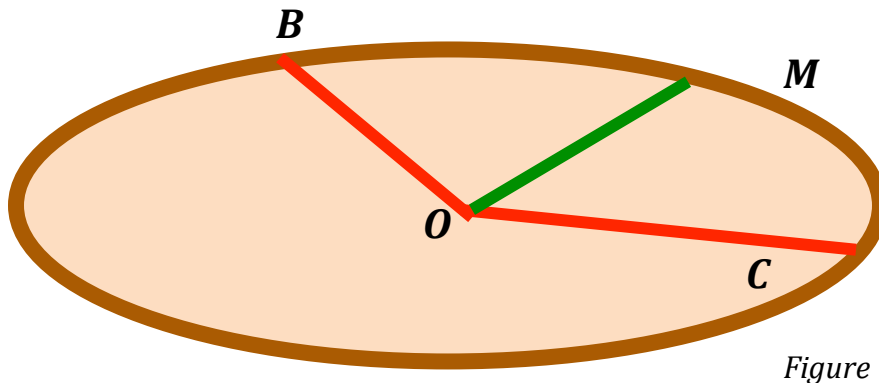


Pi Day Pie with Two... Foci

*Gregory V. Akulov, teacher,
Luther College High School, Regina, Saskatchewan*

Since the time of Pythagoreans, classic πr^2 and πab worked everywhere, in astronomy, machinery, architecture, art, and even in... baking. One delicious cookbook of the ancients describes an **elliptic** pie centered at O (see Figure) whose yummy slices BMO and CMO are **equal in area**. Let major and minor axes of ellipse be 34 and 24 cm. If B is 10 cm above the major axis, and C is 4 cm below it, how far from the major axis is M ? Give an exact answer.



Figure