

STEP III 1999 Q1

$$x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$$

(i) We have roots  $a/k, a, ak$ .

$$\text{So, } r = (a/k)(a)(ak) = a^3$$

$$q = (a/k)a + (a/k)ak + a(ak) \\ = a^2(1/k + 1 + k)$$

$$p = a/k + a + ak \\ = a(1/k + 1 + k)$$

$$\text{So } q^3 - rp^3 = a^6(1/k + 1 + k)^3 - a^3 \cdot a^3(1/k + 1 + k)^3 \\ = 0$$

Further,  $\frac{q}{p} = \frac{a^2(1/k + 1 + k)}{a(1/k + 1 + k)} = a$  which is a root.

(ii) We have  $x^3 - px^2 + qx - q^3/p^3 = 0$

$$\text{So } f(q/p) = \frac{q^3}{p^3} - p \cdot \frac{q^2}{p^2} + q \cdot \frac{q}{p} - \frac{q^3}{p^3} \\ = 0, \text{ so } x = q/p \text{ is a root.}$$

Suppose the roots are  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ , with  $\beta = q/p$ .

$$\text{Then } \alpha\beta\gamma = q^3/p^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{q}{p}\alpha\gamma = q^3/p^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\gamma = q^2/p^2, \text{ as required.}$$

Now suppose  $\gamma = k^2\alpha$  for some  $k$ .

$$\text{Then } q^2/p^2 = \alpha\gamma$$

$$= \alpha \times k^2\alpha$$

$$= k^2\alpha^2$$

$$\text{So, } k = \frac{q}{p\alpha}$$

But then  $k\alpha = \frac{q\alpha}{p\alpha} = q/p = \beta$ . So, with  $k = \frac{q}{p\alpha}$ , we have roots  $\alpha, k\alpha, k^2\alpha$ , which is in geometric progression.

(ii) We have  $p = \alpha + \beta + \gamma$   
 $q = \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha$   
 $r = \alpha\beta\gamma$

If the roots are in arithmetic progression, then  $\beta = \alpha + d, \gamma = \beta + d$  for some  $d$ .  
So let  $\alpha = \beta - d, \gamma = \beta + d$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \beta - d + \beta + \beta + d \\ &= 3\beta \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q &= (\beta - d)(\beta + d) + \beta(\beta - d) + \beta(\beta + d) \\ &= \beta^2 - d^2 + \beta^2 - d\beta + \beta^2 + d\beta \\ &= 3\beta^2 - d^2 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= (\beta - d)\beta(\beta + d) \\ &= \beta^3 - \beta d^2 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$(2) \Rightarrow d^2 = 3\beta^2 - q$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Substituting into (3), } r &= \beta^3 - \beta(3\beta^2 - q) \\ &= -2\beta^3 + q\beta \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But (1) gives } \beta &= p/3, \text{ so } r = -2(p/3)^3 + q(p/3) \\ &= -2p^3/27 + qp/3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 27r = -2p^3 + 9qp$$

$$\Rightarrow 2p^3 - 9qp + 27r = 0$$

The argument works backwards too, so this is necessary and sufficient.

### STEP III 1999 Q2

(i)  $f(x) = (1+x^2)e^x$

$$f'(x) = e^x(1+x^2+2x)$$

$$= (x+1)^2 e^x$$

$\geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $= 0$  for  $x = -1$ .

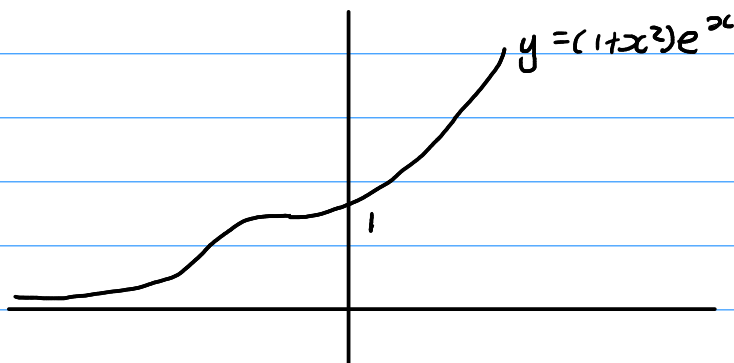
So  $f$  is increasing with a point of inflection at  $x = -1$ .

