

**Problem Solving Session (aka MFD prep)**  
**CSU Fresno**  
**March 14, 2015**  
**Topics: The number  $\pi$ , Area and Volume**

Problem Solving Sessions website:

<http://zimmer.csufresno.edu/~mnogin/mfd-prep.html>

Math Field Day date: Saturday, April 18, 2015

Math Field Day website:

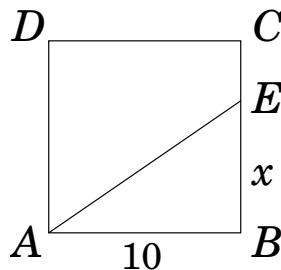
<http://www.fresnostate.edu/csm/math/news-and-events/field-day/>

Mini Mad Hatter (individual, 2 minutes per problem)

1. (MH 2014 9-10) Square  $ABCD$  has side length 10. If point  $E$  is on  $\overline{BC}$ , and the area of  $\triangle ABE$  is 40, what is  $BE$ ?

- (a) 4
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 8

**Solution.**



$$\text{Area of triangle} = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

$$40 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 10 \cdot x$$

$$40 = 5x$$

$$x = 8$$

(d)

2. (MH 2014 9-10) If  $a$  and  $b$  are the length of the legs of a right triangle whose hypotenuse is 10 and whose area is 20, find  $(a + b)^2$ .

- (a) 180
- (b) 140
- (c) 120
- (d) 100

**Solution.**

$$a^2 + b^2 = 10^2 = 100$$

$$\frac{1}{2}ab = 20$$

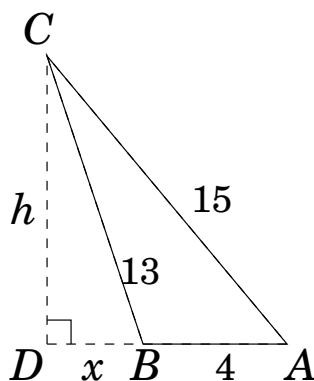
$$ab = 40$$

$$(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = 100 + 2 \cdot 40 = 180$$

(a)

3. (MH 2014 11-12) Triangle  $ABC$  has  $AC = 15$ ,  $BC = 13$ , and  $AB = 4$ . What is the length of the altitude from  $C$  to the extension of  $AB$ ?
- (a) 9  
 (b) 10  
 (c) 11  
 (d) 12  
 (e) 13

**Solution 1.**



Write the Pythagorean theorem for both right triangles:

$$x^2 + h^2 = 13^2$$

$$(x + 4)^2 + h^2 = 15^2$$

Subtract the first equation from the second:

$$(x + 4)^2 - x^2 = 15^2 - 13^2$$

$$x^2 + 8x + 4^2 - x^2 = 225 - 169$$

$$8x + 16 = 56$$

$$8x = 40$$

$$x = 5$$

Now the first equation becomes  $25 + h^2 = 169$

$$h^2 = 144$$

$$h = 12$$

(d)

**Solution 2.**

Use Heron's formula ( $A = \sqrt{\frac{p}{2}(\frac{p}{2} - a)(\frac{p}{2} - b)(\frac{p}{2} - c)}$ ) to find the area of triangle  $ABC$ :

$$p = 15 + 13 + 4 = 32, \text{ so } \frac{p}{2} = 16,$$

$$A = \sqrt{16 \cdot 3 \cdot 1 \cdot 12} = \sqrt{16} \sqrt{36} = 4 \cdot 6 = 24.$$

On the other hand,  $A = \frac{1}{2}bh = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4h = 2h$ , so

$$2h = 24$$

$$h = 12$$

4. (LF 2011 9-12) Lenny melts 2011  $1''$  by  $1''$  by  $1''$  ice cubes and refreezes the water to form one large ice cube (all side lengths equal). The side length of the large cube is
- (a) between 10 and 11 inches.
  - (b) between 11 and 11 inches.
  - (c) between 12 and 13 inches.
  - (d) between 13 and 14 inches.
  - (e) None of these

**Solution.**

The volume of the water is 2011 cubic inches. If  $x$  is the side length of the new cube, then  $x^3 = 2011$ .

