

7-th Irish Mathematical Olympiad 1994

May 7, 1994

Time: 3 hours each part.

Part 1

1. Let x, y be positive integers with $y > 3$ and $x^2 + y^4 = 2((x-6)^2 + (y+1)^2)$. Prove that $x^2 + y^4 = 1994$.
2. Let A, B, C be collinear points on the plane with B between A and C . Equilateral triangles ABD, BCE, CAF are constructed with D, E on one side of the line AC and F on the other side. Prove that the centroids of the triangles are the vertices of an equilateral triangle, and that the centroid of this triangle lies on the line AC .
3. Find all real polynomials $f(x)$ satisfying $f(x^2) = f(x)f(x-1)$ for all x .
4. Consider all $m \times n$ matrices whose all entries are 0 or 1. Find the number of such matrices for which the number of 1-s in each row and in each column is even.
5. Let $f(n)$ be defined for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ by $f(1) = 2$ and $f(n+1) = f(n)^2 - f(n) + 1$ for $n \geq 1$. Prove that for all $n > 1$

$$1 - \frac{1}{2^{2^{n-1}}} < \frac{1}{f(1)} + \frac{1}{f(2)} + \dots + \frac{1}{f(n)} < 1 - \frac{1}{2^{2^n}}.$$

Part 2

6. A sequence (x_n) is given by $x_1 = 2$ and $nx_n = 2(2n-1)x_{n-1}$ for $n > 1$. Prove that x_n is an integer for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
7. Let p, q, r be distinct real numbers that satisfy

$$q = p(4-p), \quad r = q(4-q), \quad p = r(4-r).$$

Find all possible values of $p+q+r$.

8. Prove that for every integer $n > 1$,

$$n \left((n+1)^{\frac{2}{n}} - 1 \right) < \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2i+1}{i^2} < n \left(1 - n^{-\frac{2}{n-1}} \right) + 4.$$

9. Suppose that w, a, b, c are distinct real numbers for which there exist real numbers x, y, z that satisfy the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + z &= 1, \\ a^2x + b^2y + c^2z &= w^2, \\ a^3x + b^3y + c^3z &= w^3, \\ a^4x + b^4y + c^4z &= w^4. \end{aligned}$$

Express w in terms of a, b, c .

10. If a square is partitioned into n convex polygons, determine the maximum possible number of edges in the obtained figure.

(You may wish to use the following theorem of Euler: If a polygon is partitioned into n polygons with v vertices and e edges in the resulting figure, then $v - e + n = 1$.)