

# #1 Alpha Ciphering

## MAΘ National Convention 2021

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Given the equation  $\frac{x(x-1)-(k+1)}{(x-1)(k-1)} = \frac{x}{k}$ , for

what value of  $k$  are the solutions for  $x$  equal?

## #2 Alpha Ciphering

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The roots of  $64x^3 - 144x^2 + 92x - 15 = 0$  form an arithmetic sequence. What is the largest root?

### #3 Alpha Ciphering

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Mr. Lu bought  $N$  Chinese romance novels for  $d$  dollars ( $d$  is a positive integer). He sold two of them to the Snowman at half their cost. The rest he sold at a profit of \$8 per novel. If the overall profit was \$72, then the least possible value of  $N$  is?

## #4 Alpha Ciphering

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In triangle  $ZLU$ , the median from vertex  $Z$  is perpendicular to the median from vertex  $L$ . If the lengths of sides  $ZU$  and  $LU$  are 6 and 7 respectively, what is the length of side  $ZL$ ?

## #5 Alpha Ciphering

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How many 3-digit positive integers have three different digits in increasing order or in decreasing order?

## #6 Alpha Ciphering

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Point  $X$  is 9 units from the center of a circle of diameter 30. How many different chords of the circle contain  $X$  and have integer lengths?

# #7 Alpha Ciphering

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Compute  $\sum_{k=1}^{2021} \left[ \sin^k \left( \frac{k\pi}{2} \right) + \cos^k \left( \frac{k\pi}{2} \right) \right]$ .

## #8 Alpha CIPHERING

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Given that this expression is true for all values of  $x$  where both sides are defined:

$$\tan \frac{1}{5}x - \tan x = \frac{\sin \frac{k}{2}x}{\left(\cos \frac{1}{5}x\right)(\cos x)}.$$

Solve for  $k$ .



# #9 Alpha Ciphering

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Given:  $2^{2023} = 2 + \sum_{n=0}^{2021} \log(x^{2^n})$ . What is x?

## #10 Alpha Ciphering

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What is the area of the triangle formed by the end points of the Latus Rectum and the intersection point of the axis of symmetry and directrix for the

parabola  $y = \frac{-3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 4$ .

## #11 Alpha Ciphering

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A triangle has side lengths  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  such that,  $Y + Z = 2X$  and  $YZ = X^2$ . Find the cosecant of the angle opposite the side of length  $X$ .

# #12 Alpha CIPHERING

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Given:  $z = a + bi$ , there is a real ordered pair  $(a, b)$  that is a solution to  $|z + 3| = 1 - iz$ . What is  $b - a$ ?