Further,  $f(0) = 1$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 0$$

So,



Clearly, from the graph, the equation  $(1+x^2)e^x = k$  has exactly one solution for  $k > 0$  and no solutions for  $k \leq 0$ .

(ii) Let  $f(x) = (e^x - 1) - k \arctan x$

Differentiating,  $f'(x) = e^x - \frac{k}{1+x^2}$

So  $f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow (1+x^2)e^x = k$

By (i), this has exactly one solution, and for  $0 < k < 1$  this solution is for  $x < 0$ .

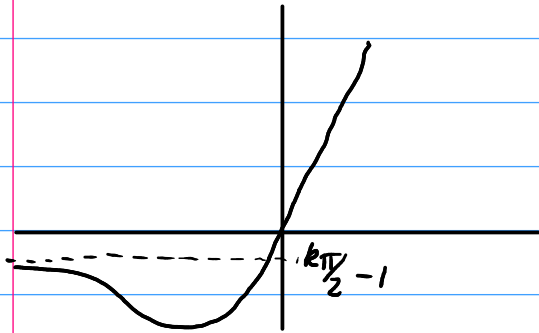
So  $f$  has exactly one stationary point, and this point has  $x < 0$ .

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$$

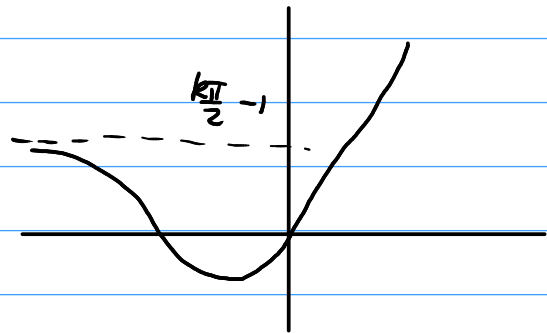
$$f(0) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 1 - k \cdot \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \\ = \frac{k\pi}{2} - 1$$

For  $0 < k \leq \frac{2}{\pi}$  this is  $\leq 0$ , for  $\frac{2}{\pi} < k < 1$  this is  $> 0$ . So,



