

SIRUG

MATHEMATICS

IN THE MODERN WORLD

MATHEMATICS IN THE MODERN WORLD

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# Chapter 3:



# Problem Solving and Reasoning



# Learning Objectives

- Compare and contrast inductive and deductive reasoning.
- Use different types of reasoning to justify statements and arguments made about mathematics and mathematical concepts.
- Apply the Polya's four-step in problem solving.
- Organize one's methods and procedures for proving and solving problems.
- Perform operations on mathematical expressions correctly.



# Learning Objectives

- Articulate the importance of mathematics in one's life.
- Express appreciation for mathematics as a human endeavor.
- Support the use of mathematics in various aspects and endeavors in life.
- Affirm honesty and integrity in the application of mathematics to various human endeavors.



# Topic Outline

I. Inductive and Deductive Reasoning

II. Intuition, Proof, and Certainty

III. Polya's Four-Steps in Problem Solving

IV. Problem Solving Strategies

V. Mathematical Problems involving Patterns

IV. Recreational Problems using Mathematics



# Inductive Reasoning

**Inductive reasoning** is drawing a general conclusion from a repeated observation or limited sets of observations of specific examples.

Given data, then we draw conclusion based from the frame these data or simply from specific case to general case.



**Conjecture** is drawing conclusion using inductive reasoning.

The conjecture may be true or false depending on the truthfulness of the argument.





# Fermat's Last Theorem



Pierre de Fermat  
1607-1665) French  
Mathematician

Fermat's Last Theorem (or Fermat's conjecture)

No three positive integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  satisfy the equation  $a^n + b^n = c^n$  for any integer value of  $n$  greater than 2.

Wiles proved the Fermat's Last Theorem on September 19, 1994 and was published in May 1995 in a dedicated volume of the Annals of Mathematics.



Sir Andrew John Wiles  
British mathematician



# Inductive Reasoning

**Counterexample** if a statement is a true statement provided that it is true in all cases and it only takes one example to prove the conjecture is false.



**Example 1:** 1 is an odd number.

11 is an odd number.

21 is an odd number.

Thus, all number ending with 1 are odd numbers.



# Inductive Reasoning

**Example 2:** Essay test is difficult.

Problem solving test is difficult.

Therefore, all tests are difficult

**Example 3:** Mark is a Science teacher.

Mark is bald.

Therefore, all Science teachers are bald.



# Deductive Reasoning

**Deductive reasoning** is drawing general to specific examples or simply from general case to specific case.

Deductive starts with a general statement (or hypothesis) and examines to reach a specific conclusion.

**Example 4.** All birds have feathers.

Ducks are birds.

Therefore, ducks have feathers.





# Deductive Reasoning

**Example 5:** Christopher is sick.

If Christopher is sick, he won't be able to go to work.

Therefore, Christopher won't be able to go to work.

**Example 6:** All Science teachers are bald.

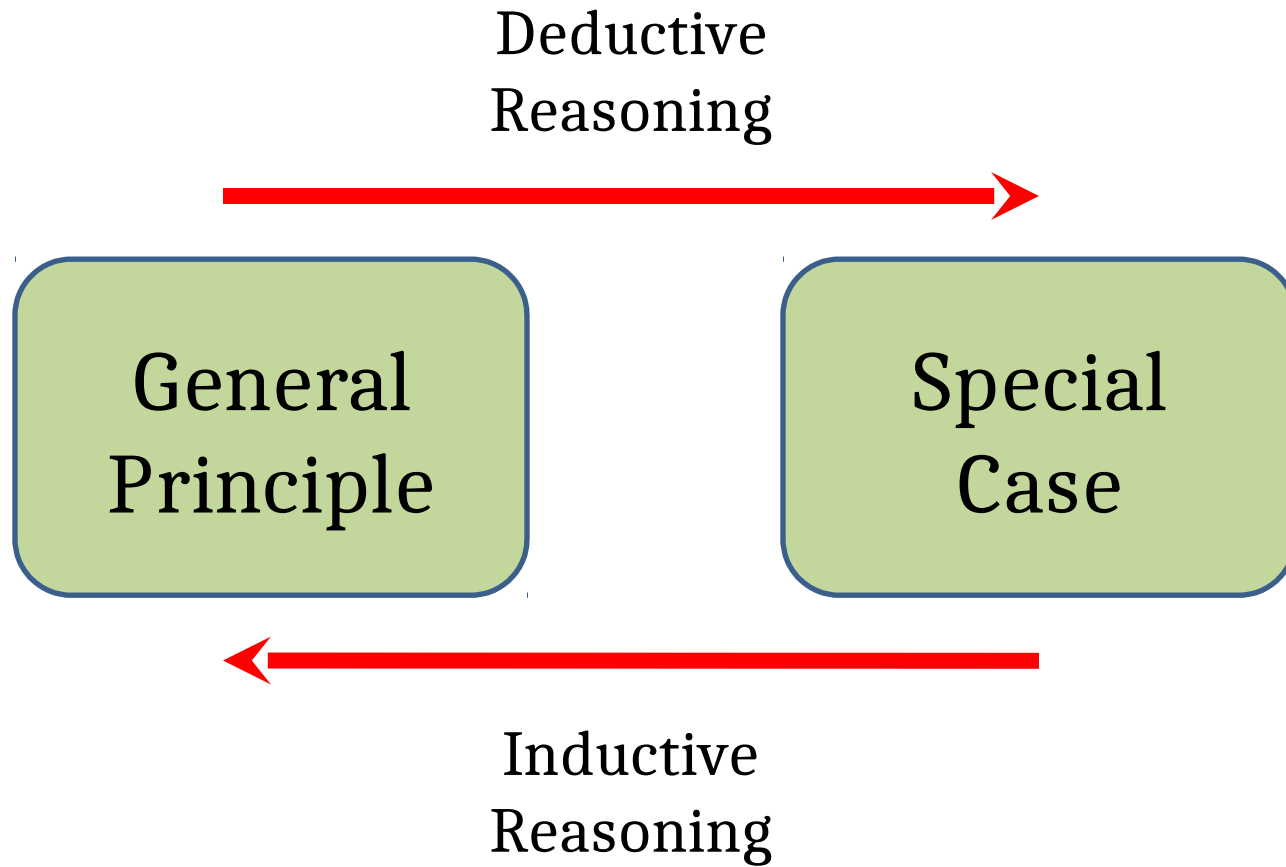
Mark is a Science teacher.

Therefore, Mark is bald.

**Note:** Logical reasoning maybe valid but not necessarily true.



# Inductive vs Deductive Reasoning





# Intuition, Proofs and Certainty

Intuitive can be found in mathematical literature and discovery.

Srinivasa Ramanujan wrote a letter to Godfrey Harold Hardy on infinite sums, products, fractions, and roots.

Ramanujan's formulas prove there is mathematical intuition, though he didn't prove them.

Hardy made a sound judgment without directly proving the formulas of Ramanujan's were correct.



Srinivasa Ramanujan



G. H. Hardy

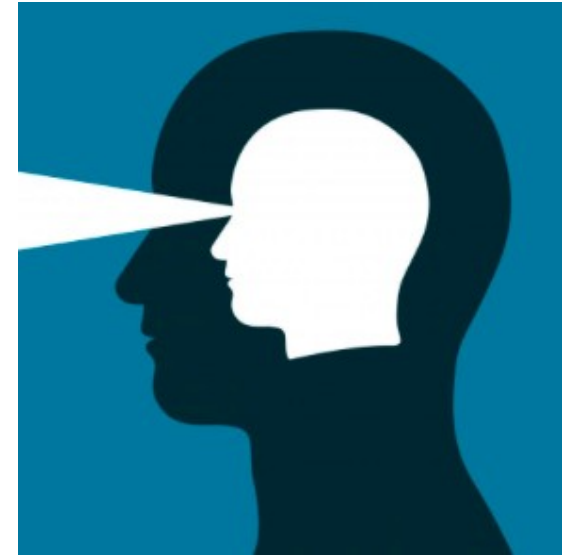


# Intuition

**Mathematical intuition.** Intuition is a reliable mathematical belief without being formalized and proven directly and serves as an essential part of mathematics.

“Intuition” carries a heavy load of mystery and ambiguity and it is not legitimate substitute for a formal proof.

Intuitive is being visual and is absent from the rigorous formal or abstract version.





