

**2025 MA $\Theta$  National Convention**

**Mu Ciphering**

**Problem 0**

Compute the maximum value of  $x(1 - x)^2$   
over all  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ .

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**Problem 1**

Legosi gets thrown off a roof by Gouhin, and falls such that his distance from the ground is modeled by the function  $h(t) = at^2 + bt + c$  for some real  $a, b, c$ .

If  $h(0) = 20$ ,  $h(2) = 14$ , and  $h(4) = 0$ , find the average value of  $h'(t)$  over  $0 \leq t \leq 4$ .

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**Problem 2**

Evaluate

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x^{2x} - 1}{x \ln(x)}.$$

If the limit does not exist, submit "DNE."

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**Problem 3**

The graphs of  $y = 2\sqrt{x}$  and  $y = 3\sqrt[3]{x}$  have a unique common tangent line with positive slope. Compute the  $x$ -intercept of this common tangent (express your answer as just the  $x$ -coordinate, not a point).

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**Problem 4**

Compute the slope of the tangent line to the ellipse given by  $x^2 + xy + y^2 = 7$  at the point  $(1, 2)$ .

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$$\int_{1/3}^3 \frac{3}{\sqrt{x} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}} dx.$$

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**Problem 6**

Let  $ABCD A'B'C'D'$  be a right rectangular prism with opposite faces  $ABCD$  and  $A'B'C'D'$  and connecting edges  $AA'$ ,  $BB'$ ,  $CC'$ , and  $DD'$ .

The lengths  $AB$ ,  $AD$ , and  $AA'$  change at rates 1, 2, and 1 units per second respectively, while everything else changes in such a way as to keep  $ABCD A'B'C'D'$  a right rectangular prism.

At the moment  $AB = 1$ ,  $AD = 1$ , and  $AA' = 2$ , compute the rate of change of the area of triangle  $BA'D$ .

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**Problem 7**

Let  $R$  be the region bounded between the  $x$ -axis,  $y = \sqrt[3]{x}$ ,  $x = 1$ , and  $x = 8$ . Compute the volume of the region formed by revolving  $R$  about the  $x$ -axis.

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**Problem 8**

Suppose  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a sequence of real numbers such that for all  $1 < x < 3$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \left( \frac{x-1}{2} \right)^{n-1} = \sqrt{x}.$$

Compute  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n \cdot 6^n}$ .

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**Problem 10**

There exists a unique function  $f(x)$  such that  
for all  $x \geq 1$ ,

$$xf(x)f'(x) = (f(x))^2 + 1,$$

and  $f(1) = 1$ . Compute  $f(5)$ .

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