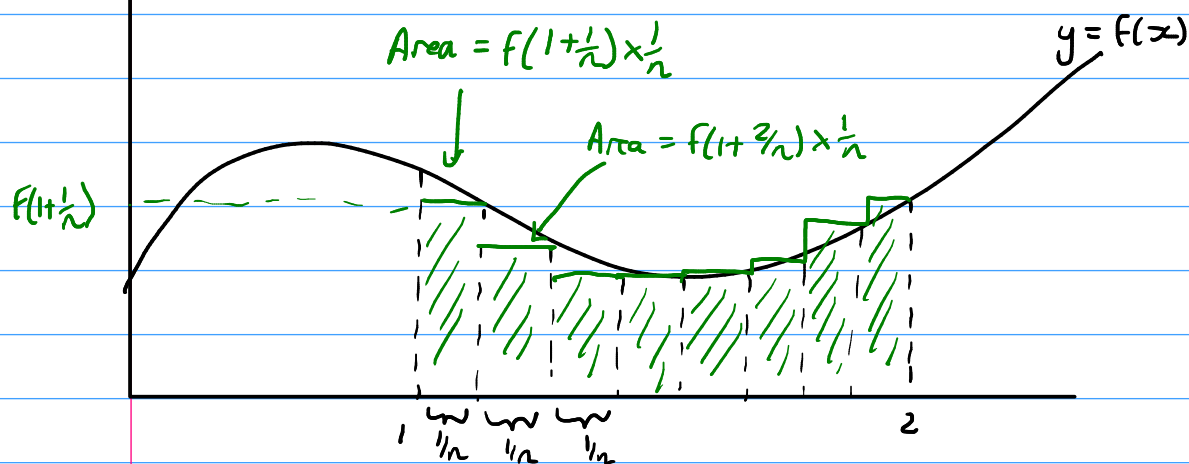
$$0 < k \leq \frac{2}{\pi}$$



$$\frac{2}{\pi} < k < 1$$

So  $(e^x - 1) - k \arctan x$  has exactly one solution for  $0 < k \leq \frac{2}{\pi}$ , and exactly two solutions for  $\frac{2}{\pi} < k < 1$ .

STEP III 1999 Q3



The green shaded area is  $\sum_{m=1}^n f(1+\frac{m}{n}) \times \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n f(1+\frac{m}{n})$

In the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , this becomes the area under the curve, and so takes the value of the integral. So,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n f(1+\frac{m}{n}) = \int_1^2 f(x) dx$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+n} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{n}{n+1} + \frac{n}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{n}{n+n} \right) \right)$$

Now let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ , then  $f(1+\frac{m}{n}) = f(\frac{n+m}{n}) = \frac{n}{n+m}$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} \left( f(1+\frac{1}{n}) + f(1+\frac{2}{n}) + \dots + f(1+\frac{n}{n}) \right) \right)$$

$$= \int_1^2 f(x) dx$$

$$= \int_1^2 \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= [\ln x]_1^2 \\
 &= \ln 2 - \ln 1 \\
 &= \ln 2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now, work } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{n^2}{n^2+1} + \frac{n^2}{n^2+4} + \dots + \frac{n^2}{n^2+n^2} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{1}{1+(\frac{1}{n})^2} + \frac{1}{1+(\frac{2}{n})^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{1+(\frac{n}{n})^2} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n \frac{1}{1+(\frac{m}{n})^2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n \frac{1}{(1+\frac{m}{n})^2 - 2(\frac{m}{n}) + 2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n \frac{1}{(1+\frac{m}{n})^2 - 2(1+\frac{m}{n}) + 2}$$

So with  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 2x + 2}$ , this becomes

$$\int_1^2 \frac{1}{x^2 - 2x + 2} dx = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{(x-1)^2 + 1} dx$$

$$= [\arctan(x-1)]_1^2$$

$$= \arctan 1 - \arctan 0$$

$$= \pi/4$$

### STEP III 1999 Q4

We have  $V - E + F = 2$ .

The polyhedron has  $m$ -sided polygons, with  $n$  meeting at each vertex.

With  $F$  faces, we have  $V = \frac{F \times m}{n}$   
 $E = \frac{F \times m}{2}$

So,  $\frac{Fm}{n} - \frac{Fm}{2} + F = 2$

$\Rightarrow F(2m - nm + 2n) = 4n$

So  $F = \frac{4n}{2m - nm + 2n}$

But  $h = 4 - (n - 2)(m - 2)$

$= 4 - (nm - 2m - 2n + 4)$

$= 2m - nm + 2n$

So  $F = \frac{4n}{h}$

Since  $F, n > 0$  we must have  $h > 0$ . So,  $4 - (n - 2)(m - 2) > 0$

$\Rightarrow (n - 2)(m - 2) < 4$

Further,  $n, m \geq 3$  (by simple geometry).

