## Essex County College Division of Mathematics

Sakai Web Project Quiz #10

Name:	
Signature:	

Show all work clearly and in order, and box your final answers. Justify your answers whenever possible. You have 20 minutes to take this 10 point quiz.

The number  $\pi$  is often approximated, and many students believe that  $\pi$  can be written down in some numerical form, usually as a decimal. Some say it's about 3 while others might go on to say 3.14, or possibly something more precise. Of special note is Akira Haraguchi, a mental health counsellor from Japan, that can recite than 100,000 decimal digits of  $\pi$  from memory. However, no matter how precise you go, they're all just approximations.

One can find many exact expressions that equal  $\pi$ . For example

$$\pi = 2\left(\frac{2 \times 2 \times 4 \times 4 \times 6 \times 6 \times 8 \times \dots}{1 \times 3 \times 3 \times 5 \times 5 \times 7 \times 7 \times \dots}\right)$$

$$= 4\left(1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{11} + \dots\right)$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{6}{1^2} + \frac{6}{2^2} + \frac{6}{3^2} + \frac{6}{4^2} + \dots}$$

$$= 3\left(1 + \frac{1^2}{4 \times 6} + \frac{1^2 \times 3^2}{4 \times 6 \times 8 \times 10} + \frac{1^2 \times 3^2 \times 5^2}{4 \times 6 \times 8 \times 10 \times 12 \times 14} + \dots\right)$$

However, I think the most remarkable formula for the computation of  $\pi$  has got to be from India. Read on . . .

1. Around 1910, the Indian mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan discover the formula

$$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4n)! (1103 + 26390n)}{(n!)^4 396^{4n}}.$$

William Gosper (he's from New Jersey) used this series in 1985 to compute the first seventeen million digits of  $\pi$ .

(a) 5 points Verify that this series is convergent.

(b) 5 points How many correct decimal places of  $\pi$  do you get if you just use the first term of the series? What if you use two terms?