Since  $12^3 = 1728$  and  $13^3 = 2197$ ,  $x$  is between 12 and 13 inches.

(c)

5. (MH 2014 9-10) A gold bar is a rectangular solid measuring  $2 \times 3 \times 4$ . It is melted down, and three cubes of equal size are constructed from this mold. What is the length of a side of each cube?
- (a) 8
  - (b) 6
  - (c) 4
  - (d) 2

**Solution.**

The volume of the rectangular bar is  $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24$ .

The volume of each of the three cubes is  $\frac{1}{3} \cdot 24 = 8$ .

The length of a side of each cube is 2 (since  $2^3 = 8$ ).

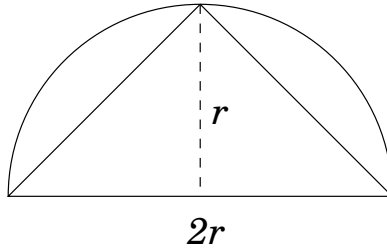
(d)

6. (MH 2014 9-10) The largest area of a triangle that can be inscribed in a semicircle of radius  $r$  is
- (a)  $2r^2$
  - (b)  $r^2$
  - (c)  $\frac{1}{2}r^2$
  - (d)  $\frac{1}{4}r^2$

**Solution.**

The area of the semicircle is  $\frac{1}{2}\pi r^2 < 2r^2$ , so the area of an inscribed triangle cannot be  $2r^2$ .

The area of  $r^2$  is possible:



(b)

7. (MH 2014 9-10) A right circular cylinder has a radius of 8 and height of  $\pi^2$ . If a cube has the same volume as the cylinder, what is the length of an edge of the cube?

- (a)  $4\sqrt{\pi}$
- (b)  $8\sqrt{\pi}$
- (c)  $4\pi\sqrt{\pi}$
- (d)  $4\pi$

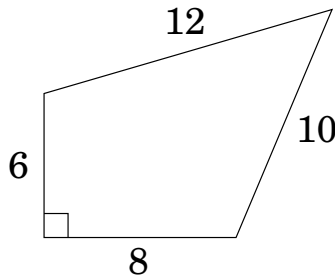
**Solution.**

The volume of the cylinder is  $\pi r^2 h = \pi \cdot 64\pi^2 = 64\pi^3$ .

If  $x$  is the length of an edge of the cube, then  $x^3 = 64\pi^3$ , so  $x = 4\pi$

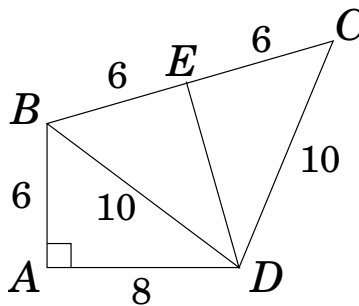
(d)

8. (MH 2012 11-12) Find the area of the quadrilateral shown below.



- (a) 48
- (b) 64
- (c) 72
- (d) 80
- (e) None of the above

**Solution.**



Draw the diagonal  $BD$ . The Pythagorean theorem for triangle  $ABD$  gives  $BD = 10$ .  
 Notice that triangle  $BCD$  is isosceles. Then its height  $DE$  is also its median.  
 $BE = EC = 6$ , so  $DE = 8$ .

Thus the quadrilateral consists of three congruent triangles.

The area of each triangle is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 8 \cdot 6 = 24$ .

The area of the quadrilateral is  $3 \cdot 24 = 72$ .

(c)

Mini Leap Frog (2 participants per team)

1. (LF 2013 9-10) A circle is inscribed in the isosceles triangle with side lengths 6, 6 and 4. Determine the area of the inscribed circle.

