

# 2015 UI FRESHMAN MATH CONTEST

September 26, 2015, 10 am – 12 pm

1. Let  $N$  be the number

$$N = 1234567891011121314 \dots 99100$$

obtained by writing the integers  $1, 2, 3, 4 \dots, 99, 100$  next to each other. What is the remainder of  $N$  when divided by 9? Explain!

2. Prove that the equation

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 2xyz$$

has no solution in positive integers  $x, y, z$ .

3. Let  $x, y, z$  be arbitrary real numbers in the interval  $[0, 1]$ , and let  $u = x(1 - y)$ ,  $v = y(1 - z)$ ,  $w = z(1 - x)$ . Prove that at least one of the numbers  $u, v, w$  is  $\leq 1/4$ .

4. Prove that, given any 9 pairwise distinct lattice points,  $P_1, \dots, P_9$ , in 3-dimensional space, there exist two of these points, say  $P_i$  and  $P_j$  with  $i \neq j$ , such that the line segment  $P_iP_j$  contains another lattice point (different from  $P_i$  and  $P_j$ ). (A lattice point is a point with integer coordinates.)

5. Given a point  $P_0 = (x_0, y_0, z_0)$  in 3-dimensional space, define a sequence of points  $P_k = (x_k, y_k, z_k)$  by

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - y_k,$$

$$y_{k+1} = y_k - z_k,$$

$$z_{k+1} = z_k - x_k,$$

for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . For example, if  $P_0 = (5, 3, 4)$ , then  $P_1 = (5 - 3, 3 - 4, 4 - 5) = (2, -1, -1)$ ,  $P_2 = (3, 0, -3)$ ,  $P_3 = (3, 3, -6)$ , etc.

Prove that, if the coordinates  $x_0, y_0, z_0$  of the initial point  $P_0$  are not all equal, then  $|P_k| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $|P_k|$  denotes the distance of  $P_k$  to the origin.

6. Let  $a, b$  be arbitrary real numbers, and let the sequence  $x_n$  be defined by  $x_0 = a, x_1 = b$ , and

$$x_n = \frac{1}{2}(x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}) \quad (n = 2, 3, \dots).$$

Prove that as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $x_n$  converges to a limit, and find a formula for this limit in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ .

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