

**IMO 1993**

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**Day 1**

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**1** Let  $n > 1$  be an integer and let  $f(x) = x^n + 5 \cdot x^{n-1} + 3$ . Prove that there do not exist polynomials  $g(x), h(x)$ , each having integer coefficients and degree at least one, such that  $f(x) = g(x) \cdot h(x)$ .

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**2** Let  $A, B, C, D$  be four points in the plane, with  $C$  and  $D$  on the same side of the line  $AB$ , such that  $AC \cdot BD = AD \cdot BC$  and  $\angle ADB = 90^\circ + \angle ACB$ . Find the ratio

$$\frac{AB \cdot CD}{AC \cdot BD},$$

and prove that the circumcircles of the triangles  $ACD$  and  $BCD$  are orthogonal. (Intersecting circles are said to be orthogonal if at either common point their tangents are perpendicular. Thus, proving that the circumcircles of the triangles  $ACD$  and  $BCD$  are orthogonal is equivalent to proving that the tangents to the circumcircles of the triangles  $ACD$  and  $BCD$  at the point  $C$  are perpendicular.)

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**3** On an infinite chessboard, a solitaire game is played as follows: at the start, we have  $n^2$  pieces occupying a square of side  $n$ . The only allowed move is to jump over an occupied square to an unoccupied one, and the piece which has been jumped over is removed. For which  $n$  can the game end with only one piece remaining on the board?

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**Day 2**

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**4** For three points  $A, B, C$  in the plane, we define  $m(ABC)$  to be the smallest length of the three heights of the triangle  $ABC$ , where in the case  $A, B, C$  are collinear, we set  $m(ABC) = 0$ . Let  $A, B, C$  be given points in the plane. Prove that for any point  $X$  in the plane,

$$m(ABC) \leq m(ABX) + m(AXC) + m(XBC).$$

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**5** Let  $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . Determine if there exists a strictly increasing function  $f : \mathbb{N} \mapsto \mathbb{N}$  with the following properties:

(i)  $f(1) = 2$ ;

(ii)  $f(f(n)) = f(n) + n, (n \in \mathbb{N})$ .

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- 6 Let  $n > 1$  be an integer. In a circular arrangement of  $n$  lamps  $L_0, \dots, L_{n-1}$ , each of which can either ON or OFF, we start with the situation where all lamps are ON, and then carry out a sequence of steps,  $Step_0, Step_1, \dots$ . If  $L_{j-1}$  ( $j$  is taken mod  $n$ ) is ON then  $Step_j$  changes the state of  $L_j$  (it goes from ON to OFF or from OFF to ON) but does not change the state of any of the other lamps. If  $L_{j-1}$  is OFF then  $Step_j$  does not change anything at all. Show that:
- (i) There is a positive integer  $M(n)$  such that after  $M(n)$  steps all lamps are ON again,
  - (ii) If  $n$  has the form  $2^k$  then all the lamps are ON after  $n^2 - 1$  steps,
  - (iii) If  $n$  has the form  $2^k + 1$  then all lamps are ON after  $n^2 - n + 1$  steps.
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