(a)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

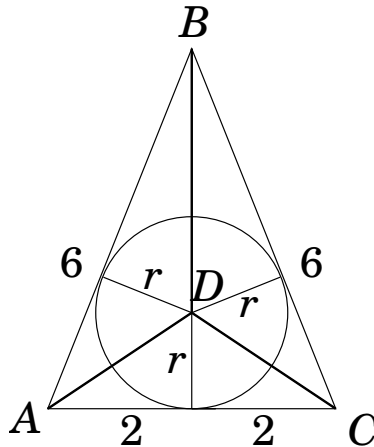
(b)  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$

(c)  $\frac{5\pi}{2}$

(d)  $\frac{7\pi}{2}$

(e) None of these

**Solution 1.**



The area of triangle  $ABC$  is the sum of the areas of triangles  $ABD$ ,  $BCD$ , and  $ACD$ . These triangles have bases 6, 6, and 4, respectively, and all have height  $r$ .

So the area of triangle  $ABC$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 \cdot r + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 \cdot r + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot r = 8r$ .

On the other hand, the area of triangle  $ABC$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot b \cdot h$  where  $b$  and  $h$  are its base and height, respectively.

The height  $h$  can be found using the Pythagorean theorem:

$$h^2 + 2^2 = 6^2$$

$$h^2 = 32$$

$$h = 4\sqrt{2}$$

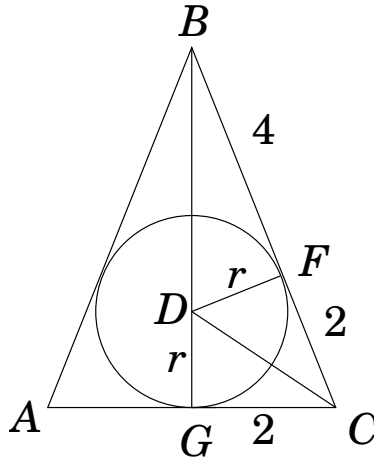
So the area of triangle  $ABC$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot 4\sqrt{2} = 8\sqrt{2}$ .

We have  $8r = 8\sqrt{2}$ , so  $r = \sqrt{2}$ .

The area of the circle is  $\pi r^2 = 2\pi$ .

(e)

**Solution 2.**



First notice that triangles  $CDG$  and  $CDF$  are congruent. So  $CF = 2$ , and then  $BF = 4$ .

The Pythagorean theorem for triangles  $BFD$  gives

$$r^2 + 4^2 = BD^2$$

$$BE = \sqrt{r^2 + 16}$$

Then the Pythagorean theorem for triangle  $BCG$  gives

$$(r + \sqrt{r^2 + 16})^2 + 2^2 = 6^2$$

$$r^2 + (r^2 + 16) + 2r\sqrt{r^2 + 16} + 4 = 36$$

$$2r^2 + 2r\sqrt{r^2 + 16} = 16$$

$$r^2 + r\sqrt{r^2 + 16} = 8$$

$$r\sqrt{r^2 + 16} = 8 - r^2$$

$$r^2(r^2 + 16) = 64 - 16r^2 + r^4$$

$$r^4 + 16r^2 = 64 - 16r^2 + r^4$$

$$32r^2 = 64$$

$$r^2 = 2$$

The area of the circle is  $\pi r^2 = 2\pi$ .

**Solution 3.**

$$BG^2 + 2^2 = 6^2$$

$$BG = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}$$

Since triangles  $FDB$  and  $GCB$  are similar,  $\frac{FD}{FB} = \frac{GC}{GB}$

$$\frac{r}{4} = \frac{2}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

$$r = \sqrt{2}$$

The area of the circle is  $\pi r^2 = 2\pi$ .

2. (MH 2014 11-12) A right circular cone has height equal to radius. What is the ratio of its volume to that of a cube inscribed inside it, with the base of the cube lying on the base of the cone?

