

**USAMO 2008**

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**Day 1** April 29th

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- 1** Prove that for each positive integer  $n$ , there are pairwise relatively prime integers  $k_0, k_1, \dots, k_n$ , all strictly greater than 1, such that  $k_0 k_1 \dots k_n - 1$  is the product of two consecutive integers.
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- 2** Let  $ABC$  be an acute, scalene triangle, and let  $M, N$ , and  $P$  be the midpoints of  $\overline{BC}$ ,  $\overline{CA}$ , and  $\overline{AB}$ , respectively. Let the perpendicular bisectors of  $\overline{AB}$  and  $\overline{AC}$  intersect ray  $AM$  in points  $D$  and  $E$  respectively, and let lines  $BD$  and  $CE$  intersect in point  $F$ , inside of triangle  $ABC$ . Prove that points  $A, N, F$ , and  $P$  all lie on one circle.
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- 3** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Denote by  $S_n$  the set of points  $(x, y)$  with integer coordinates such that

$$|x| + \left| y + \frac{1}{2} \right| < n.$$

A path is a sequence of distinct points  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_\ell, y_\ell)$  in  $S_n$  such that, for  $i = 2, \dots, \ell$ , the distance between  $(x_i, y_i)$  and  $(x_{i-1}, y_{i-1})$  is 1 (in other words, the points  $(x_i, y_i)$  and  $(x_{i-1}, y_{i-1})$  are neighbors in the lattice of points with integer coordinates). Prove that the points in  $S_n$  cannot be partitioned into fewer than  $n$  paths (a partition of  $S_n$  into  $m$  paths is a set  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $m$  nonempty paths such that each point in  $S_n$  appears in exactly one of the  $m$  paths in  $\mathcal{P}$ ).

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**Day 2** April 30th

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- 4** Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a convex polygon with  $n$  sides,  $n \geq 3$ . Any set of  $n - 3$  diagonals of  $\mathcal{P}$  that do not intersect in the interior of the polygon determine a *triangulation* of  $\mathcal{P}$  into  $n - 2$  triangles. If  $\mathcal{P}$  is regular and there is a triangulation of  $\mathcal{P}$  consisting of only isosceles triangles, find all the possible values of  $n$ .
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- 5** Three nonnegative real numbers  $r_1, r_2, r_3$  are written on a blackboard. These numbers have the property that there exist integers  $a_1, a_2, a_3$ , not all zero, satisfying  $a_1 r_1 + a_2 r_2 + a_3 r_3 = 0$ . We are permitted to perform the following operation: find two numbers  $x, y$  on the blackboard with  $x \leq y$ , then erase  $y$  and write  $y - x$  in its place. Prove that after a finite number of such operations, we can end up with at least one 0 on the blackboard.
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- 6** At a certain mathematical conference, every pair of mathematicians are either friends or strangers. At mealtime, every participant eats in one of two large dining rooms. Each mathematician insists upon eating in a room which contains an even number of his or her friends. Prove that

the number of ways that the mathematicians may be split between the two rooms is a power of two (i.e., is of the form  $2^k$  for some positive integer  $k$ ).



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