

Re: Pi/3 the only fraction of the circle with a rational projection

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2008-04/msg01701.html>

- *From:* Gerry Myerson <gerry@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 10 Apr 2008 03:16:59 GMT
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In article

<dd83b53-c414-4172-ac9c-c4dd7781a0e6@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, amado.alves@xxxxxxxx wrote:

I find it extremely intriguing that a simple fraction of the circle should project upon a simple fraction of the radius: $\sin(\pi/3) = 1/2$.

And furthermore I intuit that this is the only projection with integral fractions on both sides of the equation. (Ignoring the geometrically trivial cases $\sin(0)$, $\sin(\pi/2)$, and the equivalent cases $\cos(\pi/6)$, etc.)

Much more is known. I wrote a paper almost 20 years ago in which I found all rational x, y, z, w such that $(\sin \pi x)(\sin \pi y)(\sin \pi z)(\sin \pi w)$ is rational.

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Gerry Myerson (gerry@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx) (i -> u for email)