If  $n = 3$   $m = 3, 4, 5$

$n = 4$   $m = 3$

$n = 5$   $m = 3$

$n \geq 6$  no solutions for  $m$

} so these are the only five regular polyhedra.

| $n$ | $m$ | $h$ | $F$ | $V$ | $E$ |              |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| 3   | 3   | 3   | 4   | 4   | 6   | tetrahedron  |
| 3   | 4   | 2   | 6   | 8   | 12  | cube         |
| 3   | 5   | 1   | 12  | 20  | 30  | dodecahedron |
| 4   | 3   | 2   | 8   | 6   | 24  | octahedron   |
| 5   | 3   | 1   | 20  | 12  | 30  | icosahedron  |

## STEP II 1999 Q5

We have  $u_0 = 1, u_1 = 1, u_{n+1} = u_n + u_{n-1}$  for  $n \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned}u_{n+2}^2 + u_{n-1}^2 &= (u_{n+1} + u_n)^2 + (u_{n+1} - u_n)^2 \\ &= 2(u_{n+1}^2 + u_n^2), \text{ as required.}\end{aligned}$$

Claim  $u_{2n} = u_n^2 + u_{n-1}^2$  AND  $u_{2n+1} = u_{n+1}^2 - u_{n-1}^2$

Proof by induction

$$\begin{aligned}n=1: \quad u_2 &= u_1^2 + u_0^2 & u_3 &= u_2^2 - u_0^2 \\ 2 &= 1^2 + 1^2 \checkmark & 3 &= 2^2 - 1^2 \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

Assume both statements are true for  $n=k$ . Then for  $n=k+1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}u_{2(k+1)} &= u_{2k+2} \\ &= u_{2k+1} + u_{2k} && \text{by definition} \\ &= u_{k+1}^2 - u_{k-1}^2 + u_k^2 + u_{k-1}^2 && \text{by assumption} \\ &= u_{k+1}^2 + u_k^2, \text{ as required.}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}u_{2(k+1)+1} &= u_{2k+3} \\ &= u_{2k+2} + u_{2k+1} && \text{by definition} \\ &= u_{k+1}^2 + u_k^2 + u_{k+1}^2 - u_{k-1}^2 && \text{by assumption and previous result} \\ &= 2u_{k+1}^2 + u_k^2 - u_{k-1}^2 \\ &= (u_{k+2}^2 + u_{k-1}^2 - 2u_k^2) + u_k^2 - u_{k-1}^2 && \text{by the first result} \\ &= u_{k+2}^2 - u_{k-1}^2, \text{ as required.}\end{aligned}$$

The results are true for  $n=1$ , and if true for  $n=k$  then true for  $n=k+1$ . So true for all positive integers  $n$ .



STEP III 1999 Q6

$$x^{2/n} + y^{2/n} = a^{2/n} \quad (*)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^{1/n})^2 + (y^{1/n})^2 = (a^{1/n})^2$$

Clearly  $-a \leq x, y \leq a$ . Set  $x = a(\cos t)^n$   
 $y = a(\sin t)^n$

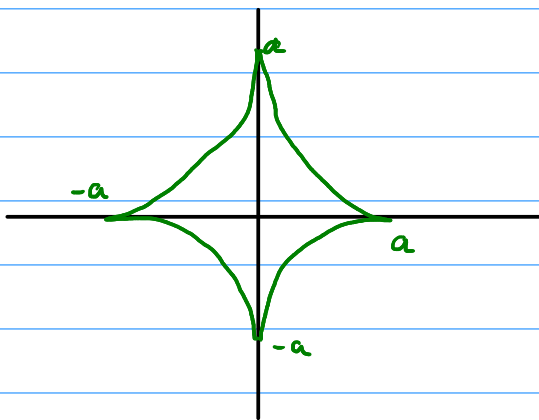
Then (\*) becomes

$$a^{2/n}(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t) = a^{2/n}, \text{ which is trivially true.}$$

For  $n=3$ ,  $x = a\cos^3 t$

$$y = a\sin^3 t$$

Now,  $(\cos t, \sin t)$  defines a circle. The cube will make values close to zero much closer to zero, but values near  $a$  will stay near  $a$ . There is four-fold rotational symmetry.



