

Mirosław Brozis

IBL in maths lesson - is it possible?

I Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Bolesława Krzywoustego ul. Sz. Szeregów 15, Słupsk, Poland, bromir1@poczta.fm

Science uses mathematical rules, formulas and equations. Without a mathematical description it is impossible to teach physics, astronomy, biology, geography and chemistry. I believe that mathematics should also become more experimental. Here are some examples of good practice in this matter.

Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon's problem was the inspiration to find the number π . It can be solved using integral geometry. The experiment covers topics of probability, geometry, Monte Carlo method and great fun :-). Entertainment has become a good point to work on finding π with IBSE.



FUN !!!

Exploring the Internet



$$\pi \approx \frac{2l \cdot n}{th}$$

a needle of length l
shoe

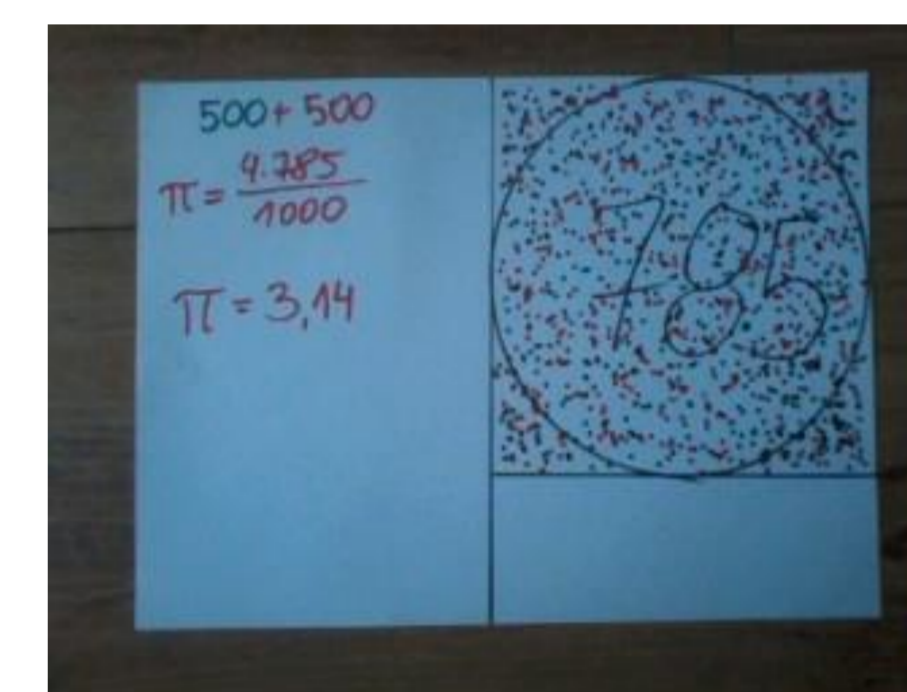
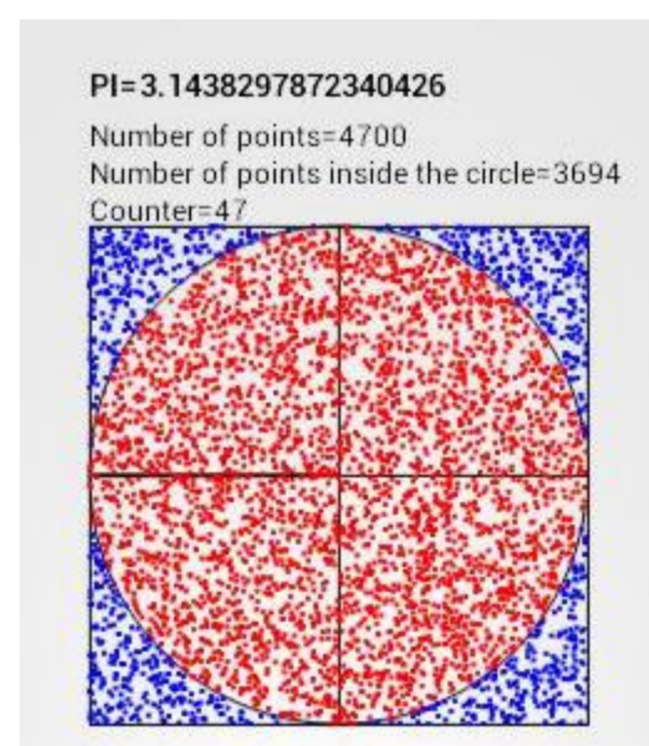
t - the width of the line
 n - number of shoes on photos
 h - number of shoes crossing black-white border

