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Postal Coaching
2011

Set 1

- [1] Let ABC be a triangle in which $\angle BAC = 60^\circ$. Let P (similarly Q) be the point of intersection of the bisector of $\angle ABC$ (similarly of $\angle ACB$) and the side AC (similarly AB). Let r_1 and r_2 be the in-radii of the triangles ABC and APQ , respectively. Determine the circum-radius of APQ in terms of r_1 and r_2 .
- [2] Let $\tau(n)$ be the number of positive divisors of a natural number n , and $\sigma(n)$ be their sum. Find the largest real number α such that

$$\frac{\sigma(n)}{\tau(n)} \geq \alpha\sqrt{n}$$

for all $n \geq 1$.

- [3] Suppose $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function such that

$$2f(f(x)) = (x^2 - x)f(x) + 4 - 2x$$

for all real x . Find $f(2)$ and all possible values of $f(1)$. For each value of $f(1)$, construct a function achieving it and satisfying the given equation.

- [4] In a lottery, a person must select six distinct numbers from $1, 2, 3, \dots, 36$ to put on a ticket. The lottery committee will then draw six distinct numbers randomly from $1, 2, 3, \dots, 36$. Any ticket with numbers not containing any of these 6 numbers is a winning ticket. Show that there is a scheme of buying 9 tickets guaranteeing at least one winning ticket, but 8 tickets are not enough to guarantee a winning ticket in general.
- [5] Let $\langle a_n \rangle$ be a sequence of non-negative real numbers such that $a_{m+n} \leq a_m + a_n$ for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{a_k}{k^2} \geq \frac{a_N}{4N} \ln N$$

for any $N \in \mathbb{N}$, where \ln denotes the natural logarithm.

- [6] Let T be an isosceles right triangle. Let S be the circle such that the difference in the areas of $T \cup S$ and $T \cap S$ is minimal. Prove that the centre of S divides the altitude drawn on the hypotenuse of T in the golden ratio (i.e., $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$)

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Set 2

- [1] Let X be the set of all positive real numbers. Find all functions $f : X \rightarrow X$ such that

$$f(x + y) \geq f(x) + yf(f(x))$$

for all x and y in X .

- [2] Let ABC be an acute triangle with $\angle BAC = 30^\circ$. The internal and external angle bisectors of $\angle ABC$ meet the line AC at B_1 and B_2 , respectively, and the internal and external angle bisectors of $\angle ACB$ meet the line AB at C_1 and C_2 , respectively. Suppose that the circles with diameters B_1B_2 and C_1C_2 meet inside the triangle ABC at point P . Prove that $\angle BPC = 90^\circ$.

- [3] Let C be a circle, A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be distinct points inside C and B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n be distinct points on C such that no two of the segments $A_1B_1, A_2B_2, \dots, A_nB_n$ intersect. A grasshopper can jump from A_r to A_s if the line segment A_rA_s does not intersect any line segment A_tB_t ($t \neq r, s$). Prove that after a certain number of jumps, the grasshopper can jump from any A_u to any A_v .

- [4] For all $a, b, c > 0$ and $abc = 1$, prove that

$$\frac{1}{a(a+1) + ab(ab+1)} + \frac{1}{b(b+1) + bc(bc+1)} + \frac{1}{c(c+1) + ca(ca+1)} \geq \frac{3}{4}$$

- [5] Let $(a_n)_{n \geq 1}$ be a sequence of integers that satisfies

$$a_n = a_{n-1} - \min(a_{n-2}, a_{n-3})$$

for all $n \geq 4$. Prove that for every positive integer k , there is an n such that a_n is divisible by 3^k .

- [6] A positive integer is called *monotonic* if when written in base 10, the digits are weakly increasing. Thus 12226778 is monotonic. Note that a positive integer cannot have a first digit which is 0. Prove that for every positive integer n , there is an n -digit monotonic number which is a perfect square.

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Set 3

- [1] Let I be the incentre of a triangle ABC and Γ_a be the excircle opposite A touching BC at D . If ID meets Γ_a again at S , prove that DS bisects $\angle BSC$.

- [2] For a positive integer n , consider the set

$$S = \{0, 1, 1 + 2, 1 + 2 + 3, \dots, 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + (n - 1)\}$$

Prove that the elements of S are mutually incongruent modulo n if and only if n is a power of 2.

- [3] Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial with integer coefficients. Given that for some integer a and some positive integer n , where

$$\underbrace{P(P(\dots P(a) \dots))}_{n \text{ times}} = a,$$

is it true that $P(P(a)) = a$?

- [4] Consider 2011^2 points arranged in the form of a 2011×2011 grid. What is the maximum number of points that can be chosen among them so that no four of them form the vertices of either an isosceles trapezium or a rectangle whose parallel sides are parallel to the grid lines?