$$A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} x \frac{dy}{dt} - y \frac{dx}{dt} dt$$

$$= \frac{a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^3 t \cdot 3\sin^2 t \cos t - \sin^3 t \cdot 3\cos^2 t (-\sin t) dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^4 t \sin^2 t + \sin^4 t \cos^2 t dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \sin^2 t (\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t) dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 t \sin^2 t \, dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\frac{\sin 2t}{2}\right)^2 dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{8} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin^2 2t \, dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{8} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos 4t) \, dt$$

$$= \frac{3a^2}{16} \left[ t + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4t \right]_0^{2\pi}$$

$$= \frac{3a^2 \pi}{8}$$

### STEP III 1999 7

$$(x * y) * z = (x + y + axy) + z + a(x + y + axy)z$$

$$= x + y + z + a(x + y + z) + a^2xyz$$

$$x * (y * z) = x + (y + z + ayz) + ax(y + z + ayz)$$

$$= x + y + z + a(x + y + z) + a^2xyz$$

So  $*$  is associative.

We now wish to show that  $(G, *)$  is a group

Associativity has been proved, and closure over the real numbers is clear.

For identity, need  $x + y + axy = y$

$$\Rightarrow x + axy = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(1 + ay) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0$$

So  $x = 0$  is the identity.

Inverse, need  $x + y + axy = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x = y(-1 - ax)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{-x}{1 + ax} \text{ is the inverse.}$$

But  $x = -1/a$  has no inverse, so is not in the group. So  $G = \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1/a\}$

To be a subgroup of order 2, we need a self inverse element. So,

$$x + x + ax^2 = 0 \quad (x \neq 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 + ax = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -2/a$$

So,  $\{0, -2/a\}$  is a subgroup of order 2.

STEP III 1999 Q8

At  $x=0$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1$  and  $y=0$

$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + n^2y = 0$  for  $2(n-1)\pi < x < 2n\pi$ , and  $y$  and  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  are continuous at  $x=2n\pi$

(i) For  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$ ,  $n=1$ , so  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow y = A\cos x + B\sin x$

$y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 1 \Rightarrow B = 1$

So  $y = \sin x$

Note  $y(2\pi) = 0$ ,  $y'(2\pi) = 1$

(ii)  $y'' + 4y = 0 \Rightarrow y = A\cos 2x + B\sin 2x$

$A=0$ ,  $B = \frac{1}{2}$ , so  $y = \frac{1}{2}\sin 2x$

Note  $y(4\pi) = 0$ ,  $y'(4\pi) = 0$

For  $n \geq 1$ ,  $y_n(x) = A\cos nx + B\sin nx$

Since  $y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow y(2\pi) = y(4\pi) = y(2m\pi) = 0$ , as  $\sin(n \times 2k\pi) = 0$  for  $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Similarly,  $y'(2m\pi) = 1$ , so  $y_n(x) = \frac{1}{n}\sin nx$

So  $y(x) = \frac{1}{n}\sin nx$  for  $2(n-1)\pi \leq x < 2n\pi$

(iii)  $\int_0^\infty y^2 dx = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \int_{2(n-1)\pi}^{2n\pi} \frac{1}{n^2} (\sin nx)^2 dx$

$= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{n^2} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos(2nx) dx$

$= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{4n} \sin(2nx) \right]_0^{2\pi}$

$= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{n^2} (2\pi \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 0)$

$= \pi \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{1}{n^2}$ , as required.