Pi determined from photos
 $\pi = 16/5 = 3,2 \text{ ☺}$

$$\pi = \frac{4n}{N}$$

n - number of points inside circle
 N - number of points

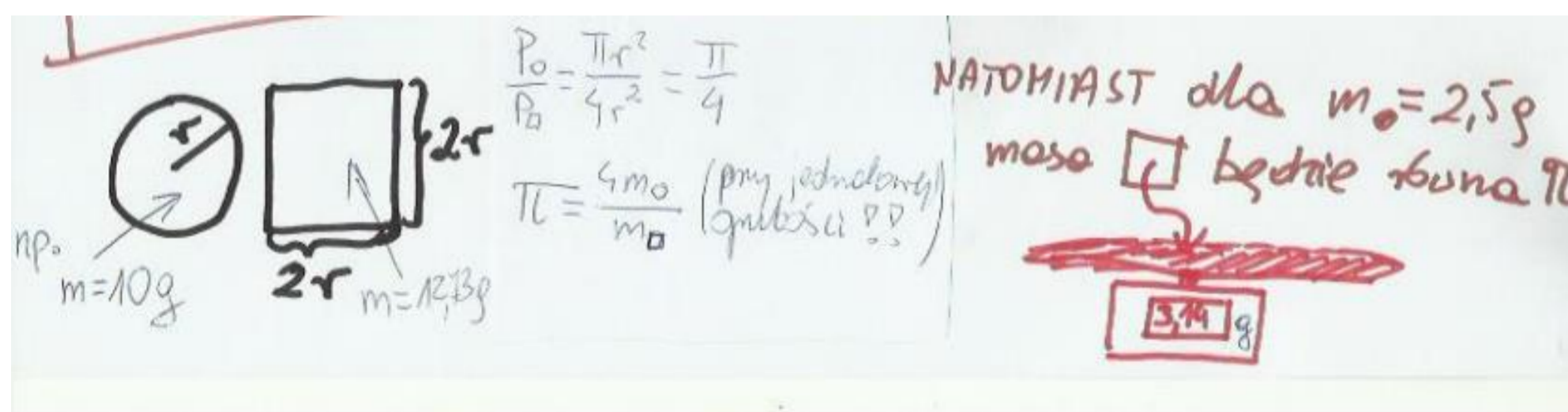
... and more..



phone print screen vs. student's work

...simplification...

