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USA Mathematical Talent Search

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31	3	1

## Problem 1

		1	4	5		3	1	4
4	5	3	2	1	4	5	2	3
2	1	4	5	3	2	1	4	5
5	3	2		4	5	3		

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## Problem 3

To begin, we note that because  $1 = d_1 < d_2 < d_3 < \cdots < d_k = n$ ,  $d_i - d_{i-1} < d_i$ . Thus, we observe that  $d_i - d_{i-1} \in \{d_j | 1 \leq j < n\}$ . We can rearrange this to get  $d_i \in \{d_{i-1} + d_j | 1 \leq j < i\}$  (which can also be written as  $d_i = d_{i-1} + d_j$  for some  $1 \leq j < i$ ).

We can now look at  $d_2$ . We note that all values of  $n > 1$  have at least two factors, so there must be a  $d_2$ . By this previous observation,  $d_2 \in \{1 + 1\} \implies d_2 = 2$ . Therefore, all juicy numbers must be even. With this, we see that  $n = 2$  is a square-free juicy number.

Similarly, we look at  $d_3$  now. We note that there exists a  $d_3$  only when  $n$  is not prime, however as we saw earlier, the only prime value of  $n$  that works is 2, as  $n$  must be even. Since we have already considered the case where  $n$  is 2, we can assume that there exists a  $d_3$  from hereon. We see that  $d_3 \in \{3, 4\}$  based on our original observation. However, since we are only considering square-free juicy numbers, we can omit the case where  $d_3 = 4$ , as any number with 4 as a factor is not square-free. Therefore, if it exists,  $d_3 = 3$ .

We can now look at  $d_4$ . We note that if  $n$  is square-free and has at least 3 factors, it must have a 4th factor (only square numbers have an odd number of factors), so  $d_4$  must exist. From our original observation,  $d_4 \in \{4, 5, 6\}$ . Again, we do not need to consider the case where  $d_4 = 4$ , as we are only considering square-free juicy numbers. The other two cases are  $d_4 = 5$  and  $d_4 = 6$ . Let us consider these cases separately.

### Case 1: $d_4 = 5$

So far,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$ .

We know that both 2 and 3 are factors of  $n$ , so  $d_5$  must equal 6. Because  $n$  is square-free and has at least 5 factors, it must have a 6th factor. From our original observation,  $d_6 \in \{7, 8, 9, 11, 12\}$ . We note that 8, 9, and 12 do not work because  $n$  must be square-free. Therefore  $d_4 = 5 \implies d_6 \in \{7, 11\}$ .

**Note:** I know that this case leads nowhere, but I am not sure how to prove it. I understand that I will not receive full credit without a proof here.

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**Case 2:**  $d_4 = 6$

So far,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 6\}$ .

Here, we note that if  $n$  has only 4 factors,  $n = 6$ . We see that  $n = 6$  is a square-free juicy number. For all other values of  $n$  in this case, there must be a  $d_5$ .  $d_5 \in \{7, 8, 9, 12\}$  from our original observation. If  $d_5 \in \{8, 9, 12\}$ , we see that  $n$  is not square-free. Thus, we see that  $d_5 = 7$ .

We now look at the possible values of  $d_6$ . From our original observation, we know that  $d_6 \in \{8, 9, 10, 13, 14\}$ . We note that 8 and 9 do not work because  $n$  must be square-free. We also note that 10 will not work because 5 is not one of our earlier divisors. We break the remaining two numbers into two cases.

**Case 2.1:**  $d_6 = 13$

**Note:** I know that this case leads nowhere, but I am not sure how to prove it. I understand that I will not receive full credit without a proof here.

**Case 2.2:**  $d_6 = 14$

So far,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14\}$ .

We note that  $d_7$  must exist as  $n \neq 14$  (given that  $3|n$ ). From our original observation, we know that  $d_7 \in \{15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 28\}$ . From the square-free condition, we see that  $d_7$  can not be 16, 20, or 28. We also see that  $d_7$  can not be 15 because 5 was not one of our earlier divisors. Again, we consider the remaining two numbers in two separate cases.

**Case 2.2.1:**  $d_7 = 17$

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**Case 2.2.2:**  $d_7 = 21$

So far,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21\}$ .

We see that  $d_8 \in \{22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 35, 42\}$  from our original observation. We know that  $d_8$  can not be 24, 27, or 28 because of the squarefree condition, and also that  $d_8$  can not be 22 since 11 is not already a divisor and  $d_8$  can not be 35 because 5 is not already a divisor. Again, we will split the remaining numbers into cases.

**2.2.2.1:**  $d_8 = 23$

**Note:** I know that this case leads nowhere, but I am not sure how to prove it. I understand that I will not receive full credit without a proof here.

**Case 2.2.2.2:**  $d_8 = 42$

So far,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21, 42\}$ .

Here, we note that it is possible for  $d_8$  to be the last divisor of  $n$  (as  $D$  right now contains all the divisors of 42), and we see that  $n = 42$  is indeed a square-free juicy number.