(a)  $\frac{\pi}{12}(10 + \sqrt{2})$

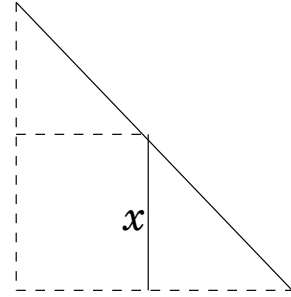
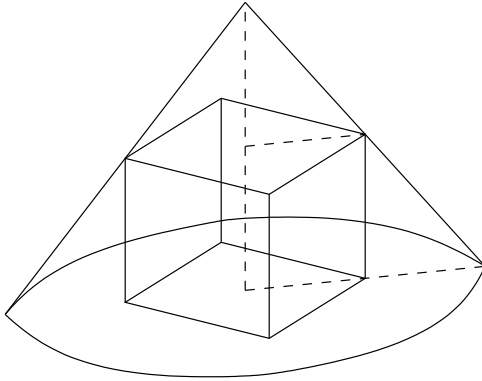
(b)  $\frac{\pi}{12}(10 + 3\sqrt{2})$

(c)  $\frac{\pi}{12}(10 + 5\sqrt{2})$

(d)  $\frac{\pi}{12}(10 + 7\sqrt{2})$

(e)  $\frac{\pi}{12}(10 + 9\sqrt{2})$

**Solution.**



$$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}x + x = r = h$$

$$\frac{V_{\text{cone}}}{V_{\text{cube}}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h}{x^3} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}\pi \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}x + x\right)^3}{x^3} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}\pi \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + 1\right)^3 x^3}{x^3} = \frac{1}{3}\pi \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + 1\right)^3 = \frac{1}{3}\pi \left(\frac{10}{4} + \frac{7\sqrt{2}}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{12}\pi(10 + 7\sqrt{2})$$

(d)

3. (LF 2014 9-10) Two cubes (length = width = height) have respective volumes  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  that satisfy  $V_1/V_2 = 10$ . Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be the respective surface areas of the cubes, i.e.  $S_1$  corresponds to  $V_1$  and  $S_2$  corresponds to  $V_2$ . Determine the ratio of surface areas  $S_1/S_2$ .

- (a)  $S_1/S_2 = \sqrt[3]{150}$
- (b)  $S_1/S_2 = \sqrt[3]{10}$
- (c)  $S_1/S_2 = \sqrt[3]{200}$
- (d)  $S_1/S_2 = \sqrt[3]{100}$
- (e) None of these

**Solution.**

Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be the lengths of the edges of the two cubes. Then

$$10 = \frac{V_1}{V_2} = \frac{x_1^3}{x_2^3} = \left(\frac{x_1}{x_2}\right)^3$$

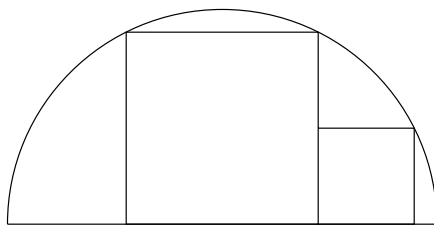
$$\frac{x_1}{x_2} = \sqrt[3]{10}$$

Then

$$\frac{S_1}{S_2} = \frac{6x_1^2}{6x_2^2} = \frac{x_1^2}{x_2^2} = \left(\frac{x_1}{x_2}\right)^2 = (\sqrt[3]{10})^2 = (10^{1/3})^2 = 10^{2/3} = (10^2)^{1/3} = 100^{1/3} = \sqrt[3]{100}.$$

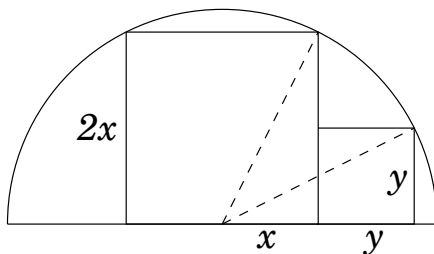
(d)

4. (LF 2012 9-12) In the figure below, the semicircle has radius equal to 1 inch, and the two adjacent squares are inscribed as pictured. What is the area of the smaller square?



