

Switzerland Team Selection Test 1998

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– Day 1

1 A function $f : R - \{0\} \rightarrow R$ has the following properties:

(i) $f(x) - f(y) = f(x)f\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) - f(y)f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ for all $x, y \neq 0$,

(ii) f takes the value $\frac{1}{2}$ at least once.

Determine $f(-1)$.

Prove that f is a periodic function

2 Find all nonnegative integer solutions (x, y, z) of the equation $\frac{1}{x+2} + \frac{1}{y+2} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{z+2}$

3 Given positive numbers a, b, c , find the minimum of the function $f(x) = \sqrt{a^2 + x^2} + \sqrt{(b-x)^2 + c^2}$.

4 Find all numbers n for which it is possible to cut a square into n smaller squares.

5 Points A and B are chosen on a circle k . Let AP and BQ be segments of the same length tangent to k , drawn on different sides of line AB . Prove that the line AB bisects the segment PQ .

– Day 2

6 Find all prime numbers p for which $p^2 + 11$ has exactly six positive divisors.

7 Consider an $n \times n$ matrix whose entry at the intersection of the i -th row and the j -th column equals $i + j - 1$. What is the largest possible value of the product of n entries of the matrix, no two of which are in the same row or column?

8 Let $\triangle ABC$ be an equilateral triangle and let P be a point in its interior. Let the lines AP, BP, CP meet the sides BC, CA, AB in the points X, Y, Z respectively. Prove that $XY \cdot YZ \cdot ZX \geq XB \cdot YC \cdot ZA$.

9 If x and y are positive numbers, prove the inequality $\frac{x}{x^4+y^2} + \frac{y}{x^2+y^4} \leq \frac{1}{xy}$

10 5. Let $f : R \rightarrow R$ be a function that satisfies for all $x \in R$

(i) $|f(x)| \leq 1$, and

(ii) $f\left(x + \frac{13}{42}\right) + f(x) = f\left(x + \frac{1}{6}\right) + f\left(x + \frac{1}{7}\right)$
Prove that f is a periodic function