STEP III 1999 Q9

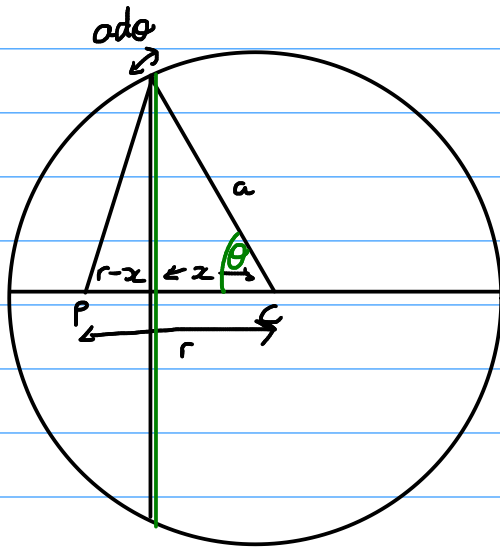
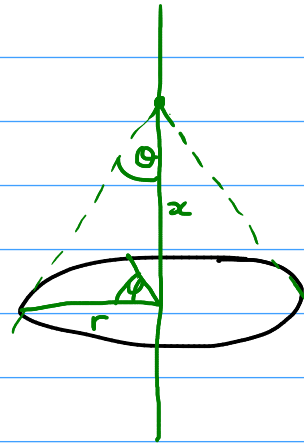
For each angle  $\varphi$ , the 'left' and 'right' forces cancel out, so the only net force is towards the centre of the ring.

$$\text{We have } F = \int_{\varphi=0}^{2\pi} \frac{G}{x^2+r^2} \cdot \cos\theta \cdot \frac{M}{2\pi} d\varphi$$

$$= \frac{GM \cos\theta}{x^2+r^2}$$

$$= \frac{GM}{x^2+r^2} \cdot \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+r^2}}$$

$$= \frac{GMx}{(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$$



Suppose the particle is located at P, at a distance of  $r$  from the centre of the shell.

The mass density of the shell is  $\frac{M}{4\pi a^2}$ , so the mass of the ring is

$$\frac{M}{4\pi a^2} \times 2\pi a \sin\theta \times a d\theta$$

density  $\times$   $2\pi \times$  radius  $\times$  width

$$= \frac{1}{2} M \sin\theta d\theta$$

So, the total force exerted on the particle is

$$F = \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} \frac{G(r-x) \cdot \frac{1}{2} M \sin\theta d\theta}{(a^2-x^2+(r-x)^2)^2}$$

distance to ring
mass of ring

radius of ring
distance to ring

$$\text{But } \cos\theta = x/a$$

$$\Rightarrow x = R \cos\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow dx = -R \sin\theta d\theta, \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } F &= - \int_{x=a}^{-a} \frac{Gm(r-x)}{2a(a^2-x^2+(r-x)^2)^{3/2}} dx \\ &= \frac{Gm}{2a} \int_{x=-a}^a \frac{(r-x)}{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{3/2}} dx \end{aligned}$$

Integrating by parts,  $u = r-x$   $v' = \frac{1}{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{3/2}}$   
 $u' = -1$   $v = \frac{1}{r(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}}$

$$= \left[ \frac{r-x}{r(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} \right]_{-a}^a + \int \frac{1}{r(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} dx$$

$$= \left[ \frac{r-x}{r(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} - \frac{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}}{r^2} \right]_{-a}^a$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} \left( \frac{r-x}{r} - \frac{a^2+r^2-2rx}{r^2} \right) \right]_{-a}^a$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} \left( \frac{r^2-x^2-a^2-r^2+2rx}{r^2} \right) \right]_{-a}^a$$

$$= \left[ \frac{-1}{(a^2+r^2-2rx)^{1/2}} \cdot \left( \frac{x^2+a^2-2rx}{r^2} \right) \right]_{-a}^a$$

$$= \left( \frac{-1}{(a^2-2ra+r^2)^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{2a^2-2ar}{r^2} \right) - \left( \frac{-1}{(a^2+2ra+r^2)^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{2a^2+2ar}{r^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-2a(a-r)}{(a-r)r^2} + \frac{2a(a+r)}{(a+r)r^2}$$

$$= \frac{-2a}{r^2} + \frac{2a}{r^2}$$

$$= 0, \text{ as required.}$$

### STEP III 1999 Q10

The  $(k+1)^{\text{th}}$  link falls through  $\frac{k}{n}L$ , so its speed when it collides with the table is  $v^2 = 2g\frac{k}{n}L$ . Hence the momentum is  $\frac{m}{n}\sqrt{2gkL}$ .

