

Swedish Mathematical Competition 1993

Final Round

November 20, 1993

1. An integer x has the property that the sums of the digits of x and of $3x$ are the same. Prove that x is divisible by 9.
2. A railway line is divided into ten sections by the stations $A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K$. The length of each section is an integer number of kilometers and the distance between A and K is 56km. A trip along two successive sections never exceeds 12km, but a trip along three successive sections is at least 17km. What is the distance between B and G ?



3. Assume that a and b are integers. Prove that the equation $a^2 + b^2 + x^2 = y^2$ has an integer solution x, y if and only if the product ab is even.
4. To each pair of nonzero real numbers a and b a real number $a * b$ is assigned so that $a * (b * c) = (a * b)c$ and $a * a = 1$ for all a, b, c .
Solve the equation $x * 36 = 216$.
5. A triangle with sides a, b, c and perimeter $2p$ is given. Is possible, a new triangle with sides $p - a, p - b, p - c$ is formed. The process is then repeated with the new triangle. For which original triangles can this process be repeated indefinitely?
6. For real numbers a and b define $f(x) = \frac{1}{ax + b}$. For which a and b are there three distinct real numbers x_1, x_2, x_3 such that $f(x_1) = x_2, f(x_2) = x_3$ and $f(x_3) = x_1$?