- (a) Area =  $\frac{1}{4}$  in<sup>2</sup>
- (b) Area =  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$  in<sup>2</sup>
- (c) Area =  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{7}}$  in<sup>2</sup>
- (d) Area =  $\frac{1}{1+\sqrt{5}}$  in<sup>2</sup>
- (e) None of these

**Solution.**



By the Pythagorean theorem,

$$x^2 + (2x)^2 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad (x + y)^2 + y^2 = 1.$$

Solving the first equation for  $x$  and then the second equation for  $y$  gives

$$x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, \quad y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}.$$

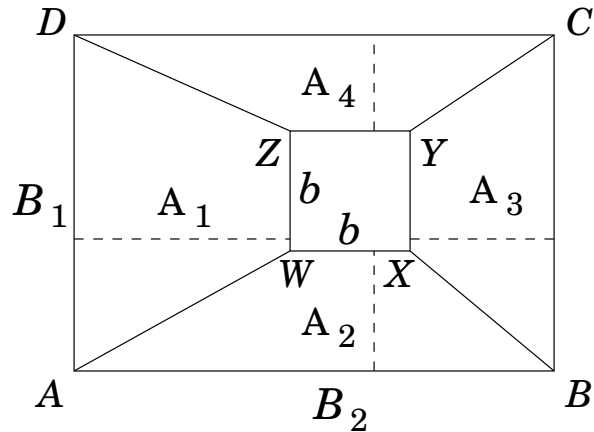
The area of the smaller square is  $y^2 = \frac{1}{5}$ .

(e)

5. (MH 2014 11-12)  $ABCD$  is a rectangle in which the length  $AB$  minus the length  $AD$  equals 10. Inside  $ABCD$  is a square  $WXYZ$  with sides parallel to those of the rectangle, and  $W$  closest to  $A$ , and  $X$  closest to  $B$ . The total of the areas of the trapezoids  $XBCY$  and  $AWZD$  is 1000, while the total area of the trapezoids  $ABXW$  and  $ZYCD$  is 400. What is the area of the square  $WXYZ$ ?
- (a) 400
  - (b) 1600
  - (c) 3600
  - (d) 4900
  - (e) 6400

**Solution.**





$$\begin{aligned}
 A_1 + A_3 &= 1000, \\
 \frac{(B_1+b)h_1}{2} + \frac{(B_1+b)h_3}{2} &= 1000 \\
 (B_1 + b)(h_1 + h_3) &= 2000 \\
 (B_1 + b)(B_2 - b) &= 2000 \\
 B_1B_2 - B_1b + B_2b - b^2 &= 2000 \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_2 + A_4 &= 400 \\
 \frac{(B_2+b)h_2}{2} + \frac{(B_2+b)h_4}{2} &= 400 \\
 (B_2 + b)(h_2 + h_4) &= 800 \\
 (B_2 + b)(B_1 - b) &= 800 \\
 B_1B_2 + B_1b - B_2b - b^2 &= 800 \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting (2) from (1) gives

$$2B_2b - 2B_1b = 1200$$

$$B_2b - B_1b = 600$$

$$(B_2 - B_1)b = 600$$

$$10b = 600$$

$$b = 60$$

The area of the square  $WXYZ$  is  $b^2 = 60^2 = 3600$ .

(c)

6. (LF 2014 9-10) In  $\triangle ABC$ , point  $D$  lies on the side  $AB$ . The length of  $AB$  is 10 feet and the length of  $AD$  is  $x$  feet. What is the value of  $x$  such that the area enclosed by  $\triangle ADC$  is twice the area enclosed by  $\triangle BDC$ ?

