

U OF I UNDERGRADUATE MATH CONTEST
April 14, 2007

1. Let

$$f(n) = (1^2 + 1)1! + (2^2 + 1)2! + \cdots + (n^2 + 1)n!.$$

Find a simple general formula for $f(n)$.

2. Prove that for every odd integer n the sum $1^n + 2^n + \cdots + n^n$ is divisible by n^2 .

3. For any positive integer k let $f_1(k)$ denote the sum of the squares of the digits of k (when written in decimal), and for $n \geq 2$ define $f_n(k)$ iteratively by $f_n(k) = f_1(f_{n-1}(k))$. Find $f_{2007}(2006)$.

4. Determine, with proof, whether the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(e - \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n \right)$$

converges.

5. Suppose P_1, \dots, P_{12} are points on the unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$, and let

$$S = S(P_1, \dots, P_{12}) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 12} |P_i P_j|^2,$$

where $|P_i P_j|$ denotes the distance between P_i and P_j . In other words, S is the sum of the squares of the pairwise distances between the points P_1, \dots, P_{12} . Determine, with proof, the largest possible value of S among all choices of the points P_1, \dots, P_{12} on the unit circle.

6. Let a_n ($n = 0, 1, \dots$) be a bounded sequence of positive integers that satisfies

$$a_n (a_{n-1}^2 + a_{n-2}^2 + \cdots + a_{n-2007}^2) = a_{n-1}^3 a_1 + a_{n-2}^3 a_2 + \cdots + a_{n-2007}^3 a_{2007} \quad (n \geq 2007).$$

Show that the sequence eventually becomes periodic.

[Solutions at <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/contests.html>]