

Magic Math

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May 7, 2023



**BERKELEY
MATH CIRCLE**

Far from Kansas (Graham-Pollak Theorem)

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Problem

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, prove that it's impossible to partition a complete graph on $n + 1$ vertices into less than n complete bipartite graphs.

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Suppose that 101 players compete in several rounds of a game.

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(Note that 100 is achievable; in the n^{th} round one can make the n^{th} tallest player face off against every single shorter player.)

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For two teams $\{a, b, c\}$ and $\{x, y, z\}$,

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For two teams $\{a, b, c\}$ and $\{x, y, z\}$, the expression

$$(a + b + c)(x + y + z) = ax + ay + az + bx + by + bz + cx + cy + cz$$

simulates all pairs of people that face off against each other!

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So if the players are x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{101} and every pair faces off once, terms such as these must sum to $\sum_{i < j} x_i x_j$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\text{round}} \text{terms like } (a + b + c)(x + y + z) &= \sum_{i < j} x_i x_j = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} x_i x_j \\ &= \left(\sum x_i x_j - \sum_{i=j} x_i x_j \right) / 2 \\ &= \left(\left(\sum x_i \right)^2 - \sum x_i^2 \right) / 2 \end{aligned}$$

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Tricky function (2016 Brazil Olympic Revenge 5)

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Every element of T is a sum of multiples of \mathbf{e}_i !

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$$\begin{aligned}(3, 1, 4, 1, 5, \dots) &\mapsto f((3, 0, 0, 0, 0, \dots)) + f((0, 1, 0, 0, 0, \dots)) \\ &\quad + f((0, 0, 4, 0, 0, \dots)) + f((0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \dots)) \\ &\quad + f((0, 0, 0, 0, 5, \dots)) + \dots \\ &= 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \dots = 0\end{aligned}$$

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So aren't we done?

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$$\lfloor 0.9 \rfloor = 0$$

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Wait no! $\lfloor 0.999\dots \rfloor = \lfloor 1 \rfloor = 1!$

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Cannot induct infinitely! Only true if finitely many nonzero terms!

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$$f((1, 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots)) = f((0, 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots)) = 2f((0, 1, 2, 4, 8, \dots))$$

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This becomes $4f((0, 0, 1, 2, 4, \dots))$, $8f((0, 0, 0, 1, 2, \dots))$, etc!

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But if $f(\mathbf{x})$ is divisible by every power of two, there's only one thing it can be...

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For any sequence \mathbf{x} with increasing gcd, $f(\mathbf{x})$ must be divisible by larger and larger numbers, so must be 0.

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For any sequence \mathbf{x} with increasing gcd, $f(\mathbf{x})$ must be divisible by larger and larger numbers, so must be 0. What about \mathbf{x} in general?

$$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$$

We will write \mathbf{x} as a sum of sequences we now know map to zero, by using the powers of 2 and 3.

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Problem

Let T be the set of sequences of integers. Suppose there is a function $f : T \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ with these properties:

- ▶ f is additive, so for any $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in T$, $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \mapsto f(\mathbf{a}) + f(\mathbf{b})$,
- ▶ $\forall i \in \mathbb{N}$, $\mathbf{e}_i \mapsto 0$, where \mathbf{e}_i has i^{th} term 1 but all other terms 0.

Prove that for any $\mathbf{x} \in T$, $\mathbf{x} \mapsto 0$.

Because 2^i and 3^i are relatively prime, by Bezout's lemma, x_i can be written in the form $a_i 2^i + b_i 3^i$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= f((a_1 2^1 + b_1 3^1, a_2 2^2 + b_2 3^2, a_3 2^3 + b_3 3^3, \dots)) \\ &= f((a_1 2^1, a_2 2^2, a_3 2^3, \dots)) + f((b_1 3^1, b_2 3^2, b_3 3^3, \dots)) \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

as desired!

