

2020 AMC 12B Problems

**Problem 1**

What is the value in simplest form of the following expression?

$$\sqrt{1} + \sqrt{1+3} + \sqrt{1+3+5} + \sqrt{1+3+5+7}$$

- (A) 5      (B)  $4 + \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{10}$       (C) 10      (D) 15      (E)  $4 + 3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{7}$

**Problem 2**

What is the value of the following expression?

$$\frac{100^2 - 7^2}{70^2 - 11^2} \cdot \frac{(70 - 11)(70 + 11)}{(100 - 7)(100 + 7)}$$

- (A) 1      (B)  $\frac{9951}{9950}$       (C)  $\frac{4780}{4779}$       (D)  $\frac{108}{107}$       (E)  $\frac{81}{80}$

**Problem 3**

The ratio of  $w$  to  $x$  is  $4 : 3$ , the ratio of  $y$  to  $z$  is  $3 : 2$ , and the ratio of  $z$  to  $x$  is  $1 : 6$ . What is the ratio of  $w$  to  $y$ ?

- (A)  $4 : 3$       (B)  $3 : 2$       (C)  $8 : 3$       (D)  $4 : 1$       (E)  $16 : 3$

**Problem 4**

The acute angles of a right triangle are  $a^\circ$  and  $b^\circ$ , where  $a > b$  and both  $a$  and  $b$  are prime numbers. What is the least possible value of  $b$ ?

- (A) 2            (B) 3            (C) 5            (D) 7            (E) 11

**Problem 5**

Teams  $A$  and  $B$  are playing in a basketball league where each game results in a win for one team and a loss for the other team. Team  $A$  has won  $\frac{2}{3}$  of its games and team  $B$  has won  $\frac{5}{8}$  of its games. Also, team  $B$  has won 7 more games and lost 7 more games than team  $A$ . How many games has team  $A$  played?

- (A) 21      (B) 27      (C) 42      (D) 48      (E) 63

**Problem 6**

For all integers  $n \geq 9$ , the value of

$$\frac{(n+2)! - (n+1)!}{n!}$$

is always which of the following?

- (A) a multiple of 4      (B) a multiple of 10      (C) a prime number  
(D) a perfect square      (E) a perfect cube

**Problem 7**

Two nonhorizontal, non vertical lines in the  $xy$ -coordinate plane intersect to form a  $45^\circ$  angle. One line has slope equal to 6 times the slope of the other line. What is the greatest possible value of the product of the slopes of the two lines?

- (A)  $\frac{1}{6}$     (B)  $\frac{2}{3}$     (C)  $\frac{3}{2}$     (D) 3    (E) 6

**Problem 8**

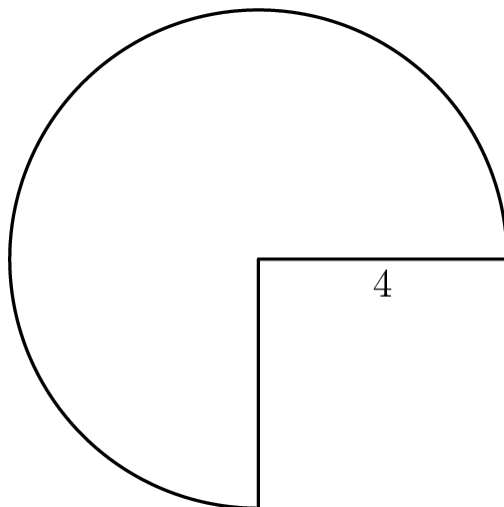
How many ordered pairs of integers  $(x, y)$  satisfy the equation

$$x^{2020} + y^2 = 2y ?$$

- (A) 1    (B) 2    (C) 3    (D) 4    (E) infinitely many

**Problem 9**

A three-quarter sector of a circle of radius 4 inches together with its interior can be rolled up to form the lateral surface area of a right circular cone by taping together along the two radii shown. What is the volume of the cone in cubic inches?



- (A)  $3\pi\sqrt{5}$     (B)  $4\pi\sqrt{3}$     (C)  $3\pi\sqrt{7}$     (D)  $6\pi\sqrt{3}$     (E)  $6\pi\sqrt{7}$

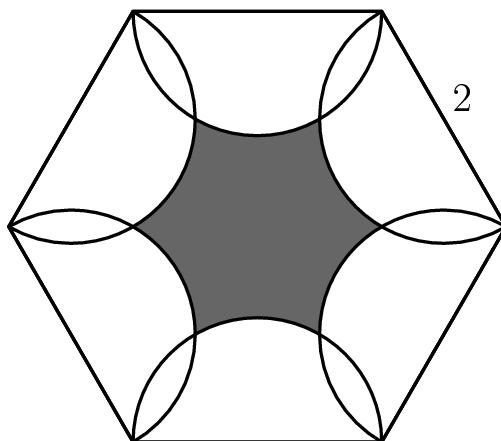
**Problem 10**

In unit square  $ABCD$ , the inscribed circle  $\omega$  intersects  $\overline{CD}$  at  $M$ , and  $\overline{AM}$  intersects  $\omega$  at a point  $P$  different from  $M$ . What is  $AP$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{12}$     (B)  $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{10}$     (C)  $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{9}$     (D)  $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{8}$     (E)  $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{15}$

