

## Some Number Puzzles

Here are a couple of weird results, why do they happen?

(1) Powers of 11:

$$\begin{aligned}11^0 &= 1 \\11^1 &= 11 \\11^2 &= 121 \\11^3 &= 1331 \\11^4 &= 14641 \\11^5 &= 161051 \\11^6 &= 1771561\end{aligned}$$

**Pascal's Triangle:**

(Each number is sum of numbers above left and right of it)

$$\begin{array}{c}1 \\1\ 1 \\1\ 2\ 1 \\1\ 3\ 3\ 1 \\1\ 4\ 6\ 4\ 1 \\1\ 5\ 10\ 10\ 5\ 1 \\1\ 6\ 15\ 20\ 15\ 6\ 1\end{array}$$

The two are almost the same ( or are the the same?), but why?

(2) Weird reversals:

Take any 3 digit numbers where the 3 digits are in descending order. Reverse the digits and **SUBTRACT** your two results. Your answer will always be a multiple of 99, why? Now reverse the digits of your answer and **ADD** it to your answer, and you always end up with 1 089, why?

## Answers to last week's questions

(1) The following problem came from Mike Williams, a 10<sup>th</sup> grade math student from Salinas, California. It was printed in the December, 1961 issue of Recreational Mathematics Magazine, p. 60.

Mike observed that: "The area between two concentric circles is the same as that of a trapezoid which has the respective circumferences as their parallel bases and an altitude that is the difference between the radii." Can you prove that?

**Proof:** Using "C and R" and "c and r" as circumferences and radii of the big circle and the little circle respectively. The area of the trapezoid would be :  $A_T = \frac{(C + c)(R - r)}{2}$  and the area between the two concentric circles is:  $A_C = \pi R^2 - \pi r^2$ , or  $\pi(R^2 - r^2)$ , or  $\pi(R - r)(R + r)$ .

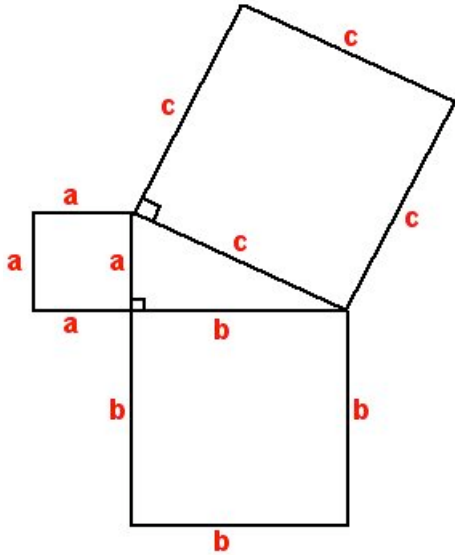
If they are equal then  $A_C = A_T$  or:  $\pi(R-r)(R+r) = \frac{(C+c)(R-r)}{2}$ . Now divide both sides by  $(R-r)$  and you

get:  $\pi(R+r) = \frac{(C+c)}{2}$ .

Multiply both sides by 2 and simplifying gets you:  $2\pi(R+r) = (C+c)$ , or  $2\pi R + 2\pi r = C + c$ .

This obviously works out since  $C = 2\pi R$  and  $c = 2\pi r$ , the circumferences of the respective circles.

(2) As you know, from Pythagoras, if “a”, “b” and “c” are sides of a right triangle, where “c” is the hypotenuse and “a” and “b” are the sides, then  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ . You can draw this as I have below with the actual squares being drawn on each side. Think of the formula as:  $c^{\text{squared}} = a^{\text{squared}} + b^{\text{squared}}$



Now, does the same thing apply if you drew equilateral triangles on each side or semi-circles on each side. Are the areas still the same? The “new Pythagoras” formulas would be:  $c^{\text{equilateraled}} = a^{\text{equilateraled}} + b^{\text{equilateraled}}$  and  $c^{\text{semi-circled}} = a^{\text{semi-circled}} + b^{\text{semi-circled}}$ .

**Proof:**  $c^{\text{equilateraled}} = a^{\text{equilateraled}} + b^{\text{equilateraled}}$ , see the next page:

The area of an equilateral triangle is:  $A_{\text{equil}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}x^2}{4}$ , where x = the side of the equilateral triangle.

Therefore:  $c^{\text{equilateraled}} = a^{\text{equilateraled}} + b^{\text{equilateraled}}$  becomes:

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}c^2}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{3}a^2}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{3}b^2}{4}, \text{ so multiply each side by } \frac{4}{\sqrt{3}}, \text{ gives you:}$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2, \text{ which of course, we know is true.}$$

**Proof:** of  $c^{\text{semi-circled}} = a^{\text{semi-circled}} + b^{\text{semi-circled}}$ .

The Area of a Semi-circle is  $A_{\text{semi}} = \frac{\pi R^2}{2}$ , so the formulas for each sides would be:

$$\frac{\pi\left(\frac{c}{2}\right)^2}{2} = \frac{\pi\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)^2}{2} + \frac{\pi\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2}{2}, \text{ or } \frac{\pi\left(\frac{c^2}{4}\right)}{2} = \frac{\pi\left(\frac{a^2}{4}\right)}{2} + \frac{\pi\left(\frac{b^2}{4}\right)}{2}, \text{ or}$$

$$\pi\left(\frac{c^2}{8}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a^2}{8}\right) + \pi\left(\frac{b^2}{8}\right), \text{ now multiply both sides by } \frac{8}{\pi} :$$

$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$ , which we know is true

- (3) Here are a couple more Alphametics. Remember each different letter stands for a different digit from 0 to 9. No number begins with a "0", and no letter can have two different values. When the letters are replaced by the proper digit, each question is a "true" addition problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{MOON} \quad 9552 \\ \text{MEN} \quad 902 \\ \text{CAN} \quad 382 \\ \hline \text{REACH} \quad 10836 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{ALLS} \quad 9332 \quad \text{OR} \quad 9332 \\ \text{WELL} \quad 8433 \quad 8433 \\ \text{THAT} \quad 6596 \quad 6096 \\ \text{ENDS} \quad 4072 \quad 4572 \\ \hline \text{SWELL} \quad 28433 \quad 28433 \end{array}$$