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area,

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

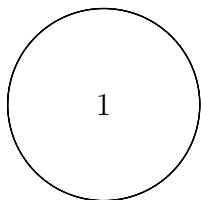
Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

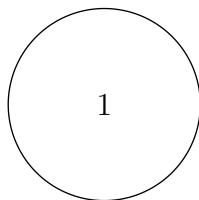
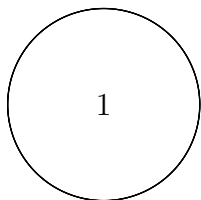


¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

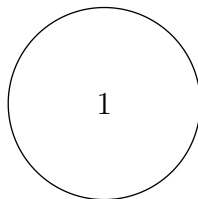
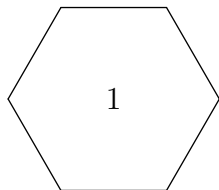


¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

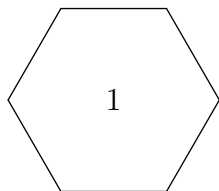


¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

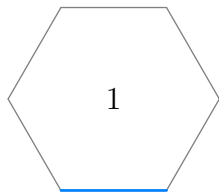


¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



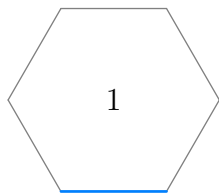
▶ Assume A is on the bottom

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



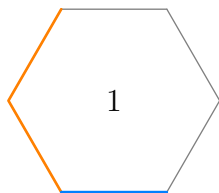
- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



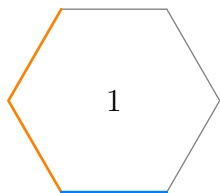
- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out
- ▶ Assume B is on left

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



Key Idea

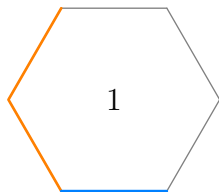
- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out
- ▶ Assume B is on left

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out
- ▶ Assume B is on left

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

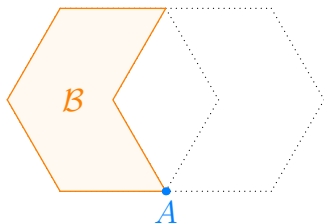
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

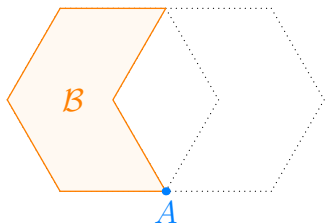
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

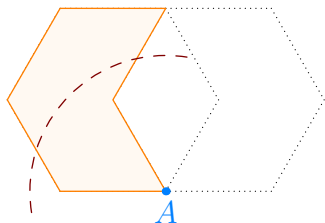
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

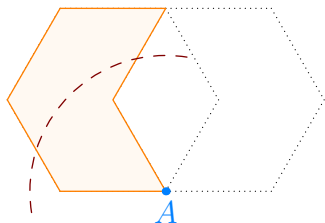
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



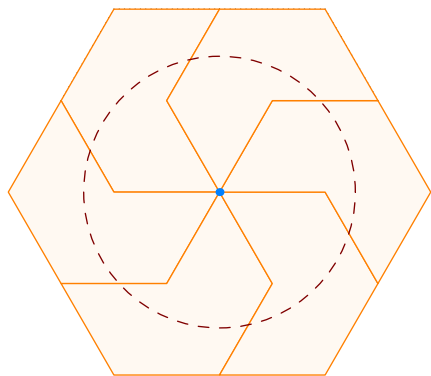
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece. . .

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



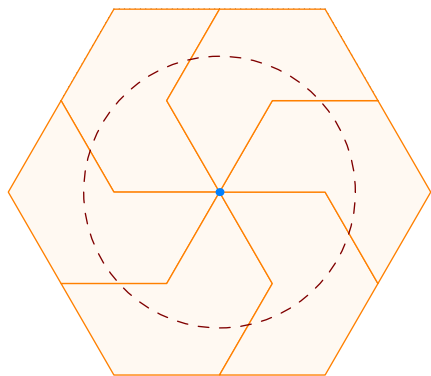
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece. . .