**Problem 11**

As shown in the figure below, six semicircles lie in the interior of a regular hexagon with side length 2 so that the diameters of the semicircles coincide with the sides of the hexagon. What is the area of the shaded region—inside the hexagon but outside all of the semicircles?



- (A)  $6\sqrt{3} - 3\pi$     (B)  $\frac{9\sqrt{3}}{2} - 2\pi$     (C)  $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{\pi}{3}$     (D)  $3\sqrt{3} - \pi$   
 (E)  $\frac{9\sqrt{3}}{2} - \pi$

**Problem 12**

Let  $\overline{AB}$  be a diameter in a circle of radius  $5\sqrt{2}$ . Let  $\overline{CD}$  be a chord in the circle that intersects  $\overline{AB}$  at a point  $E$  such that  $BE = 2\sqrt{5}$  and  $\angle AEC = 45^\circ$ . What is  $CE^2 + DE^2$ ?

- (A) 96    (B) 98    (C)  $44\sqrt{5}$     (D)  $70\sqrt{2}$     (E) 100

**Problem 13**

Which of the following is the value of

$$\sqrt{\log_2 6 + \log_3 6}?$$

- (A) 1    (B)  $\sqrt{\log_5 6}$     (C) 2    (D)  $\sqrt{\log_2 3} + \sqrt{\log_3 2}$     (E)  $\sqrt{\log_2 6} + \sqrt{\log_3 6}$

**Problem 14**

Bela and Jenn play the following game on the closed interval  $[0, n]$  of the real number line, where  $n$  is a fixed integer greater than 4. They take turns playing, with Bela going first. At his first turn, Bela chooses any real number in the interval  $[0, n]$ . Thereafter, the player whose turn it is chooses a real number that is more than one unit away from all numbers previously chosen by either player. A player unable to choose such a number loses. Using optimal strategy, which player will win the game?

- (A) Bela will always win.
- (B) Jenn will always win.
- (C) Bela will win if and only if  $n$  is odd.
- (D) Jenn will win if and only if  $n$  is odd.
- (E) Jenn will win if and only if  $n > 8$ .

**Problem 15**

There are 10 people standing equally spaced around a circle. Each person knows exactly 3 of the other 9 people: the 2 people standing next to her or him, as well as the person directly across the circle. How many ways are there for the 10 people to split up into 5 pairs so that the members of each pair know each other?

- (A) 11      (B) 12      (C) 13      (D) 14      (E) 15

**Problem 16**

An urn contains one red ball and one blue ball. A box of extra red and blue balls lie nearby. George performs the following operation four times: he draws a ball from the urn at random and then takes a ball of the same color from the box and returns those two matching balls to the urn.

After the four iterations the urn contains six balls. What is the probability that the urn contains three balls of each color?

- (A)  $\frac{1}{6}$       (B)  $\frac{1}{5}$       (C)  $\frac{1}{4}$       (D)  $\frac{1}{3}$       (E)  $\frac{1}{2}$

**Problem 17**

How many polynomials of the form  $x^5 + ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + 2020$ , where  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  are real numbers, have the property that whenever  $r$  is a root, so is

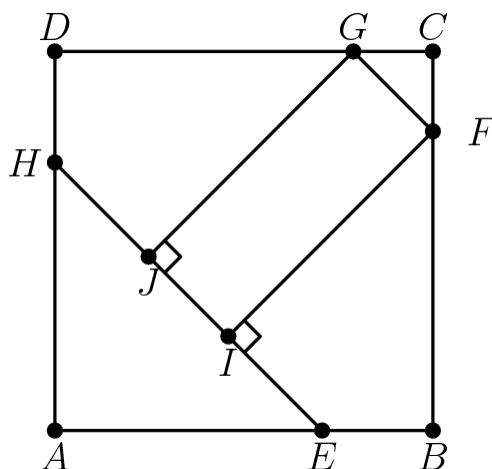
$$\frac{-1 + i\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot r?$$

(Note that  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ )

- (A) 0      (B) 1      (C) 2      (D) 3      (E) 4

**Problem 18**

In square  $ABCD$ , points  $E$  and  $H$  lie on  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{DA}$ , respectively, so that  $AE = AH$ . Points  $F$  and  $G$  lie on  $\overline{BC}$  and  $\overline{CD}$ , respectively, and points  $I$  and  $J$  lie on  $\overline{EH}$  so that  $\overline{FI} \perp \overline{EH}$  and  $\overline{GJ} \perp \overline{EH}$ . See the figure below. Triangle  $AEH$ , quadrilateral  $BFIE$ , quadrilateral  $DHJG$ , and pentagon  $FCGJI$  each has area 1. What is  $FI^2$ ?