(a)  $x = 8$

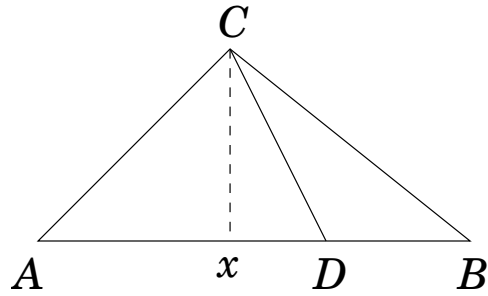
(b)  $x = \frac{9}{2}$

(c)  $x = 5$

(d)  $x = \frac{20}{3}$

(e) None of these

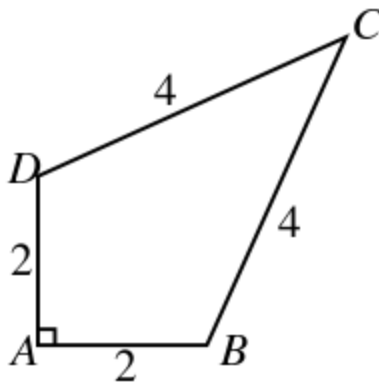
**Solution.**



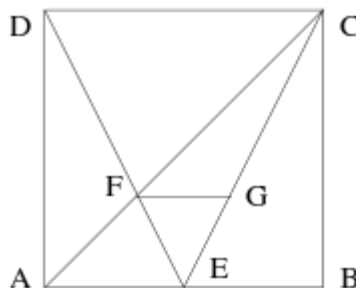
Triangles  $ADC$  and  $BDC$  have the same height. Since the area of  $\triangle ADC$  is twice the area of  $\triangle BDC$ , the base  $AD$  is twice the base  $BD$ . Therefore  $AD$  must be  $\frac{2}{3}$  of  $AB$ , i.e.  $\frac{2}{3} \cdot 10 = \frac{20}{3}$ .  
 (d)

More practice problems

- (LF 2011 9-12) In the figure below, the lengths are as labeled and the angle at  $A$  is a right angle. The area enclosed by  $ABCD$  is ...



- $4 + 2\sqrt{7}$
  - $2 + 2\sqrt{6}$
  - $2 + 2\sqrt{7}$
  - $4 + \sqrt{6}$
  - None of these
- (LF 2014 11-12) The square  $ABCD$  has sides of length 2. Point  $E$  is the midpoint of edge  $AB$ . Point  $F$  is the intersection of lines  $AC$  and  $DE$ . Line  $FG$  is parallel to line  $AB$ . The area of  $\triangle EFG$  is:



- (a)  $\frac{2}{3}$   
(b)  $\frac{1}{3}$   
(c)  $\frac{2}{9}$   
(d)  $\frac{4}{9}$   
(e) None of the above
3. (LF 2014 9-10) A cube of ice has melted so that its surface area has decreased by 19%. Assuming that at all times, the cube maintains length = width = height, by what percentage has the volume decreased?
- (a) 26.7%  
(b) 26.9%  
(c) 27.1%  
(d) 27.3%  
(e) None of these
4. (MH 2014 11-12) Points  $A$ ,  $C$ , and  $D$  lie on a circle. Point  $B$  lies outside the circle such that  $B$ ,  $D$ , and  $C$  are collinear with  $D$  between  $B$  and  $C$ , and  $BA$  is tangent to the circle. If  $AB = 2$ ,  $AC = 3$ , and  $BD = 1$ , what is the area of triangle  $ABC$ ?
- (a) 1  
(b) 2  
(c)  $\frac{3}{4}\sqrt{15}$   
(d)  $\frac{3}{4}\sqrt{11}$   
(e)  $2\sqrt{11}$
5. (LF 2014 9-10) The sum of the first 2014 positive odd integers is subtracted from the sum of the first 2014 positive even integers. What is the result?
- (a) 1  
(b) 0  
(c) 4028  
(d) 2013  
(e) None of these
6. (MH 2014 11-12) Let  $BE$  be a median of triangle  $ABC$ , and let  $D$  be a point on  $AB$  such that  $BD/DA = 3/7$ . What is the ratio of the area of triangle  $BED$  to that of triangle  $ABC$ ?
- (a)  $3/20$   
(b)  $7/20$   
(c)  $1/5$   
(d)  $1/4$   
(e) the answer cannot be determined
7. (LF 2013 11-12) One sphere is inscribed in a cube, while the cube is also inscribed in another

sphere. Find the ratio of the volumes of the larger sphere to the smaller sphere.

(a)  $\sqrt{3}$

(b)  $2\sqrt{3}$

(c)  $3\sqrt{3}$

(d)  $3\sqrt{2}$

(e) None of the above