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



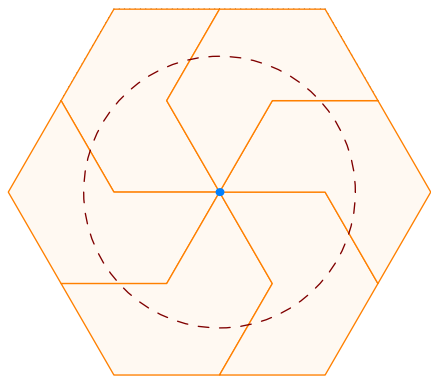
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece. . .
- ▶ Hexagon has area 4

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



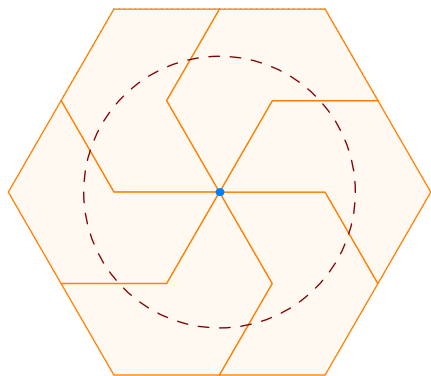
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece. . .
- ▶ Hexagon has area 4
- ▶ Circle has area 2

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



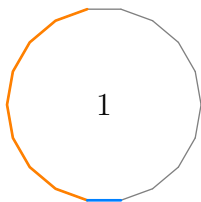
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Circle bisects region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece...
- ▶ Hexagon has area 4
- ▶ Circle has area 2
- ▶ $\pi r^2 = 2$, $r = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}$

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out
- ▶ Assume B is on left

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

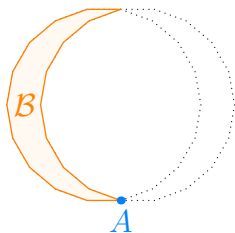
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

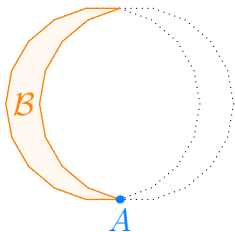
Problem of my own creation! (6 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



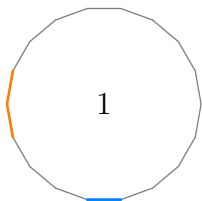
- ▶ Issue: B isn't uniformly distributed across region B

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



- ▶ Assume A is on the bottom
- ▶ B has an equal chance of being on top or on bottom, so those cancel out
- ▶ Assume B is on left

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

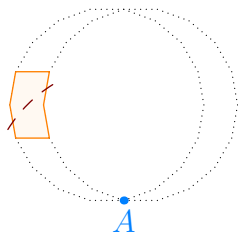
Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Circle bisects region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Inner half was supposed to look like a puzzle piece. . .

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

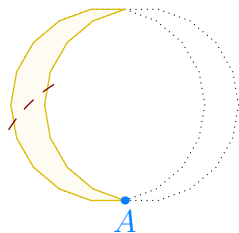
Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular 2022-gon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?

Key Idea

Look in one point's frame of reference!



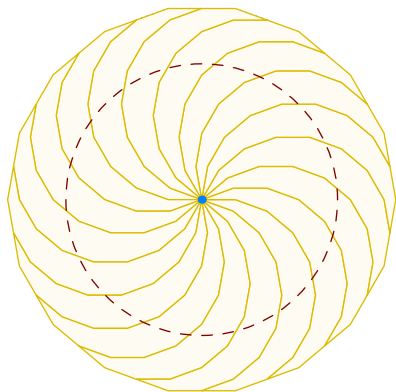
- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Circle bisects region \mathcal{B}
- ▶ Inner half was supposed to look like a puzzle piece. . .
- ▶ Add the same to both sides!

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Problem of my own creation! (2022 ELMO 3)

Problem

Given two uniformly random points on the perimeter of a regular hexagon of unit area, what's the median value¹ of their distance?



- ▶ B is uniformly distributed across region B
- ▶ Circle bisects region B
- ▶ Inner half looks like a puzzle piece. . .
- ▶ Add the same to both sides!
- ▶ 2022-gon has area 4
- ▶ Circle has area 2
- ▶ $\pi r^2 = 2, r = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}$

¹meaning the number such that 50% of the time, the distance is less.

Thank you!

Magic Math

Espen Slettnes

May 7, 2023



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