- (A)  $\frac{7}{3}$       (B)  $8 - 4\sqrt{2}$       (C)  $1 + \sqrt{2}$       (D)  $\frac{7}{4}\sqrt{2}$       (E)  $2\sqrt{2}$

**Problem 19**

Square  $ABCD$  in the coordinate plane has vertices at the points  $A(1, 1)$ ,  $B(-1, 1)$ ,  $C(-1, -1)$ , and  $D(1, -1)$ . Consider the following four transformations:

- $L$ , a rotation of  $90^\circ$  counterclockwise around the origin;
- $R$ , a rotation of  $90^\circ$  clockwise around the origin;
- $H$ , a reflection across the  $x$ -axis; and
- $V$ , a reflection across the  $y$ -axis.



Each of these transformations maps the squares onto itself, but the positions of the labeled vertices will change. For example, applying  $R$  and then  $V$  would send the vertex  $A$  at  $(1, 1)$  to  $(-1, -1)$  and would send the vertex  $B$  at  $(-1, 1)$  to itself. How many sequences of 20 transformations chosen from  $\{L, R, H, V\}$  will send all of the labeled vertices back to their original positions? (For example,  $R, R, V, H$  is one sequence of 4 transformations that will send the vertices back to their original positions.)

- (A)  $2^{37}$     (B)  $3 \cdot 2^{36}$     (C)  $2^{38}$     (D)  $3 \cdot 2^{37}$     (E)  $2^{39}$

**Problem 20**

Two different cubes of the same size are to be painted, with the color of each face being chosen independently and at random to be either black or white. What is the probability that after they are painted, the cubes can be rotated to be identical in appearance?

- (A)  $\frac{9}{64}$     (B)  $\frac{289}{2048}$     (C)  $\frac{73}{512}$     (D)  $\frac{147}{1024}$     (E)  $\frac{589}{4096}$

**Problem 21**

How many positive integers  $n$  satisfy

$$\frac{n + 1000}{70} = \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor ?$$

(Recall that  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  is the greatest integer not exceeding  $x$ .)

- (A) 2    (B) 4    (C) 6    (D) 30    (E) 32

**Problem 22**

What is the maximum value of

$$\frac{(2^t - 3t)t}{4^t}$$

for real values of  $t$ ?

- (A)  $\frac{1}{16}$     (B)  $\frac{1}{15}$     (C)  $\frac{1}{12}$     (D)  $\frac{1}{10}$     (E)  $\frac{1}{9}$

**Problem 23**

How many integers  $n \geq 2$  are there such that whenever  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$  are complex numbers such that

$$|z_1| = |z_2| = \dots = |z_n| = 1 \text{ and } z_1 + z_2 + \dots + z_n = 0,$$

then the numbers  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n$  are equally spaced on the unit circle in the complex plane?

- (A) 1    (B) 2    (C) 3    (D) 4    (E) 5

**Problem 24**

Let  $D(n)$  denote the number of ways of writing the positive integer  $n$  as a product

$$n = f_1 \cdot f_2 \cdots f_k,$$

where  $k \geq 1$ , the  $f_i$  are integers strictly greater than 1, and the order in which the factors are listed matters (that is, two representations that differ only in the order of the factors are counted as distinct). For example, the number 6 can be written as 6,  $2 \cdot 3$ , and  $3 \cdot 2$ , so  $D(6) = 3$ . What is  $D(96)$ ?

- (A) 112      (B) 128      (C) 144      (D) 172      (E) 184

**Problem 25**

For each real number  $a$  with  $0 \leq a \leq 1$ , let numbers  $x$  and  $y$  be chosen independently at random from the intervals  $[0, a]$  and  $[0, 1]$ , respectively, and let  $P(a)$  be the probability that

$$\sin^2(\pi x) + \sin^2(\pi y) > 1$$

What is the maximum value of  $P(a)$  ?

- (A)  $\frac{7}{12}$       (B)  $2 - \sqrt{2}$       (C)  $\frac{1 + \sqrt{2}}{4}$       (D)  $\frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}$       (E)  $\frac{5}{8}$

## Answer Key

1. C
2. A
3. E
4. D
5. C
6. D
7. C
8. D
9. C
10. B
11. D
12. E
13. D
14. A
15. C
16. B
17. C
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. C
22. C
23. B
24. A
25. B