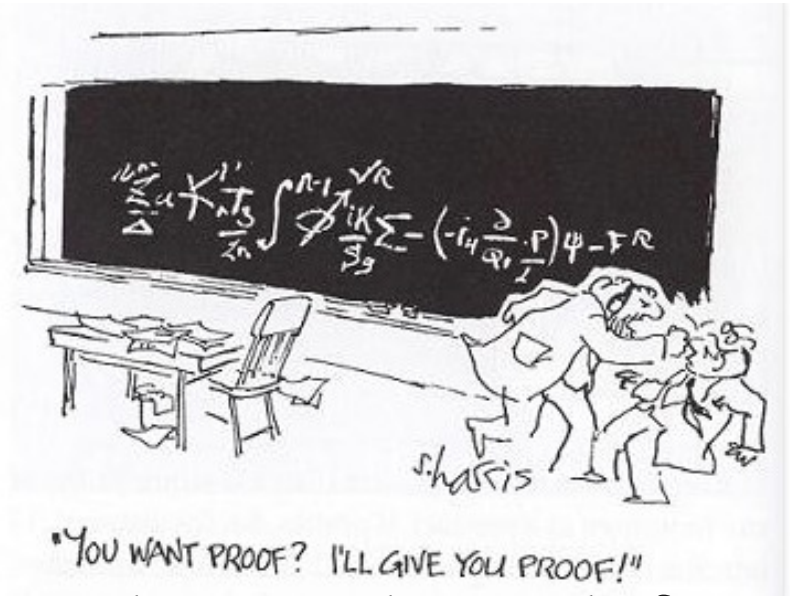
# Proofs

**Proof** is an inferential argument for a mathematical statement.

Mathematical argument like theorems can only be used if it is already proven.

Axioms may be served as conditions that must be met before the statement applies.

Proofs are examples of exhaustive deductive reasoning and inductive reasoning.





# Proofs

A mathematical proof demonstrates that a certain statement is always true in all possible cases.

An unproved proposition that is believed to be true is known as a conjecture.

If one has a conjecture, the only way that it can safely be sure that it is true, is by presenting a valid mathematical proof.



# Certainty

Mathematics has a tradition and standard point of view that it provides certainty.

A correct formulated mathematical knowledge is forever beyond error and correction.

Mathematical certainty is an essential defining attribute of mathematics and mathematical knowledge.





# Polya's Four-Steps in Problem Solving

George Polya (1887-1985) was a mathematics educator who strongly believed that the skill of problem solving can be taught.

He developed a framework known as Polya's Four-Steps in Problem Solving.



The process addressed the difficulty of students in problem solving.



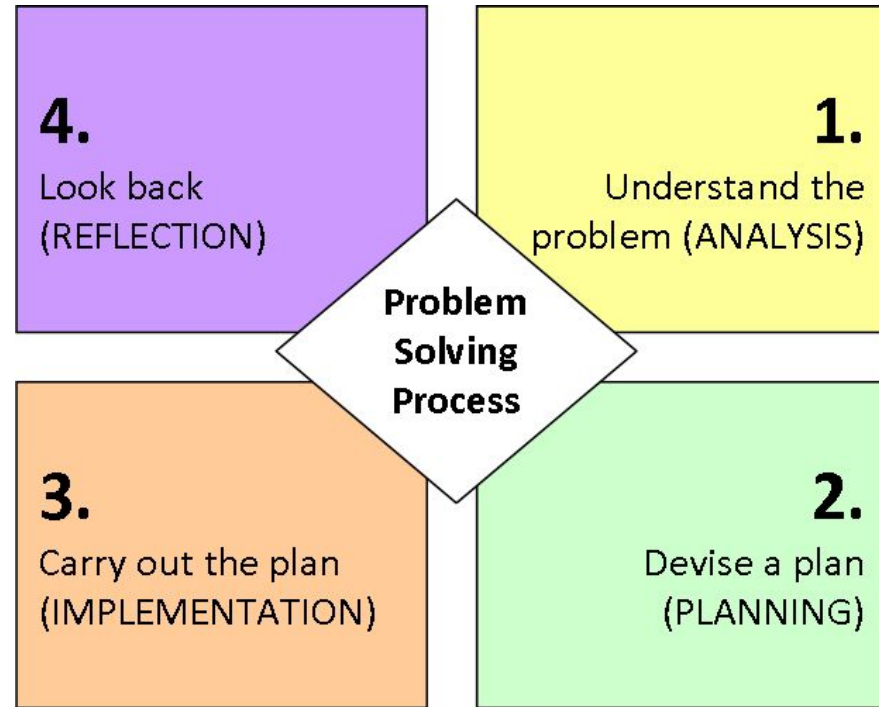
# Polya's Four-Steps in Problem Solving

Step 1: Understand the problem.

Step 2: Devise a plan.

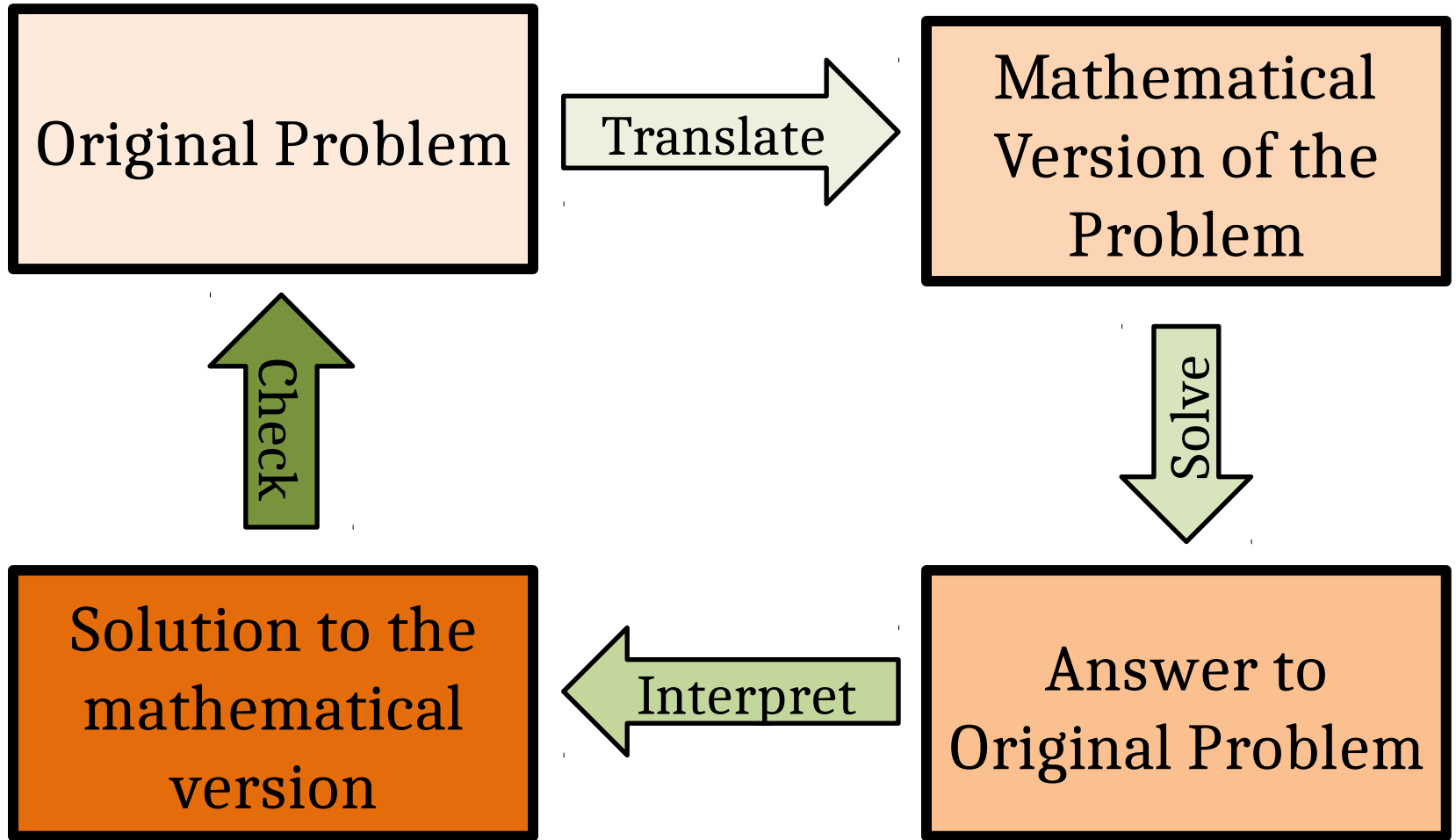
Step 3: Carry out the plan.

Step 4: Look back.





# Process of Problem Solving





# Step 1: Understanding the Problem

What is the goal?

What is being asked?

What is the condition?

What sort of a problem is it?

What is known or unknown?

Is there enough information?

Can you draw a figure to illustrate the problem?

Is there a way to restate the problem? In your own words?





## Step 2: Devise a Plan

Act it out.

Be systematic.

Work backwards.

Consider special cases.

Eliminate possibilities.

Perform an experiment.

Draw a picture/diagram.

Make a list or table/chart.

Use a variable, such as  $x$ .







## Step 3: Carry Out the Plan

Be patient.

Work carefully.

Modify the plan or try a new plan.

Keep trying until something works.

Implement the strategy and strategies in Step 2.

Try another strategy if the first one isn't working.

Keep a complete and accurate record of your work.

Be determined and don't get discouraged if the plan does not work immediately.





## Step 4: Look Back

Look for an easier solution.

Does the answer make sense?

Check the results in the original problem.

