



1.

1.2. Numbers have the same parity if both are even /r both are odd. Suppose a and b are integers greater than 1. Prove that if a and b have different parity, then

$\log_b a$ is

irrational. Prove that the converse is NOT true.

3. Find all solutions (x, y) of the equation $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} = \frac{1}{2011}$, where x and y are integers, and prove that you have found them all.

4. At a carnival game, you see nine paint cans stacked and numbered as shown at the right. You get three throws, and you must knock down one, and only one, can per throw. Further, a can may only be knocked down after the one(s) directly above it have been knocked down on a previous throw. Your first throw scores the number on that can, the second throw scores twice the number on that can, and the third throw scores triple the number on that can. To win a prize, you must score exactly 50 points. Determine, with proof, the number of possible combinations of three throws that can win a prize.

5. The lengths of the sides of a parallelogram are 9 inches and 8 inches. The lengths of the two diagonals, d_1 and d_2 , of this parallelogram are both integers

SOLUTIONS

1. Make a graph $y = 5x + 1$, $y = x + 2$, and $y = -2x + 6$. The points of intersection of each pair of lines (from left to right) are

$$\left(\frac{1}{4}, 2\frac{1}{4}\right), \left(\frac{5}{7}, 4\frac{4}{7}\right), \text{ and } \left(\frac{4}{3}, 3\frac{1}{3}\right).$$

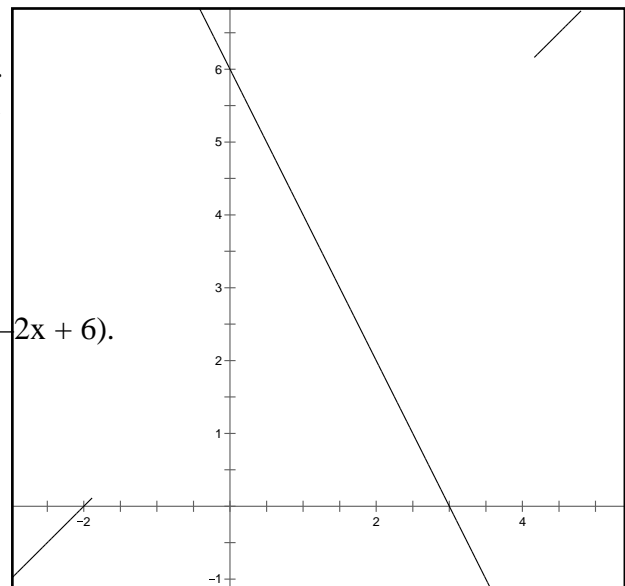
Consider the intersection furthest to the right

(i.e. $\left(\frac{4}{3}, 3\frac{1}{3}\right)$, the intersection of $y = x + 2$ and $y = -2x + 6$).

At any other point, at least one of the three lines is below this intersection point. Therefore, the value of M at any other point is less than the value of M

at the point $\left(\frac{4}{3}, 3\frac{1}{3}\right)$. Therefore, the maximum

value of M is $\frac{10}{3} = 3\frac{1}{3}$.



2. Using the change of base formula, $\log_b a = \frac{\log a}{\log b}$. Suppose $\log_b a$ is rational.

Then $\log_b a = \frac{\log a}{\log b} = \frac{h}{k}$, where h and k are integers and $k \neq 0$ and $h \neq 0$ (since $a > 1$).

Then $k \log a = h \log b$. Thus, $\log a^k = \log b^h$, which implies $a^k = b^h$.

But since $h, k \neq 0$, and a and b have different parity, a^k and b^h have different parity.

We have a contradiction. Therefore, $\log_b a$ is irrational.

The converse states that if $\log_b a$ is irrational, then a and b have different parity.

This is equivalent to: If a and b have the same parity, then $\log_b a$ is rational.

Here is a counterexample:

Consider $\log_2 6$ (note that 2 and 6 have the same parity). We must show that $\log_2 6$

is irrational. Assume $\log_2 6$ is rational. Then $\log_2 6 = \frac{p}{q}$ where p and q are integers

and $q \neq 0$.

Then $2^{\frac{p}{q}} = 6$ or $2^p = 6^q = (2 \cdot 3)^q = (2^q)(3^q)$. This can only happen if $p = q = 0$ which is a contradiction. Therefore, the converse is not true.

3. The given equation implies that $xy = 2011(x+y)$. Since 2011 is prime, to have integer solutions at least one of x or y must be a multiple of 2011.

5. Method 1:

Use the Law of Cosines on two triangles, $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle BCD$.

$$\begin{aligned}\triangle ABC: \quad (AC)^2 &= 8^2 + 9^2 - 2(8)(9)\cos\angle ABC \\ (AC)^2 &= 145 - 144 \cos\angle ABC\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\triangle BCD: \quad (BD)^2 &= 8^2 + 9^2 - 2(8)(9)\cos\angle BCD, \\ &\text{and since } m\angle ABC + m\angle BCD = 180, \\ (BD)^2 &= 145 - 144 \cos\angle BCD = 145 - 144(-\cos\angle ABC) = 145 + 144 \cos\angle ABC\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Adding the two equations} \quad (AC)^2 &= 145 - 144 \cos\angle ABC \\ (BD)^2 &= 145 + 144 \cos\angle ABC\end{aligned}$$

Since we are given that the length of each diagonal is an integer, a quick check tells us that 11 and 13 have squares that sum to 290 and 1 and 17 have squares that sum to 290. However, no triangle with sides of lengths 8, 9, and 17 (or 8, 9, and 1) exists. Therefore, the diagonals have lengths of 11 and 13 and the desired ordered pair is **(11, 13)**.

Method 2:

Construct altitudes as shown.

(i) Using right triangle CPA, $y^2 + (9 - x)^2 = d_1^2$

(ii) Using right triangle BQD, $y^2 + (9 + x)^2 = d_2^2$

(iii) Using right triangle ABQ, $x^2 + y^2 = 8^2 \Rightarrow y^2 = 8^2 - x^2$

Adding (i) and (ii) and simplifying, we obtain

$$d_1^2 + d_2^2 = 2x^2 + 162 + 2y^2$$

Substituting (iii) in this last equation and simplifying, we obtain $d_1^2 + d_2^2 = 290$