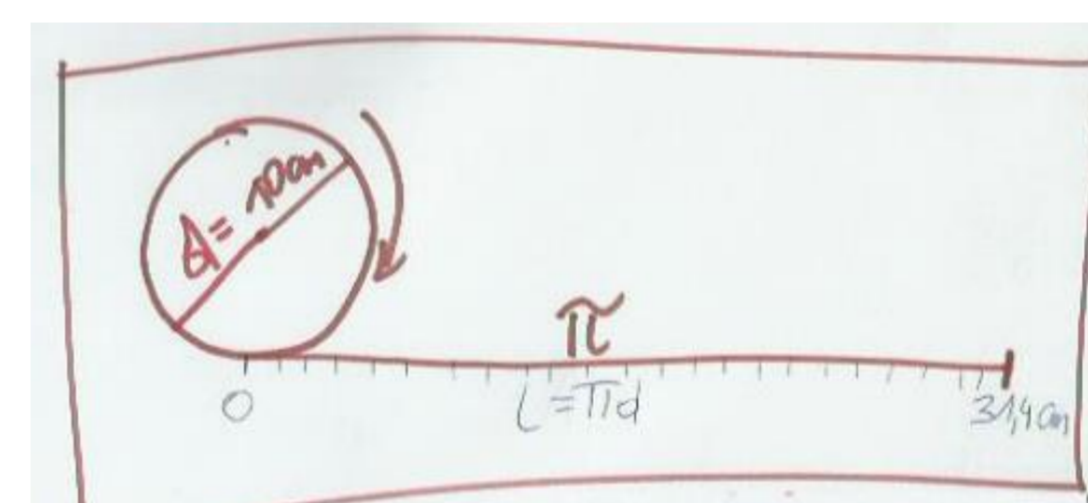
$$\frac{m_{circle}}{m_{square}} = \frac{\pi r^2}{4r^2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$



...and even more simple...

$$\pi = \frac{l}{d}$$

l - circumference of a circle
 d - diameter



blueprint final produkt

The exponential function

A half-life usually describes the decay of discrete entities, such as radioactive atoms. Thus definition: "half-life is the time required for half of the entities to decay" is inaccurate in case of small numbers of objects. Still the experiment helps to find a very good approximation of the exponential function.



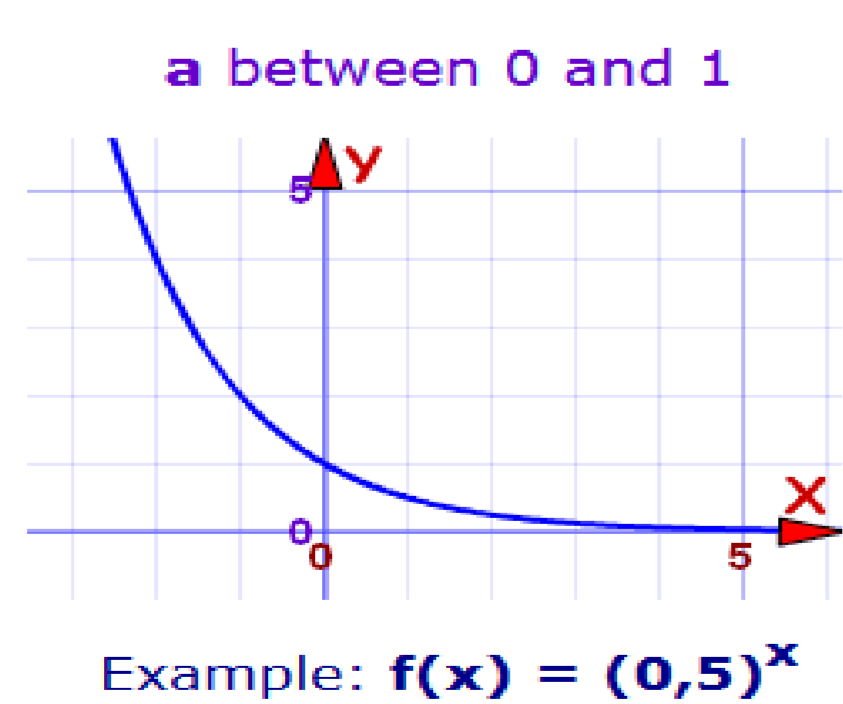
Each vessel is filled half of the remaining water



