

1 Topic 1

Classification of integer binary quadratic forms up to change of variables.

1.1 Possible Questions

1. Prove If $p \equiv 1(mod 4)$, then $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $x^2 + y^2 = p$
2. Prove the spectral theorem for symmetric matrices.
3. Show how the discriminant of a binary quadratic function can be computed from the cells of a topograph.

2 Topic 4

Find all integer solutions to $x^2 + xy + y^2 = n$, or a similar equation.

2.1 Possible Questions

1. Show that Mordell's equation ($y^2 = x^3 + k$) for certain values of k have no integer solution. For example, $k = 7, -5, -6$.
2. Show how to determine if a Mordell's equation has an integer solution.
3. Given n , how can we determine the number of ways in which it can be written as the sum of two squares?
4. Show that n is properly representable as a sum of two squares if and only if the prime factors of n are all of the form $4k+1$ (except for the prime 2).

3 Topic 5

Study recurrence sequences, such as the Fibonacci sequence, in modular arithmetic.

3.1 Possible Questions

1. Suppose $F_b \equiv 0$ and $F_{b+1} \equiv 1(mod p)$. Prove $F_{b+i} \equiv F_i(mod p)$
2. Characterize/investigate the Pisano period, and prove that (with one exception) it is always even.