$$\text{Total impulse} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{m}{n} \sqrt{\frac{2gkL}{n}}$$

$$\approx m \sqrt{\frac{2gL}{n^3}} \int_0^n k^{1/2} dk$$

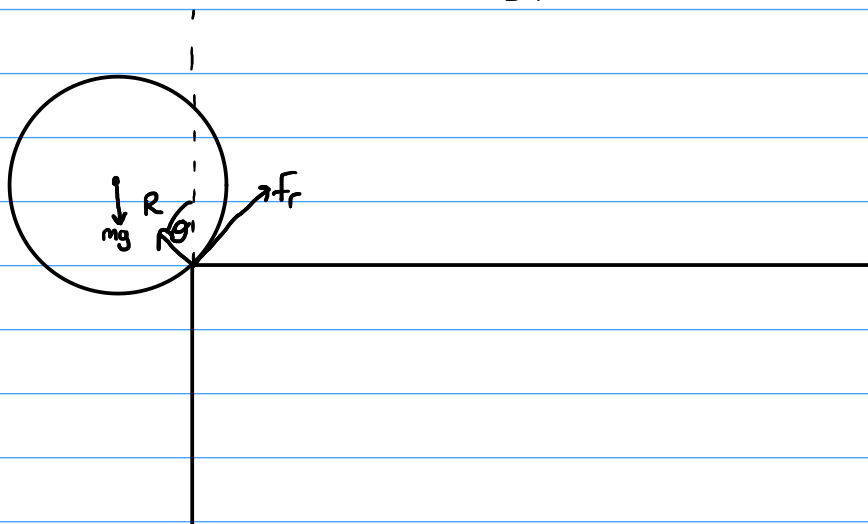
$$= m \sqrt{\frac{2gL}{n^3}} \left( \frac{2}{3} n^{3/2} - \frac{2}{3} \right)$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} m \sqrt{2gL} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{1}{n^3}} \right)$$

In the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , this is  $\frac{2}{3} m \sqrt{2gL}$ , as required.

STEP III 1999 Q11

By the parallel axis theorem,  $I = I_{cm} + ma^2$   
 $= ma^2 + ma^2$   
 $= 2ma^2$



By conservation of energy, we have

$$mga(1 - \cos\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2ma^2\omega^2 - \frac{1}{2} \times 2mv^2 \quad (*)$$

Further, when the hoop is about to lose contact,  $R = 0$ , so  $mg\cos\theta = ma\omega^2$ , so (\*) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} ga(1 - \cos\theta) &= a\omega^2 - v^2 \\ \Rightarrow 2ag\cos\theta &= ag + v^2 \\ \Rightarrow \cos\theta &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{v^2}{2ag} \end{aligned}$$



STEP III 1999 Q12

$$P(x=j, y=k) = e^{-\frac{(j+k)\lambda^{j+k}}{j!k!}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad P(x+y=n) &= \sum_{j=0}^n e^{-\frac{n\lambda^n}{j!(n-j)!}} \\ &= e^{-n\lambda^n} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{j!(n-j)!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-n\lambda^n}}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{n!}{j!(n-j)!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-n\lambda^n}}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} \\ &= \frac{e^{-n\lambda^n} 2^n}{n!} \\ &= \frac{e^{-n(2\lambda)^n}}{(n-1)!} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Noting that  $P(x+y=0) = 0$ , we must have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(x+y=n) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-n(2\lambda)^n}}{(n-1)!} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\lambda e^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2\lambda)^n}{n!} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\lambda e^{-1} e^{2\lambda} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\lambda e^{2\lambda-1} = 1$$

(iii) If  $f(x) = 2xe^{2x-1}$ , then  $f'(x) = 2e^{2x-1}(1+2x) > 0$  for  $x > 0$ . Hence the function is strictly increasing, so the equation has at most one solution. By inspection,  $\lambda = 1/2$  solves the equation.