Interpret the solution with the facts of the problem.

Recheck any computations involved in the solution.

Can the solution be extended to a more general case?

Ensure that all the conditions related to the problem are met.

Determine if there is another method of finding the solution.

Ensure the consistency of the solution in the context of the problem.





# Problem Solving Strategies



**Example 1:** Suppose the NCAA basketball championships is decided on a best of five series game. In how many diff. way can a team win the championships?

**Solution:**

**Step 1:** Understand the Problem.

Many different orders to win the championships.

Team may have won WWW or LLWWW.

**Step 2:** Devise a Plan.

Make an organized list of all possible orders and ensure that each of the different orders is accounted for only once.



# Problem Solving Strategies

## Step 3: Carry Out the Plan.

Each entry in the list must contain three Ws and may contain one or two losses.

- WWW (Start with three wins)
- WWLW (Start with two wins)
- WWLLW (Start with two wins)
- WLWW (Start with one win)
- WLLWW (Start with one win)
- WLWLW (Start with one win)
- LWWW (Start with one loss)
- LWWLW (Start with one loss)
- LWLWW (Start with one loss)
- LLWWW (Start with two losses)





# Problem Solving Strategies

## Step 4: Look Back.

Check if the the list contains no duplications.

Includes all possibilities.

Conclude that there are ten (10) different ways in to win the NCAA championships in the best of 5 games.





# Problem Solving Strategies

**Example 2:** Two times the sum of a number and 3 is equal to thrice the number plus 4. Find the number.

**Solution:**

**Step 1:** Understand the Problem.

Read the question carefully several times.

Look for a number, and let  $x$  be a number.

**Step 2:** Devise a Plan.

Translate: two times the sum of a number and 3 is equal to thrice the number plus 4.

$$\Rightarrow 2(x + 3) = 3x + 4$$



# Problem Solving Strategies

**Step 3:** Carry Out the Plan.

Solve for the value of  $x$ ,

$$2(x + 3) = 3x + 4$$

$$2x + 6 = 3x + 4$$

$$3x - 2x = 6 - 4$$

$$x = 2$$

**Step 4:** Look Back.

If we take two times the sum of 2 and 3, that is the same as thrice the number 2 plus 4 which is 10, so this does check.

Thus, the number is 2.



# Problem Solving Strategies

**Example 3:** If the length of the top of a rectangle is 15 inches more than its width and the area is 1,350 square inches. Find the dimension of the table.

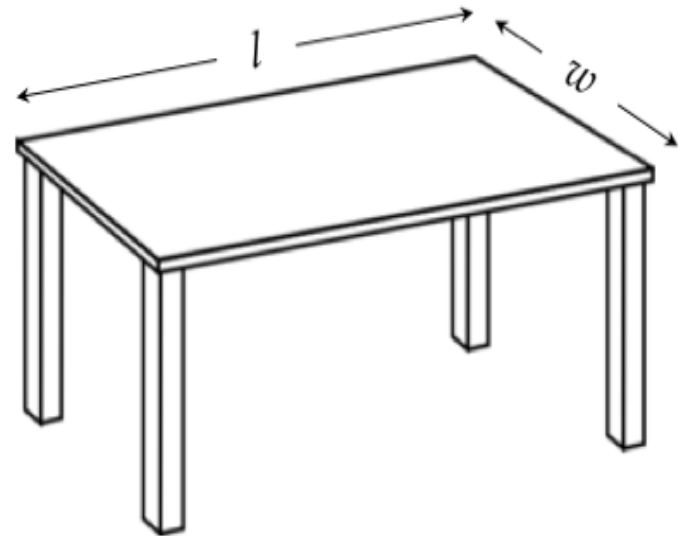
**Solution:**

**Step 1:** Understand the Problem.

Look for the length and width of the table.

Let  $l$  be the length  
 $w$  be the width

The length is 15 inches longer than the width ( $l = 15 + w$ ).





# Problem Solving Strategies

**Step 2:** Devise a Plan.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Area} &= lw \\ 1,350 &= lw = (15 + w)w\end{aligned}$$

**Step 3:** Carry Out the Plan.

$$\begin{aligned}1,350 &= (15 + w)w \\ 1,350 &= 15w + w^2 \\ w^2 + 15w &= 1,350 \longrightarrow w^2 + 15w - 1350 = 0 \\ (w + 45)(w - 30) &= 0 \\ w + 45 &= 0 & w - 30 &= 0 \\ w &= -45 & w &= 30\end{aligned}$$

The width of the rectangle is 30.

The length is  $l = 15 + w = 15 + 30 = 45$  inches.



# Problem Solving Strategies

**Step 4:** Look Back.

If the width of a rectangle is 30 inches and the length is 15 inches longer than the width which is 45 inches.

The area of a rectangle is

$$\text{Area} = lw = 30(45) = 1,350 \text{ square inches.}$$

Thus, the width is 30 and the length is 45 inches.

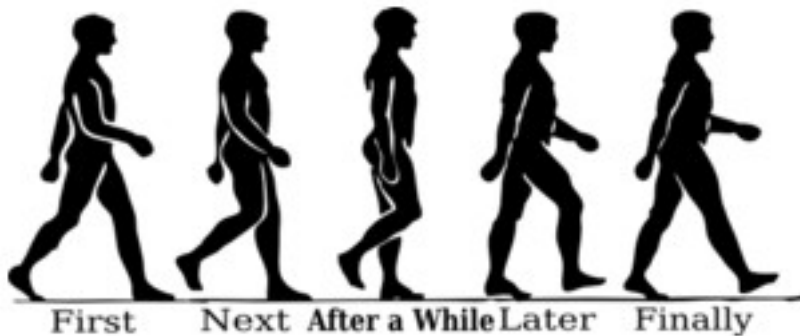


# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

Mathematics is useful to predict.

Number pattern leads directly to the concept of functions in mathematics.

Number pattern is applied to problem-solving whether a pattern is present and used to generalize a solution to a problem.



Pattern can be in the form counting up or down and the missing number is of the form of completing count up or down.



# Famous Number Patterns

Fibonacci Sequence – 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, ...

Prime number pattern – 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, ...

Imaginary number pattern

Powers of  $i$

| $i^n (n \geq 1)$ | Solution    |
|------------------|-------------|
| $i^1$            | $\sqrt{-1}$ |
| $i^2$            | -1          |
| $i^3$            | $-i$        |
| $i^4$            | 1           |
| $i^5$            | $\sqrt{-1}$ |
| $i^6$            | -1          |

Geometric number pattern



Growing number pattern





# Sequence

**Infinite sequence** is a function whose domain is the set of positive integers.

**Terms** of the sequence are  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n, \dots$

**Finite sequence.** If the domain of the function consists of the first  $n$  positive integers only, the sequence is a.





# Finite and Infinite Sequence

a. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

b. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14

c. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15

d. 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, ...

e. 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...

f. f. 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, ...

Finite sequences

Infinite sequences



# General Sequence

A **general sequence**  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n, \dots$  having the first term  $a_1$ , the second term is  $a_2$ , the third term is  $a_3$ , and the  $n$ th term, also called the **general term** of the sequence, is  $a_n$ .



# General Sequence

**Example 2:** Write the first three terms of the sequence whose  $n$ th term is given by the formula  $a_n = 3n + 1$ .

**Solution:**

$$a_n = 3n + 1$$

$$a_1 = 3(\mathbf{1}) + 1 = 3 + 1 = 4 \quad \text{Replace } n \text{ by } \mathbf{1}.$$

$$a_2 = 3(\mathbf{2}) + 1 = 6 + 1 = 7 \quad \text{Replace } n \text{ by } \mathbf{2}.$$

$$a_3 = 3(\mathbf{3}) + 1 = 9 + 1 = 10 \quad \text{Replace } n \text{ by } \mathbf{3}.$$

Thus, the first three terms of the sequence are 4, 7, and 10.



# Difference Table

**Difference table** shows the differences between successive terms of the sequence..

Differences in rows maybe the first, second, and third differences.

Each number in the first row of the table is the differences between the closest numbers just above it.

If the first differences are not the same, compute the successive differences of the first differences .



# Difference Table

**Example 3:** Construct the difference table to predict the next term of each sequence.

a. 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, ...

b. 1, 4, 9, 17, 28, ...

c. 6, 9, 14, 26, 50, 91, ...



# Difference Table

Solution:

a. 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, ...

|                   |   |   |   |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|
| Sequence          | 3 |   | 7 |   | 11 |   | 15 |   | 19 | 23 |
|                   |   | \ | / | \ | /  | \ | /  | \ | /  | \  |
| First differences |   | 4 |   | 4 |    | 4 |    | 4 |    | 4  |

The next term is 23.



# Difference Table

Solution:

b. 1, 4, 9, 17, 28, ...

|                    |   |   |   |    |    |    |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Sequence           | 1 | 4 | 9 | 17 | 28 | 42 |
| First differences  |   | 3 | 5 | 8  | 11 | 14 |
| Second differences |   |   | 3 | 3  | 3  | 3  |

The diagram shows the construction of the next term in the sequence. A red box highlights the calculation: the last second difference (3) is added to the last first difference (11) to get the next first difference (14), which is then added to the last term of the sequence (28) to get the next term (42).

