\because \theta = 120^\circ)$$

$\therefore$  minimum distance ' $d$ ' =  $AX + XH = 2AX$

In  $\triangle DAX$ ,



$$\cos 60^\circ = \frac{(21)^2 + \left(\frac{21}{2}\right)^2 - (AX)^2}{2 \cdot 21 \cdot \frac{21}{2}} \Rightarrow AX = 21 \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$$

$\therefore d = 36.37, [d] = 36$

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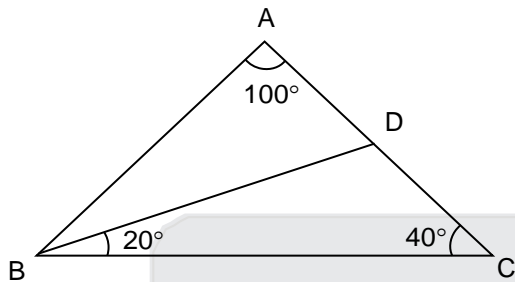
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28. In a triangle ABC, it is known that  $\angle A = 100^\circ$  and  $AB = AC$ . The internal angle bisector BD has length 20 units. Find the length of BC to the nearest integer, given that  $\sin 10^\circ \approx 0.174$ .

Sol. (27)

$\triangle BCD$ , by sine rule



$$\frac{BC}{\sin 120^\circ} = \frac{BD}{\sin 40^\circ} = \frac{20}{\sin 40^\circ}$$

$$\therefore BC = \frac{10\sqrt{3}}{\sin 40^\circ}$$

Given,  $\cos 80^\circ (\sin 10^\circ) \approx 0.174$

$$\sin 40^\circ \approx \sqrt{\frac{1 - \cos 80^\circ}{2}} \approx 0.643$$

$\therefore$  Nearest integer to  $BC = 27$

29. Let ABC be an acute angled triangle with  $AB = 15$  and  $BC = 8$ . Let D be a point on AB such that  $BD = BC$ . Consider points E on AC such that  $\angle DEB = \angle BEC$ . If  $\alpha$  denotes the product of all possible value of AE, find  $[\alpha]$  the integer part of  $\alpha$ .

Sol. (Bonus)

The problem, as stated, has infinite solutions. If you take ANY triangle ABC with  $AB = 15$  and  $BC = 8$  construct point

D on AB such that  $BD = 8$  and draw the bisector BE, then you have a perfectly valid triangle.

As the triangle is acute-angled, then AE can take any value between  $\frac{15}{23}\sqrt{161} \approx \sqrt{8.275}$

(case when  $\angle BCA = 90^\circ$  and  $\left(\frac{15}{23}\right)17 \approx 11.087$

(case when  $\angle ABC = 90^\circ$ )

Question will have sense if only integer values for AE were allowed. If that is the case, then the possible integer values for AE are : 9, 10, 11

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30. For any real number  $x$ , let  $[x]$  denotes the integer part of  $x$ ;  $\{x\}$  be the fractional part of  $x$  ( $\{x\} = x - [x]$ ). Let  $A$  denote the set of all real numbers  $x$  satisfying

$$\{x\} = \frac{x + [x] + [x + (1/2)]}{20}$$

If  $S$  is the sum of all numbers in  $A$ , find  $[S]$

Sol. (21)

Let,  $x = l + f$

∴ given equation reduces to,

$$f = \frac{l + f + l + l + \left[ f + \frac{1}{2} \right]}{20}$$

(I)  $f \in \left[ 0, \frac{1}{2} \right)$

$$\left[ f + \frac{1}{2} \right] = 0$$

∴  $19f = 3l \Rightarrow f = \frac{3l}{19}$

$$0 < \frac{3l}{19} < \frac{1}{2}$$

⇒  $l \in \left[ 0, \frac{19}{6} \right) \Rightarrow l = 0, 1, 2, 3$

∴  $f = 0, \frac{3}{19}, \frac{6}{19}, \frac{9}{19}$

∴  $x = 0, \frac{22}{19}, \frac{44}{19}, \frac{66}{19}$

(II)  $f \in \left[ \frac{1}{2}, 1 \right)$

$$\left[ f + \frac{1}{2} \right] = 1$$

$$20f = 3l + 1 + f$$

$$f = \frac{3l + 1}{19}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \frac{3l + 1}{19} < 1 \Rightarrow \frac{17}{6} \leq l < 6 \Rightarrow l = 3, 4, 5$$

∴  $f = \frac{10}{19}, \frac{13}{19}, \frac{16}{19}$

∴  $x = \frac{67}{19}, \frac{89}{19}, \frac{111}{19}$

∴  $S = \frac{399}{19}$

$[S] = 21$

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