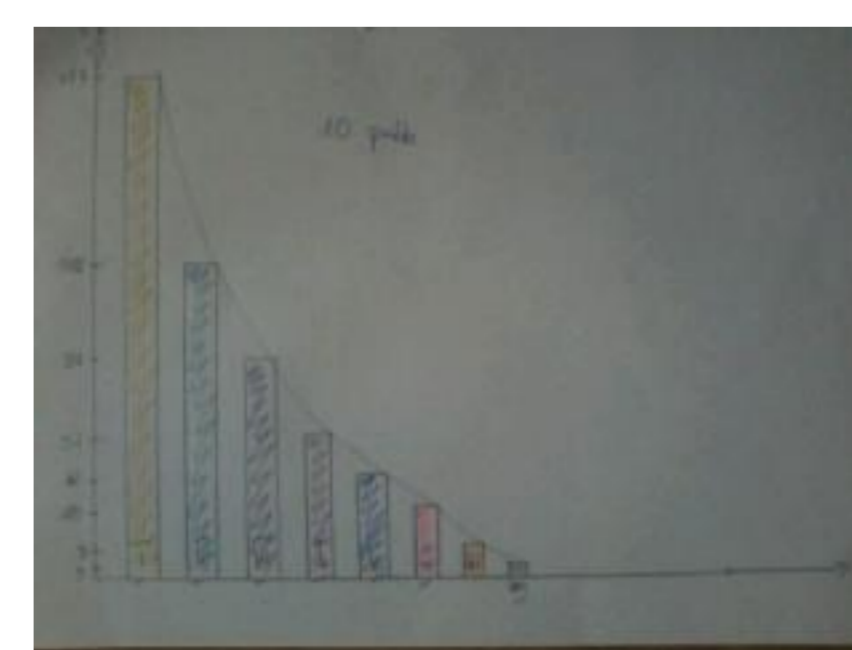
Effect of ten refills



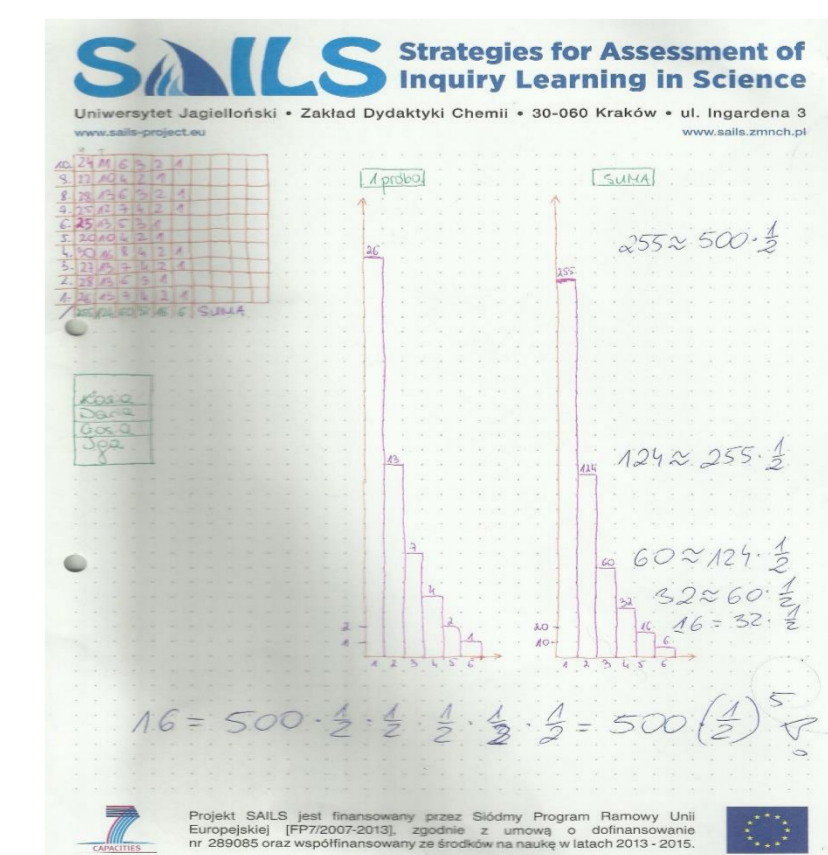
Hundred of matches is divided in half, without counting



Brainstorming



Experimentally obtained exponential function



It works !!!