The next term is 42.



# Difference Table

Solution:

c. 6, 9, 14, 26, 50, 91, ...

|                    |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Sequence           | 6 |   | 9 |   | 14 |    | 26 |    | 50 |    | 91 |    | 154 |
| First differences  |   | 3 |   | 5 |    | 12 |    | 24 |    | 41 |    | 63 |     |
| Second differences |   |   | 2 |   | 7  |    | 12 |    | 17 |    | 22 |    |     |
| Third differences  |   |   |   | 5 |    | 5  |    | 5  |    |    |    |    |     |

The diagram shows a difference table for the sequence 6, 9, 14, 26, 50, 91, ... The next term, 154, is highlighted in a red box. The table is structured as follows:

- Sequence:** 6, 9, 14, 26, 50, 91, 154
- First differences:** 3, 5, 12, 24, 41, 63
- Second differences:** 2, 7, 12, 17, 22
- Third differences:** 5, 5, 5

The values 154, 63, 22, and 5 are highlighted in a red box, indicating the next term in the sequence and the corresponding differences used to find it.

The next term is 154.



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

**Example 4:** Determine the  $n$ th term formula for the following polygonal numbers in the  $n$ th figure:

- (a) triangular number;
- (b) square number;
- (c) pentagonal number; and
- (d) hexagonal number.



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

Solution:

A **polygonal number** is a type of figurative number represented as dots or pebbles arranged in the shape of a regular polygon.

a. Triangular Number

1



3



6



10



15





# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

## Solution:

The number sequence is

$$n = 1 \quad 1$$

$$n = 2 \quad 1 + 2 = 3$$

$$n = 3 \quad 1 + 2 + 3 = 6$$

$$n = 4 \quad 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10$$

$$n = 5 \quad 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 = 15$$

$$n = 6 \quad 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 21$$

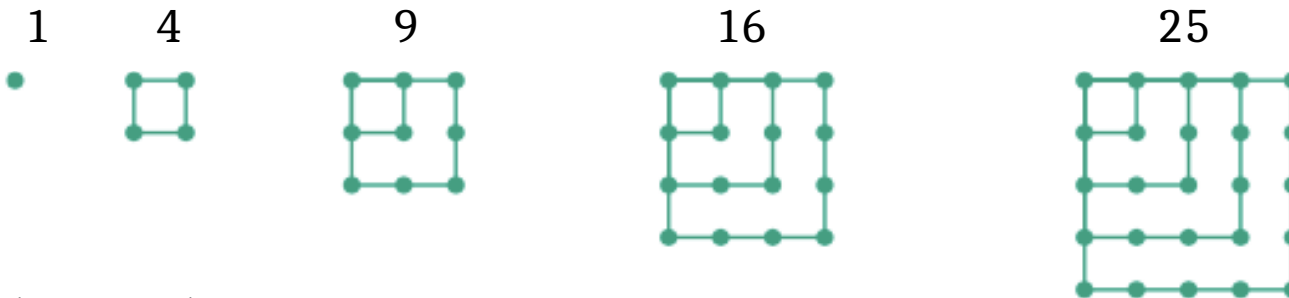
**Generalized as**  $T_n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (n - 1) + n = \frac{1}{2}(n^2 + n)$

**Expansion:** 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28, 36, 45, 55, ...



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

## b. Square Number



The number sequence is

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| $n = 1$ | $1^2 = 1$  |
| $n = 2$ | $2^2 = 4$  |
| $n = 3$ | $3^2 = 9$  |
| $n = 4$ | $4^2 = 16$ |
| $n = 5$ | $5^2 = 25$ |
| $n = 6$ | $6^2 = 36$ |

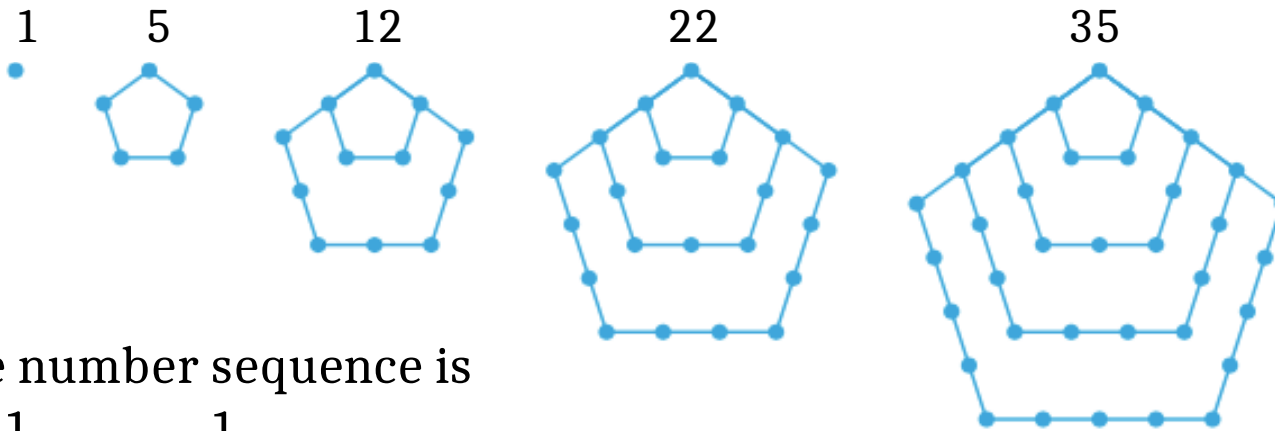
**Generalized as**  $S_n = \frac{1}{2}(2n^2 - 0n) = n^2$

**Expansion:** 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100, ...



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

## c. Pentagonal Number



The number sequence is

|         |                                 |
|---------|---------------------------------|
| $n = 1$ | 1                               |
| $n = 2$ | $1 + 4 = 5$                     |
| $n = 3$ | $1 + 4 + 7 = 12$                |
| $n = 4$ | $1 + 4 + 7 + 10 = 22$           |
| $n = 5$ | $1 + 4 + 7 + 10 + 13 = 35$      |
| $n = 6$ | $1 + 4 + 7 + 10 + 13 + 16 = 51$ |

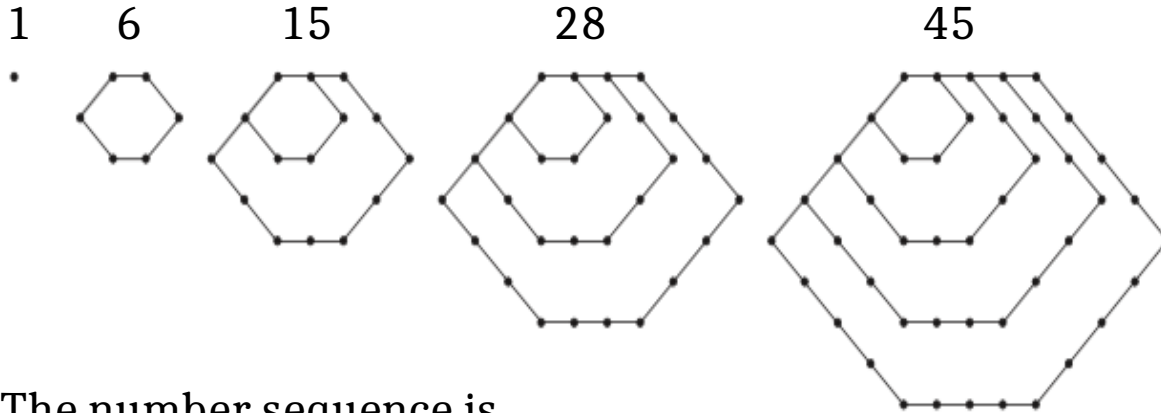
**Generalized as**  $P_n = \frac{1}{2}(3n^2 - n) = \frac{1}{2}(3n^2 - n)$

**Expansion:** 1, 5, 12, 22, 35, 51, 70, 90, 117, 145, ...



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

## d. Hexagonal Number



The number sequence is

$$n = 1 \quad 1$$

$$n = 2 \quad 1 + 5 = 6$$

$$n = 3 \quad 1 + 5 + 9 = 15$$

$$n = 4 \quad 1 + 5 + 9 + 13 = 28$$

$$n = 5 \quad 1 + 5 + 9 + 13 + 17 = 45$$

$$n = 6 \quad 1 + 5 + 9 + 13 + 17 + 21 = 66$$

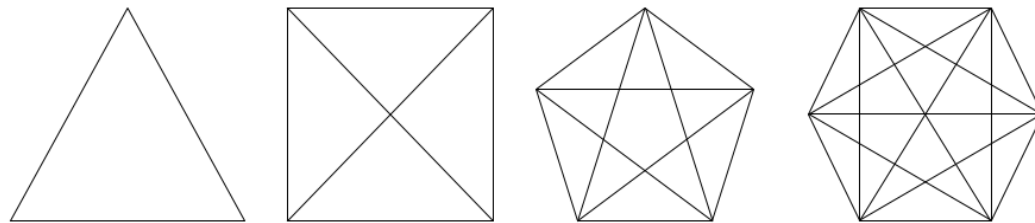
**Generalized as**  $H_n = \frac{1}{2}(4n^2 - 2n) = 2n^2 - n$

**Expansion:** 1, 6, 15, 28, 45, 66, 91, 120, 153, 190, ...



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

**Example 5:** A diagonal of a polygon is a line segment that connects vertices (corners) of the polygon. Following are polygons: triangle, quadrilateral, pentagon, and hexagon.