- [5] Let P be a point inside a triangle ABC such that

$$\angle PAB = \angle PBC = \angle PCA$$

Suppose AP, BP, CP meet the circumcircles of triangles PBC, PCA, PAB at X, Y, Z respectively ($\neq P$). Prove that

$$[XBC] + [YCA] + [ZAB] \geq 3[ABC]$$

- [6] In a party among any four persons there are three people who are mutual acquaintances or mutual strangers. Prove that all the people can be separated into two groups A and B such that in A everybody knows everybody else and in B nobody knows anybody else.

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Set 4

- [1] Prove that, for any positive integer n , there exists a polynomial $p(x)$ of degree at most n whose coefficients are all integers such that, $p(k)$ is divisible by 2^n for every even integer k , and $p(k) - 1$ is divisible by 2^n for every odd integer k .
- [2] Let x be a positive real number and let k be a positive integer. Assume that $x^k + \frac{1}{x^k}$ and $x^{k+1} + \frac{1}{x^{k+1}}$ are both rational numbers. Prove that $x + \frac{1}{x}$ is also a rational number.
- [3] Construct a triangle, by straight edge and compass, if the three points where the extensions of the medians intersect the circumcircle of the triangle are given.
- [4] Let a, b, c be positive integers for which

$$ac = b^2 + b + 1$$

Prove that the equation

$$ax^2 - (2b + 1)xy + cy^2 = 1$$

has an integer solution.

- [5] The seats in the Parliament of some country are arranged in a rectangle of 10 rows of 10 seats each. All the 100 *MPs* have different salaries. Each of them asks all his neighbours (sitting next to, in front of, or behind him, i.e. 4 members at most) how much they earn. They feel a lot of envy towards each other: an *MP* is content with his salary only if he has at most one neighbour who earns more than himself. What is the maximum possible number of *MPs* who are satisfied with their salaries?
- [6] On a circle there are n red and n blue arcs given in such a way that each red arc intersects each blue one. Prove that some point is contained by at least n of the given coloured arcs.

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Set 5

- [1] Does the sequence

$$11, 111, 1111, 11111, \dots$$

contain any k th power of a positive integer? Justify your answer.

- [2] For which $n \geq 1$ is it possible to place the numbers $1, 2, \dots, n$ in some order (a) on a line segment, or (b) on a circle so that for every s from 1 to $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, there is a connected subset of the segment or circle such that the sum of the numbers in that subset is s ?
- [3] Let ABC be a scalene triangle. Let l_A be the tangent to the nine-point circle at the foot of the perpendicular from A to BC , and let l'_A be the tangent to the nine-point circle from the mid-point of BC . The lines l_A and l'_A intersect at A' . Define B' and C' similarly. Show that the lines AA' , BB' and CC' are concurrent.
- [4] Let $n > 1$ be a positive integer. Find all n -tuples (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) of positive integers which are pairwise distinct, pairwise coprime, and such that for each i in the range $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n) \mid (a_1^i + a_2^i + \dots + a_n^i)$$

- [5] Let a, b and c be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\frac{\sqrt{a^2 + bc}}{b + c} + \frac{\sqrt{b^2 + ca}}{c + a} + \frac{\sqrt{c^2 + ab}}{a + b} \geq \sqrt{\frac{a}{b + c}} + \sqrt{\frac{b}{c + a}} + \sqrt{\frac{c}{a + b}}$$

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Set 6

- [1] Let $ABCD$ be a quadrilateral with an inscribed circle, centre O . Let

$$AO = 5, BO = 6, CO = 7, DO = 8.$$

If M and N are the midpoints of the diagonals AC and BD , determine $\frac{OM}{ON}$.

- [2] Let $S(k)$ denote the digit-sum of a positive integer k (in base 10). Determine the smallest positive integer n such that

$$S(n^2) = S(n) - 7$$

- [3] Let $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be a function such that $(x + y)f(x) \leq x^2 + f(xy) + 110$, for all x, y in \mathbb{N} . Determine the minimum and maximum values of $f(23) + f(2011)$.

- [4] Suppose there are n boxes in a row and place n balls in them one in each. The balls are colored red, blue or green. In how many ways can we place the balls subject to the condition that any box B has at least one adjacent box having a ball of the same color as the ball in B ? [Assume that balls in each color are available abundantly.]

- [5] Let H be the orthocentre and O be the circumcentre of an acute triangle ABC . Let AD and BE be the altitudes of the triangle with D on BC and E on CA . Let $K = OD \cap BE$, $L = OE \cap AD$. Let X be the second point of intersection of the circumcircles of triangles HKD and HLE , and let M be the midpoint of side AB . Prove that points K, L, M are collinear if and only if X is the circumcentre of triangle EOD .

- [6] Prove that there exist integers a, b, c all greater than 2011 such that

$$(a + \sqrt{b})^c = \dots 2010 \cdot 2011 \dots$$

[Decimal point separates an integer ending in 2010 and a decimal part beginning with 2011.]