If  $d_8$  is not the last divisor, we see that  $d_9 \in \{43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 56, 63, 84\}$ . Again, using similar reasoning to before,  $d_9 \notin \{44, 45, 48, 49, 56, 63, 84\}$  (because those would either introduce non-square-free factors or require factors to be present earlier that aren't). Thus,  $d_9 = 43$ .

So now,  $D = \{1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21, 42, 43\}$

We know that  $d_{10}$  must exist because 43 is not divisible by 42. Thus, from our original observation, we see that  $d_{10} \in \{44, 45, 46, 49, 50, 57, 64, 85, 86\}$ . Again, using similar reasoning to before, we see that  $d_{10}$  is either 57 or 86. We break these into two more cases.

**Case 2.2.2.2.1:**  $d_{10} = 57$

**Note:** I know that this case leads nowhere, but I am not sure how to prove it. I understand that I will not receive full credit without a proof here.

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**Case 2.2.2.2.2:**  $d_{10} = 86$

We can continue on like this, and eventually we will see that 1806 is a square-free juicy number. There will be more branched-off cases that I do not know how to verify. Eventually, you get to a case where none of the possibilities for divisors work.

---

To verify that the only 4 square-free juicy numbers are 2, 6, 42, and 1806, I wrote a program. The following python program was used to identify square-free juicy numbers:

```
1  #!/usr/bin/env python3
2  from math import ceil
3
4  # Output a list of factors of n
5  def factors(n):
6      l = []
7      # Simply loop over all integers in the range [1, n]
8      # and test divisibility (this could have been more optimized)
9      for i in range(1,n+1):
10         if n % i == 0:
11             # i is a factor, add it to our list of factors
12             l.append(i)
13     return l
14
15 # Tell whether or not n is juicy given its factors f
16 def juicy(n, f):
17     # Loop through factors d_2 to d_k
18     for j in range(1, len(f)):
19         # Ensure that d_j - d_{j-1} is a divisor
20         if not ((f[j] - f[j-1]) in f):
21             return False
22     return True
23
```

