



solution to this last equation is  $x = 5^9$ . Now,  $5^9 = (5^4)^2 \cdot 5 = (625)^2 \cdot 5 > 100^2 = 10000$ . Thus  $x > 10000$ , none of the answer choices provided.

3. The number of real distinct solutions to the equation

$$\frac{1}{x} - \frac{5}{x^2} + \frac{6}{x^3} = x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x$$

is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) 1 (b) 2  
 (c) 3 (d) 4  
 (e) None of these

**Solution. (d)** Multiply each side of the equation by  $x^3$ , and rearrange the right hand side, to obtain the equation

$$x^2 - 5x + 6 = x^4(x^2 - 5x + 6)$$

Since  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x - 2)(x - 3)$ , we get the two real solutions  $x = 2, 3$ . Now divide the equation by  $x^2 - 5x + 6$  to obtain  $1 = x^4$ , with the two additional solutions  $x = -1, 1$ . This gives us a total of 4 real solutions ( $x = -1, 1, 2, 3$ ).

4. The base 2 representation of the number  $N$  is  $(11 \cdots 11)_2$  (that is 2009 ones). What is the base 4 representation of  $N$ ?
- (a)  $(33 \cdots 33)_4$  (1005 threes) (b)  $(33 \cdots 33)_4$  (1004 threes)  
 (c)  $(133 \cdots 33)_4$  (1005 threes) (d)  $(133 \cdots 33)_4$  (1004 threes)  
 (e) None of these

**Solution. (d)**

$$\begin{aligned} (11 \cdots 11)_2 &= 2^{2008} + 2^{2007} + 2^{2006} + \cdots + 2^1 + 2^0 \\ &= 2^{2008} + (2 \cdot 2^{2006} + 2^{2006}) + (2 \cdot 2^{2004} + 2^{2004}) \cdots + (2 + 1) \\ &= 4^{1004} + (2 + 1) \cdot 4^{1003} + (2 + 1) \cdot 4^{1002} + \cdots + (2 + 1) \cdot 4^0 \\ &= 4^{1004} + 3 \cdot 4^{1003} + 3 \cdot 4^{1002} + \cdots + 3 \cdot 4^0 \\ &= (133 \cdots 33)_4, \end{aligned}$$

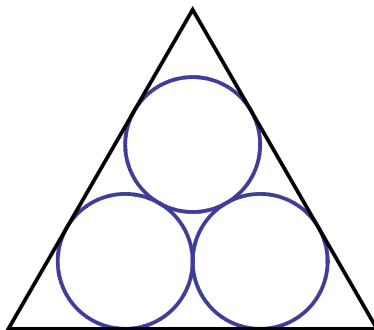


he needs to sell this week at the increased price to make at least as much income as he made last week?

- (a) 834
- (b) 835
- (c) 836
- (d) 837
- (e) None of these

**Solution.** (a) Let  $C$  be the cost of the *ispud*<sup>©</sup> last week. Then Lenny's income from last week's sales is  $1000C$ . If Lenny sells  $N$  *ispud*<sup>©</sup>s this week at the price  $(1.2)C$ , then to obtain a comparable income, it must be the case that  $N(1.2)C \geq 1000C$ . Thus,  $N \geq 1000/1.2 = 833\frac{1}{3}$ . Thus, the least number Lenny must sell is 834.

7. The equilateral triangle is circumscribing (tangent to) the three kissing (tangent) unit radius (radius = 1) circles. The area of the triangle is \_\_\_\_\_.

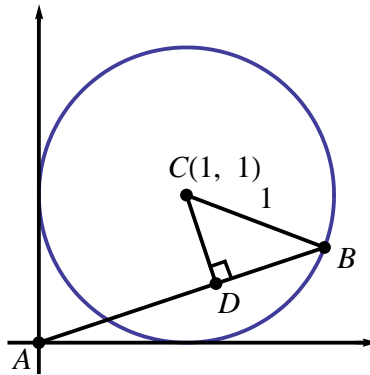


- (a)  $4 + 6\sqrt{3}$
- (b)  $6 + 4\sqrt{3}$
- (c)  $3 + 5\sqrt{3}$
- (d)  $5 + 3\sqrt{3}$
- (e) None of these

**Solution.** (b) The area enclosed by an equilateral triangle of side length  $s$  is  $(\sqrt{3}/4)s^2$ . So we need only determine the side length of the triangle. Note that  $\triangle ABC$  in the figure below is a  $30^\circ$ - $60^\circ$ - $90^\circ$  triangle, and since  $BC = 1$ , it follows that  $AB = \sqrt{3}$ .







Then  $BC = 1$  and so  $\sin \angle ABC = CD$ . The equation of the line  $\overline{AB}$  is  $y = x/3$  and so the equation of the line  $\overline{CD}$  is  $y - 1 = -3(x - 1)$ , which is equivalent to  $y = -3x + 4$ . Thus we can determine the coordinates of  $D$  by solving the pair of equations ( $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{CD}$ ) to get

$$D = \left( \frac{6}{5}, \frac{2}{5} \right).$$

Now we just need the distance formula to finish the problem.

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \angle ABC &= CD \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{6}{5} - 1\right)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{5} - 1\right)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{25} + \frac{9}{25}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{10}}{5}. \end{aligned}$$

10. There are 10 students in a room. There are 4 Freshman, 1 Sophomore, 3 Juniors, and 2 Seniors. Suppose 5 of the students are chosen at random. What is the probability that, among the chosen 5, the majority is Freshman?

(a)  $\frac{11}{42}$

(b)  $\frac{13}{42}$

(c)  $\frac{15}{42}$

(d)  $\frac{17}{42}$

(e) None of these

**Solution.** (a) The question is asking for the probability that of the 5 students chosen, 3 or 4 are Freshman. The number of ways to select 5 students from 10, is

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{10}{5} &= \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \\ &= 252.\end{aligned}$$

The number of ways that you can choose 3 Freshman and 2 non-Freshman is

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{4}{3} \binom{6}{2} &= \left(\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}\right) \left(\frac{6 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 1}\right) \\ &= 60.\end{aligned}$$

And the number of ways that you can choose 4 Freshman and 1 non-Freshman is

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{4}{4} \binom{6}{1} &= \left(\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}\right) \left(\frac{6}{1}\right) \\ &= 6.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the probability of choosing mostly Freshman is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{60 + 6}{252} &= \frac{66}{252} \\ &= \frac{11}{42}\end{aligned}$$