Determine the number of diagonals in a heptagon and an octagon.



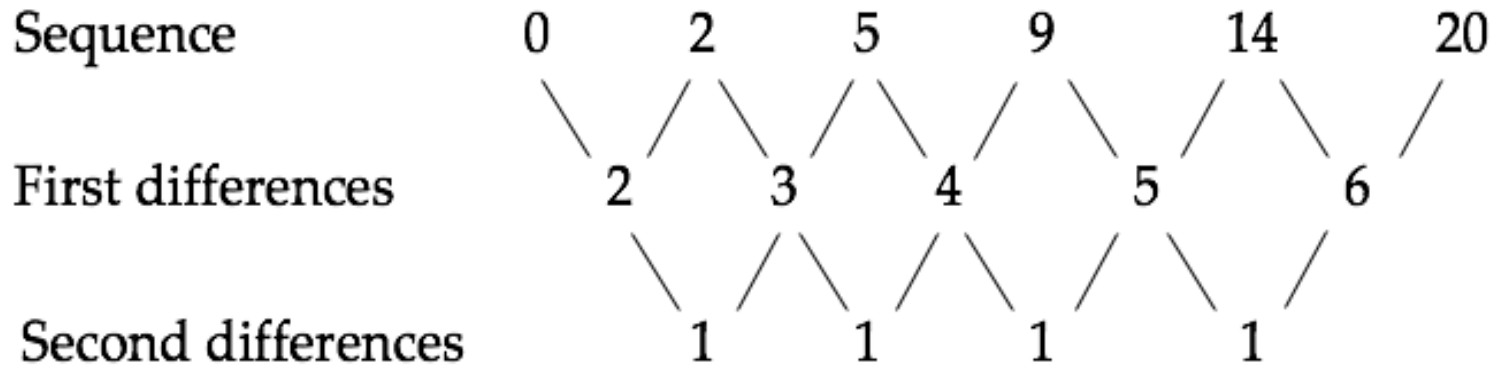
# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

Solution:

The sequence of the diagonals

|                     |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Sides     | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Number of Diagonals | 0 | 2 | 5 | 9 |   |   |

Difference table

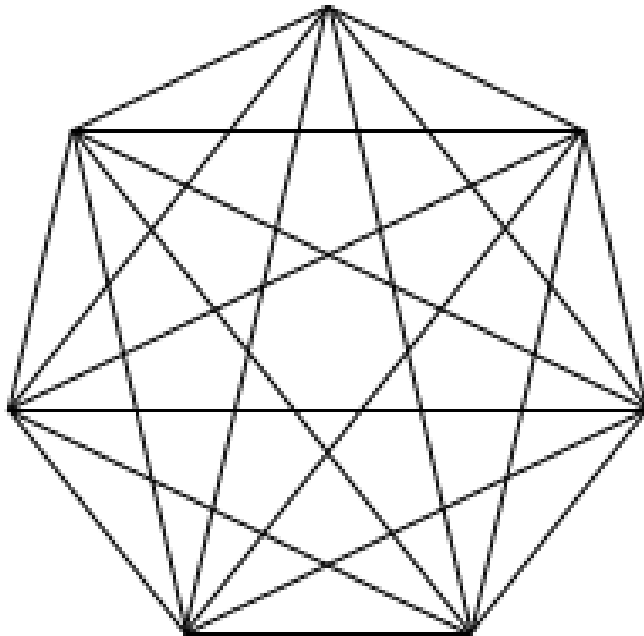




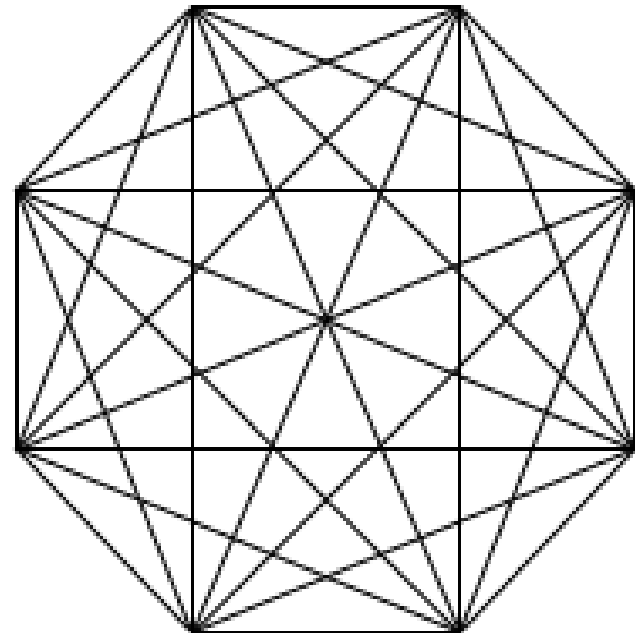
# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

Pentagon has 14 diagonals

Octagon has 20 diagonals



Heptagon



Octagon



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

**Example 6:** Given a circle with  $n$  points on its perimeter what is the maximum number of regions determined by the chords and the circle rim.

**Solution:**

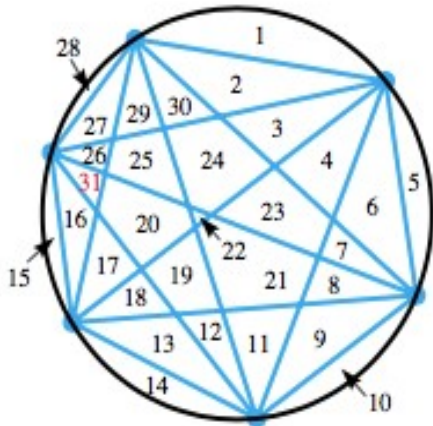
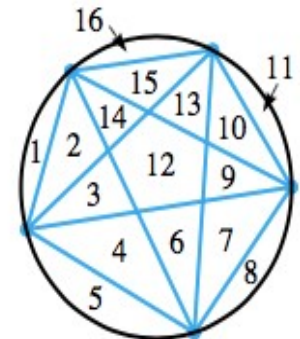
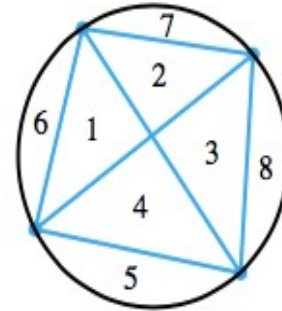
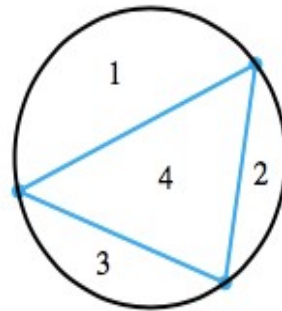
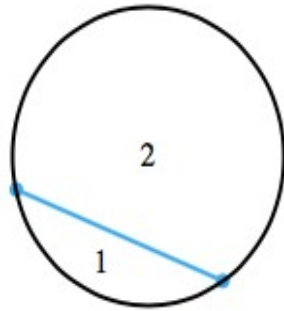
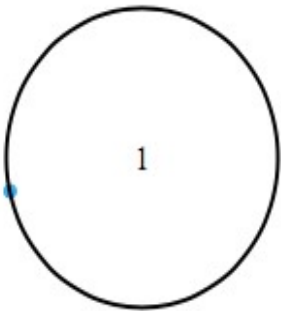
When  $n = 0$  and continuing the case to  $n = 6$ .

Locate a point on a circle and connect it with other point on a circle and count the number of regions it generates.



# Mathematical Problem involving Patterns

The number of chords and regions produced with given  $n$  points on a circle.



Summary Table

|                |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| No. of Points  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  |
| No. of Chords  | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 10 | 15 |
| No. of Regions | 1 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 14 | 31 |

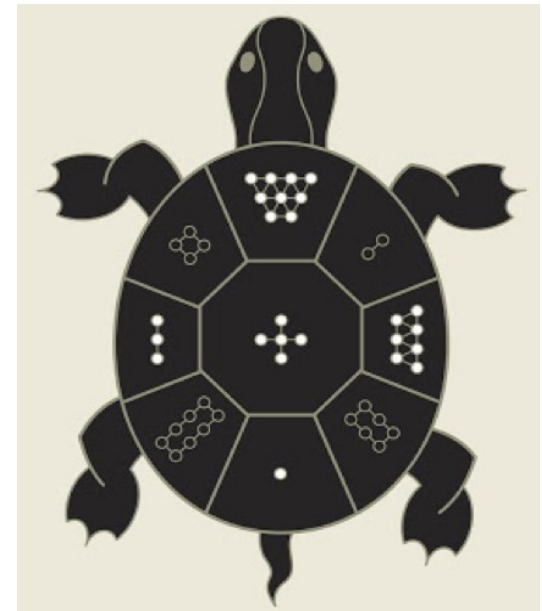




# Recreational Problems using Mathematics

One of ancient “square” mathematical recreations of all is the magic square.