$$(iv) E(2^{x+y}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n P(x+y=n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n \cdot \frac{e^{-1} (1)^n}{(n-1)!}$$

$$= 2e^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n!}$$

$$= 2e^{-1} \times e^2$$

$$= 2e.$$

### STEP III 1999 Q13

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad \int_0^1 Ax \, dx &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow \left[ \frac{1}{2} Ax^2 \right]_0^1 &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} A &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow A &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } f(x) = 2x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(\text{size of portion}) &= \int_0^1 2x^2 \, dx \\ &= \left[ \frac{2}{3} x^3 \right]_0^1 \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } E(\text{currants}) = \frac{2}{3} \times 4 = \frac{8}{3}$$

(ii) Let  $Y$  be the events taking a fraction  $y$  of the cake and getting four currants.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f(y) &= 2y \times y^4 \\ &= 2y^5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{all 4 currants}) &= \int_0^1 2y^5 \, dy = \left[ \frac{1}{3} y^6 \right]_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{all 4 currants and take } > \frac{1}{2} \text{ cake}) &= \int_{1/2}^1 2y^5 \, dy = \left[ \frac{1}{3} y^6 \right]_{1/2}^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{192} \\ &= \frac{63}{192} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } P(> \frac{1}{2} \mid 4 \text{ currants}) = \frac{63/192}{1/3}$$

$$= \frac{189}{192}$$

STEP III 1999 Q14

$$E \text{ winnings} = \sum_{i=1}^n q^{i-1} p_i$$

$$= p \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d}{dq} (q^i)$$

$$= p \frac{d}{dq} \sum_{i=1}^n q^i$$

$$= p \frac{d}{dq} \frac{q(1-q^n)}{1-q}$$

$$= p \frac{(1-(n+1)q^n)(1-q) + q(1-q^n)}{(1-q)^2}$$

$$= p^{-1} (1 - \cancel{q} - (n+1)q^n + (n+1)q^{n+1} + \cancel{q} - q^{n+1})$$

$$= p^{-1} (1 + nq^{n+1} - (n+1)q^n), \text{ as required.}$$

$$E \text{ winning} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} p^{-1} (1 + nq^{n+1} - (n+1)q^n)$$

$$= p^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} + p^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda} q^{n+1}}{(n-1)!} - p^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda} q^n}{(n-1)!} - p^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda} q^n}{n!}$$

$$= p^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!} + \lambda q^2 p^{-1} e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda q)^n e^{-\lambda q}}{n!} - p^{-1} \lambda q e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda q)^n e^{-\lambda q}}{n!} - p^{-1} e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda q)^n e^{-\lambda q}}{n!}$$

$$= p^{-1} (1 - e^{-\lambda} + \lambda q^2 e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} - \lambda q e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} - e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} (1 - e^{-\lambda q}))$$

Noting that  $e^{-\lambda + \lambda q} = e^{-(1-q)\lambda}$   
 $= e^{-p\lambda}$ ,

$$= p^{-1} (1 - \cancel{e^{-\lambda}} + \lambda q^2 e^{-p\lambda} - \lambda q e^{-p\lambda} - e^{-p\lambda} + \cancel{e^{-\lambda}})$$

$$= p^{-1}(1 + \lambda(1 - 2p + p^2)e^{-p\lambda} - \lambda(1 - p)e^{-p\lambda} - e^{-p\lambda})$$

$$= p^{-1}(1 + \lambda e^{-p\lambda}(1 - 2p + p^2 - 1 + p) - e^{-p\lambda})$$

$$= p^{-1}(1 - e^{-p\lambda}) + \lambda p^{-1}e^{-p\lambda}(p^2 - p)$$

$$= \frac{1}{p}(1 - e^{-p\lambda}) - \lambda q e^{-p\lambda}, \text{ as required.}$$