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```
24 # Tell whether or not n is square-free given its factors f
25 def squarefree(n, f):
26     # Loop through all squares i^2 from 0 to n (i <= sqrt(n))
27     for i in range(2, ceil(n**0.5)+1):
28         # If i^2 is a factor of n, n is not square-free
29         if i**2 in f:
30             return False
31     return True
32
33 # The upper bound of our simulation (1,000,000)
34 MAX = 1_000_000
35
36 # Main loop, checking integers n in [2, MAX]
37 for n in range(2, MAX):
38     # Factorize n
39     f = factors(n)
40     # Check if n is a square-free juicy number
41     if juicy(n, f) and squarefree(n, f):
42         print(n)
```

When this program is run, the output is

2

6

42

1806

While this simulation has a bound, we can see a pattern in it which can be used to explain the lack of any square-free juicy number after 1806. We notice that from the results of our simulation, if  $n$  is a square-free number, it appears that  $n(n+1)$  will be a square-free juicy number, as long as  $n+1$  is prime. This holds true up until  $n = 1806$ , where the sequence stops since 1807 is not prime. I am not sure how to prove this conjecture.

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## Problem 4

We approach this problem by placing  $\triangle FIG$  on a coordinate plane. We place  $F$  on the origin, and rotate the triangle such that  $G$  is on the positive  $x$ -axis. We then assign variables to the coordinates of  $I$  and  $G$ . Let  $I = (a, b)$  and  $G = (c, 0)$ . Since we have rotated the triangle such that  $\overline{FG}$  is the  $x$ -axis, we know that  $D$  must also be on the  $x$ -axis. Let  $D = (d, 0)$ .

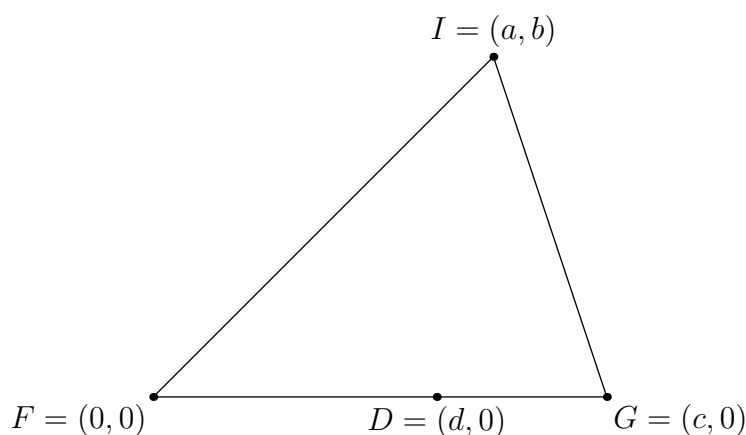
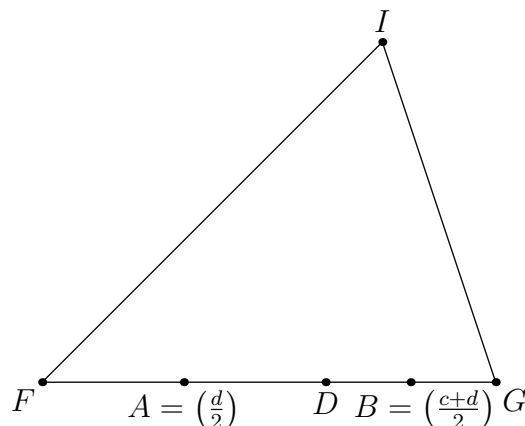


Figure 1: Placing  $\triangle FIG$  on the coordinate plane

We see that the slope of line  $FI$  is  $\frac{b}{a}$ , and that the slope of line  $IG$  is  $\frac{-b}{c-a}$ . Thus, we know that the slope of a line perpendicular to  $FI$  must be  $\frac{-a}{b}$  and the slope of a line perpendicular to  $IG$  must be  $\frac{c-a}{b}$ .

Let  $A$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{FD}$  and  $B$  be the midpoint of  $\overline{DG}$ . We see that  $A = (\frac{d}{2}, 0)$  and  $B = (\frac{c+d}{2}, 0)$ .

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Figure 2: Adding points  $A$  and  $B$ 

Let the line perpendicular to  $FI$  passing through  $A$  be  $\ell_1$ , and the line perpendicular to  $FG$  passing through  $B$  be  $\ell_2$ .

We see that the equation of  $\ell_1$  is

$$y = \frac{-a}{b} \left( x - \frac{d}{2} \right),$$

and that the equation of  $\ell_2$  is

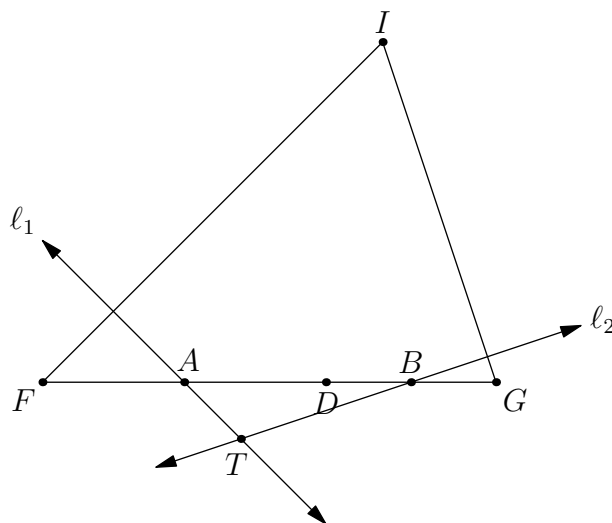
$$y = \frac{c-a}{b} \left( x - \frac{c+d}{2} \right).$$

If we solve for the intersection of  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ , we see that

$$T = \left( \frac{-a+c+d}{2}, \frac{a(a-c)}{2b} \right).$$



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Figure 3: Drawing  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ 

Now we look at the two parts of our “if and only if”.

For  $T$  to be equidistant from  $F$  and  $G$  ( $FT = GT$ ),  $T$  must lie on the perpendicular bisector of  $\overline{FG}$ , which is the line  $x = \frac{c}{2}$ . This means that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{-a + c + d}{2} &= \frac{c}{2} \\ \frac{-a + d}{2} &= 0 \\ a &= d\end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $FT = GT \iff a = d$  (this is a biconditional statement because all of our manipulations are reversible).

Next, for  $\overline{ID} \perp \overline{FG}$ , we see that since  $\overline{FG}$  is horizontal,  $\overline{ID}$  must be vertical. This means that  $I$  and  $D$  must have the same  $x$ -coordinates, so  $a = d$ . This shows that  $\overline{ID} \perp \overline{FG} \iff a = d$  (again, this is biconditional).

Therefore, since we have shown that  $FT = GT \iff a = d \iff \overline{ID} \perp \overline{FG}$ , we can use the transitive property to show that  $\boxed{FT = GT \iff \overline{ID} \perp \overline{FG}}$ .  $\square$

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## Problem 5

**Note:** this is an incomplete solution, it contains only a few observations. I understand that I will not receive full credit for this.

Firstly, we introduce a bit of shorthand notation: let  $f^2(x) = (f(x))^2$ . (This is similar to the notation used in trigonometry to notate raising functions to powers).

We begin by noting that  $f(x)$  is an odd function by the following process:

$$f(a+b) \cdot f(a-b) = f^2(a) - f^2(b)$$

$$f(a-b) = \frac{f^2(a) - f^2(b)}{f(a+b)}$$

$$f(b+a) \cdot f(b-a) = f^2(b) - f^2(a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(b-a) &= \frac{f^2(b) - f^2(a)}{f(b+a)} \\ &= -\frac{f^2(a) - f^2(b)}{f(a+b)} \\ &= -f(a-b) \end{aligned}$$

If we substitute in  $x = a - b$  (meaning  $-x = b - a$ ), we see that  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ . This implies that  $f(-0) = f(0) = -f(0)$ , so  $f(0) = 0$ . If we use the fact that  $f(x) = f(x + 2\pi)$ , we can see that  $-f(x) = f(-x) = f(2\pi - x)$ , so  $f(x) = -f(2\pi - x)$ . This allows us to see that  $f(\pi) = -f(2\pi - \pi) = -f(\pi)$ , so  $f(\pi) = 0$  as well.