A Chinese myth, on the time of Emperor Yu, came across a sacred turtle with a strange marking on its shell known as Lo Shu.



Lo Shu



# Recreational Problems using Mathematics

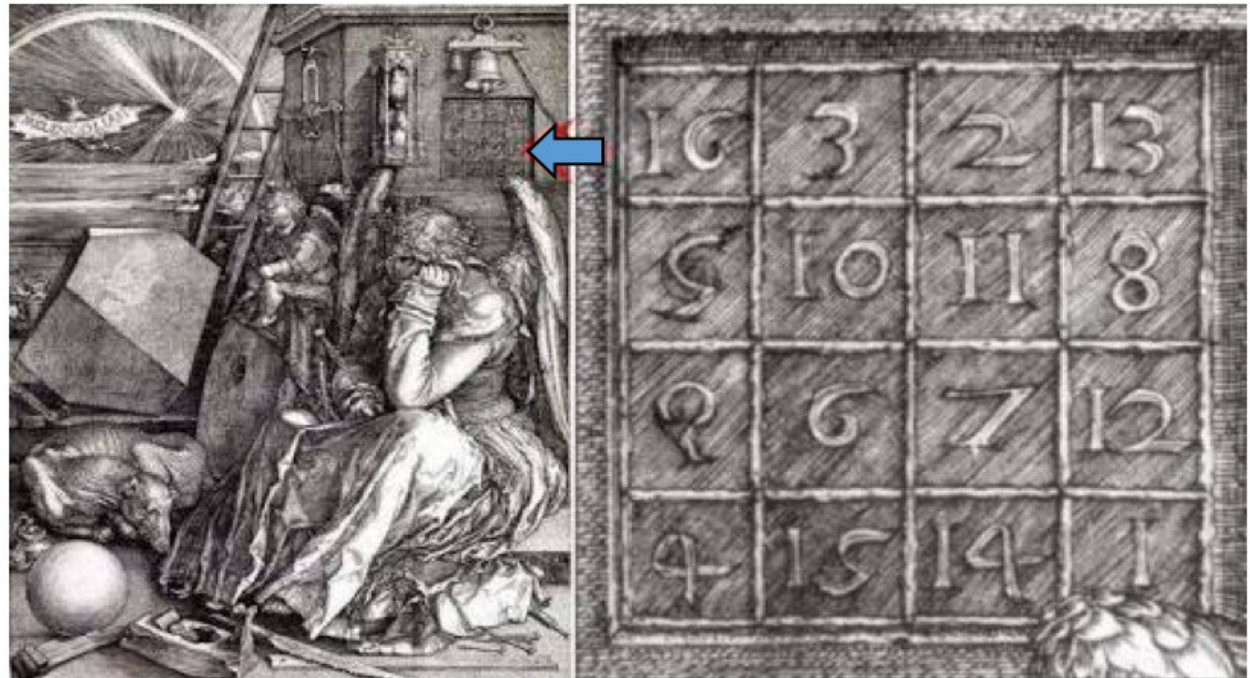
The markings are numbers, and they form a square pattern of order 3.

In 1514 the artist Albrecht Durer made an engraving “Melancholia”, containing a square pattern of order 4.



Albrecht Durer

Durer’s  
Melancholia





# Magic Square

Magic square of order  $n$  is an arrangement of numbers in a square such that the sum of the  $n$  numbers in each row, column, and diagonal is the same number.

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 4  | 9  | 2  | 15 |
| 3  | 5  | 7  | 15 |
| 8  | 1  | 6  | 15 |
| 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |

Magic Square of Order 3

|    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 16 | 3  | 2  | 13 | 34 |
| 5  | 10 | 11 | 8  | 34 |
| 9  | 6  | 7  | 12 | 34 |
| 4  | 15 | 14 | 1  | 34 |
| 34 | 34 | 34 | 34 | 34 |

Magic Square of Order 4



# Palindrome

A **palindrome** is a number (or word, or phrase) sequence of characters (or symbols) which reads the same backward as forward, for example 131, 12,321, 1,234,321, etc.

Palindromes of squares are as follows:

$$1^2 = 1$$

$$11^2 = 121$$

$$111^2 = 12,321$$

$$1,111^2 = 1,234,321$$

$$11,111^2 = 123,454,321$$

$$111,111^2 = 12,345,654,321$$

$$1,111,111^2 = 1,234,567,654,321$$

$$11,111,111^2 = 123,456,787,654,321$$

:



# 9-digit Palindromic Primes

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Plateau Primes</b><br><br>18888881<br>19999991<br>35555551   | <b>Smoothly Undulating</b><br><br>323232323<br>727272727<br>919191919 | <b>5 Consecutive Digits</b><br><br>120343021<br>345767543<br>759686957 |
| <b>8 like Digits</b><br><br>111181111<br>111191111<br>777767777 | <b>Peak Primes</b><br><br>123494321<br>345676543<br>345686543         | <b>Valley Primes</b><br><br>765404567<br>987101789<br>987646789        |



# Pascal's Triangle

One of the most famous palindrome triangles is the Pascal's Triangle named after French mathematician Blaise Pascal (1623-1662).

The Pascal's triangle has intrigued mathematicians for hundreds of years.



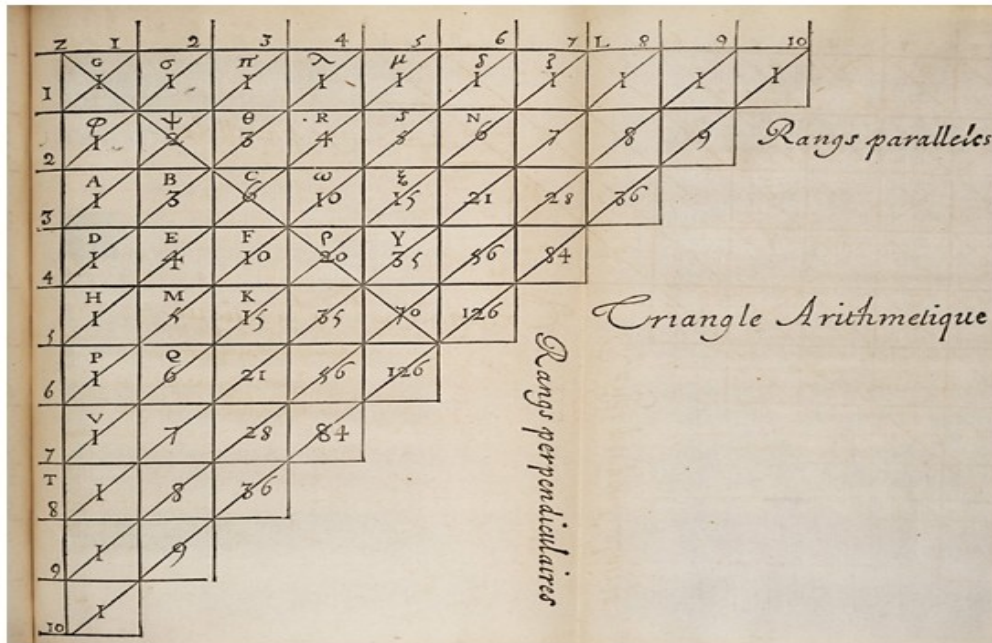
Blaise Pascal



# Pascal's Triangle

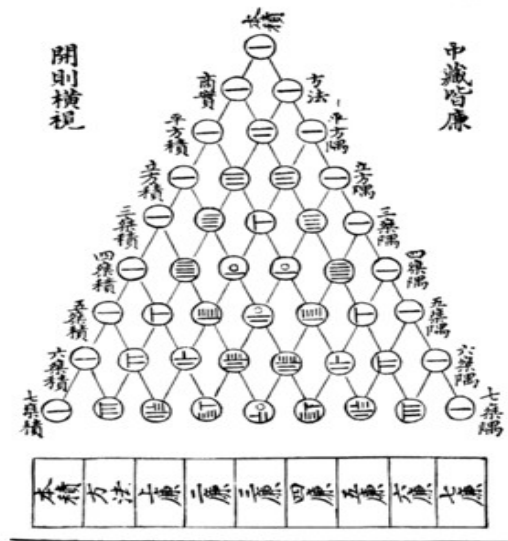
The Triangle was first published by Zhu Shijie (1260-1320) a Chinese mathematician in 1303 in his "Si Yuan Yu Jian".

It was called Jia Xian Triangle or Yanghui Triangle by the Chinese.



Blaise Pascal's Version

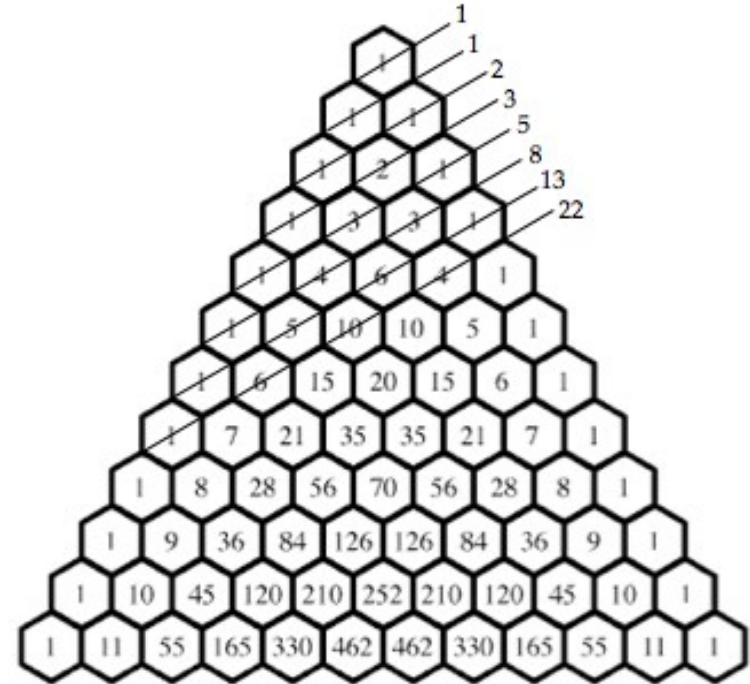
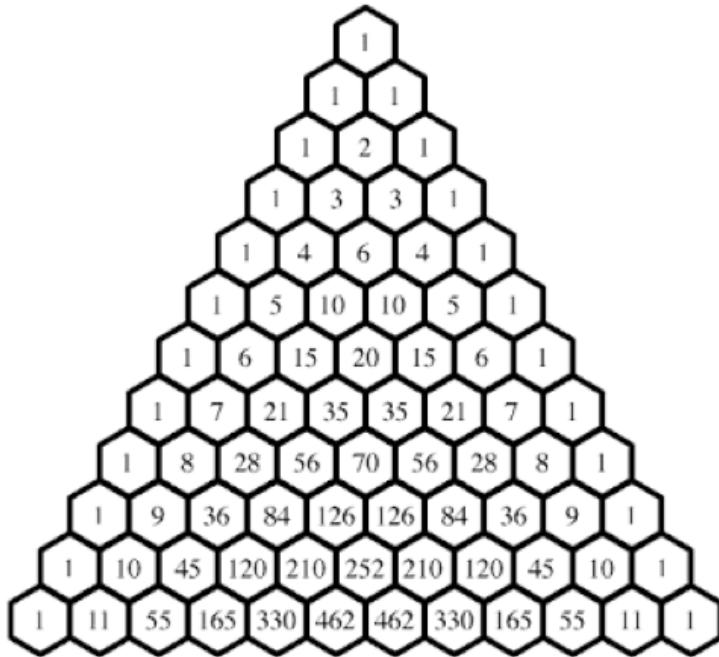
## 古法七乘方圖



Zhu Shijie's Version

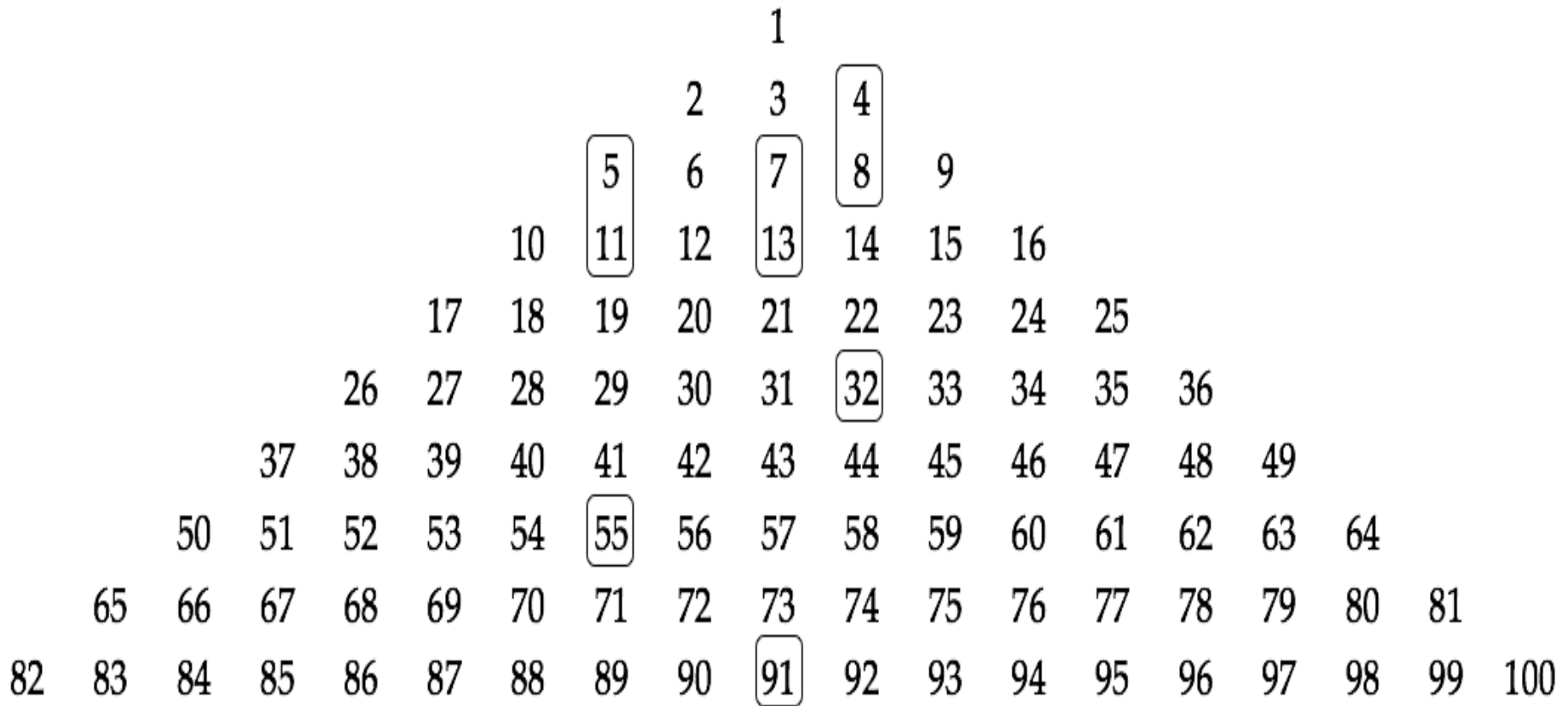


# Pascal's and Fibonacci Sequence





# Simple Number Triangles





# Lazy Caterer's Problem

**Example 1:** The lazy caterer's sequence describes the maximum number of pieces of a pizza that can be made with a given number of straight cuts. One straight cut across a pizza produces 2 pieces. Two straight cuts produce a maximum of 4 pieces. Three straight cuts produce a maximum of 7 pieces.



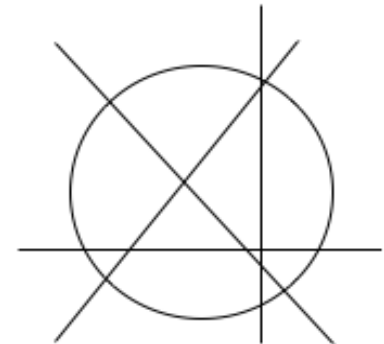
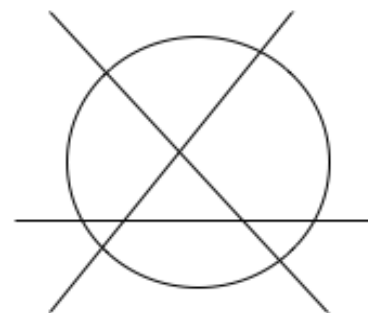
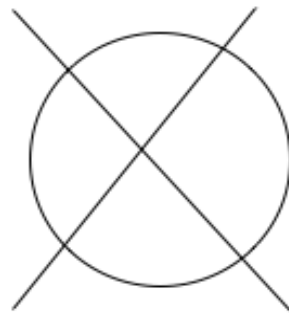
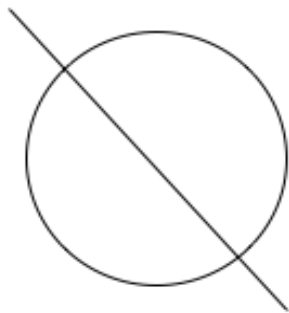
Four straight cuts produce a maximum of 11 pieces. Determine the number of pieces in which it is the maximum possible pieces to divide the pizza for a given number of straight cuts.



# Lazy Caterer's Problem

## Solution:

Illustrating the number of cuts and the number of regions it creates.



Cuts  
Regions

1  
2

2  
4

3  
7

4  
11

To maximize the number of pieces in the next cut, then  $n$ th cut must cut each of the  $n - 1$  previous one.



# Lazy Caterer's Problem

The new cut meets one of the  $n - 1$  previous one, a pizza piece is cut in two.

A piece cut in two when the new cut finishes on the opposite side of the pizza.

The total number of pieces of pizza increases by  $n$  when we pass from  $n - 1$  cuts to  $n$  cut, which is exactly what the recurrence reveals.



# Lazy Caterer's Problem

The recurrence relation in  $n$ th cut creates new regions,

$$f(1) = 2$$

$$f(2) = 4 = 2 + f(1)$$

$$f(3) = 7 = 3 + f(2)$$

$$f(4) = 11 = 4 + f(3)$$

:

$$f(n) = n + f(n - 1)$$

Therefore,  $f(n) = n + f(n - 1)$ .



# Lazy Caterer's Problem

$$\begin{aligned} f(n) &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 2 + f(1) \\ f(n) &= n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 2 + f(1) \\ &= f(1) + \sum_{k=2}^n k \\ &= 2 + \frac{1}{2}(n+2)(n-1) \\ &= 2 + \frac{1}{2}(n^2 + n - 2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(n^2 + n + 2) \end{aligned}$$

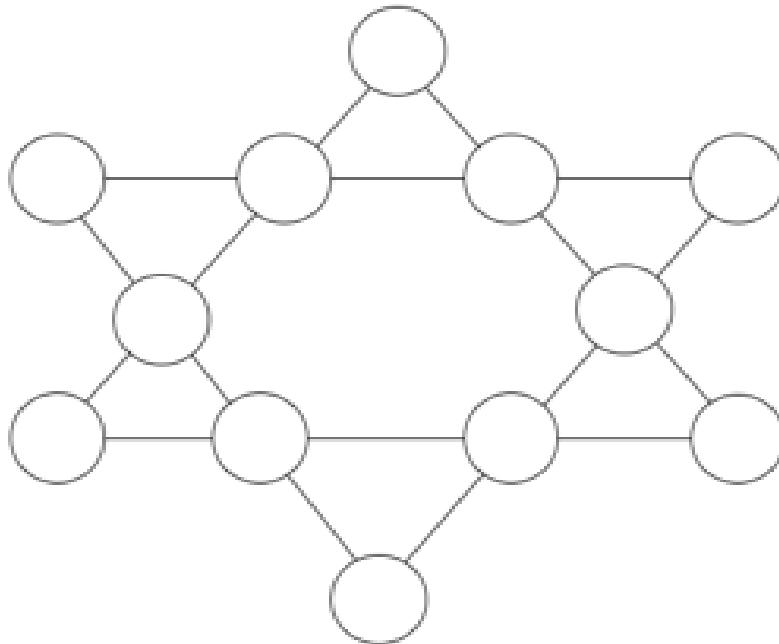
Evaluating for

$n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, \dots$  gives  $1, 2, 4, 7, 11, 16, 22, 29, \dots$



# Magic Six Pointed Star

**Example 2:** Given a magic six pointed star, place the numbers 1 to 12 in the circles, using one of each. Each line of four numbers should have the same total.





# Magic Six Pointed Star

Solution:

There are six lines in the magic pointed star.

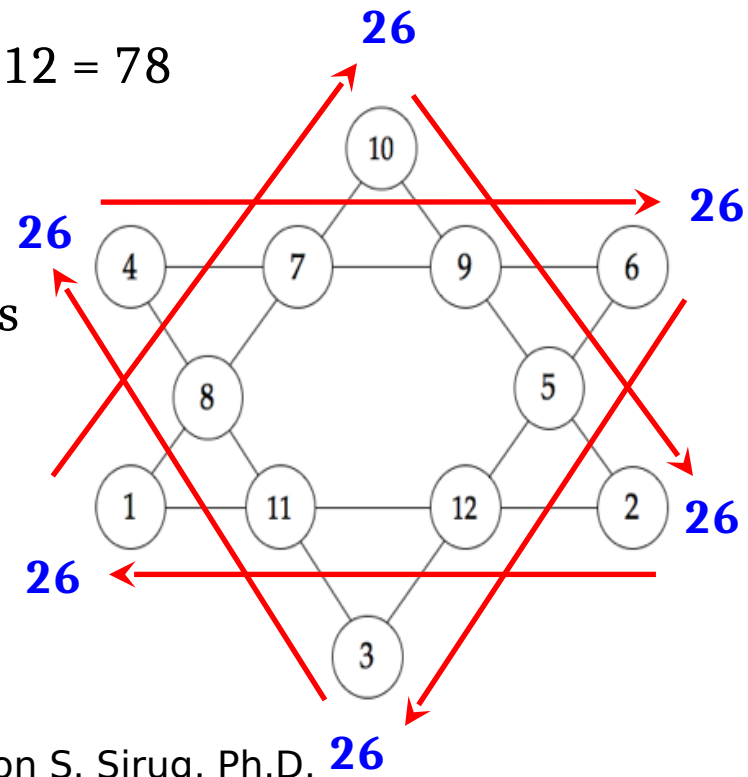
Adding each line, each of the number is considered twice.

Adding the numbers 1 to 12,

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 + 11 + 12 = 78$$

$$2(78) = 156$$

Divide the sum of the totals 156 by the lines obtaining a value of 26.



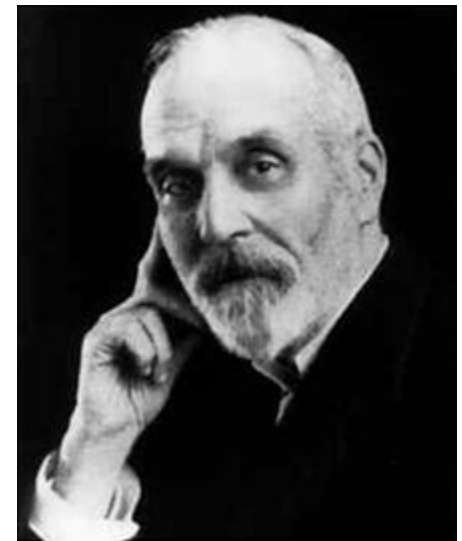


# Alphametic

An **Alphametic** is a type of number puzzle containing sum (or other arithmetic operation) in which digits (0 to 9) are replaced by letters of the alphabet.

One of the most famous alphametic puzzles is the one introduced by Henry Dudeney in 1924.

He was an English author and mathematician who specialized in logic puzzles and mathematical games.





# Alphametic

**Example 4:** Find which digit is equivalent by each of the letters so that the addition is correct.

$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \\ \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \\ \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \\ \hline \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \\ \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \\ \phantom{+} \phantom{M} \phantom{O} \phantom{R} \phantom{E} \end{array}$$

**Solution:**

The numbers SEND, MORE, and MONEY;

S and M cannot be zero.





# Alphametic

**Note:** There may or may not be a carry into the thousand place.

Thus,  $O = 0$ .

No carry into the thousand column,  $S = 9$ .

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} & S & E & N & D \\ + & 1 & 0 & R & E \\ \hline 1 & 0 & N & E & Y \end{array}$$

$$E + 0 = N.$$

$$N = E + 1. \text{ (Note: } E \neq 9 \text{ and } N \neq 0\text{).}$$



# Alphametic

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{S} \text{ E N D} \\ + \quad 1 \text{ 0 R E} \\ \hline 1 \text{ 0 N E Y} \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{r} \textcircled{9} \text{ E N D} \\ + \quad 1 \text{ 0 R E} \\ \hline 1 \text{ 0 N E Y} \end{array}$$

$$N + R = E.$$

**Note:**  $N = E + 1$ , thus  $1 + N + R = 9 + N$  or  $R = 8$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \text{ E N D} \\ + \quad 1 \text{ 0 8 E} \\ \hline 1 \text{ 0 N E Y} \end{array}$$



# Alphametic

$D + E \geq 12$  (Since  $S = 9$ ,  $R = 8$ , and  $D \neq 1$ ).

By elimination when  $D = 7$ ,  $E = 5$ , and  $N = 6$ , then  $Y = 2$ .

The sum is

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{S E N D} \\ + \text{M O R E} \\ \hline \text{M O N E Y} \end{array} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{r} 9 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \\ + \ 1 \ 0 \ 8 \ 5 \\ \hline 1 \ 0 \ 6 \ 5 \ 2 \end{array}$$

SIRUG

MATHEMATICS IN THE MODERN WORLD

# MATHEMATICS

IN THE MODERN WORLD

Winston S. Sirug, Ph.D.



The definition of a good mathematical problem is the mathematics it generates rather than the problem itself.

**Andrew Wiles**

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