## AoPS Community

## USAMO 1997

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## Day 1 May 1st

1 Let $p_{1}, p_{2}, p_{3}, \ldots$ be the prime numbers listed in increasing order, and let $x_{0}$ be a real number between 0 and 1 . For positive integer $k$, define

$$
x_{k}= \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } x_{k-1}=0 \\ \left\{\frac{p_{k}}{x_{k-1}}\right\} & \text { if } x_{k-1} \neq 0\end{cases}
$$

where $\{x\}$ denotes the fractional part of $x$. (The fractional part of $x$ is given by $x-\lfloor x\rfloor$ where $\lfloor x\rfloor$ is the greatest integer less than or equal to $x$.) Find, with proof, all $x_{0}$ satisfying $0<x_{0}<1$ for which the sequence $x_{0}, x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots$ eventually becomes 0 .

2 Let $A B C$ be a triangle. Take points $D, E, F$ on the perpendicular bisectors of $B C, C A, A B$ respectively. Show that the lines through $A, B, C$ perpendicular to $E F, F D, D E$ respectively are concurrent.

3 Prove that for any integer $n$, there exists a unique polynomial $Q$ with coefficients in $\{0,1, \ldots, 9\}$ such that $Q(-2)=Q(-5)=n$.

## Day 2 May 2nd

4 To clip a convex $n$-gon means to choose a pair of consecutive sides $A B, B C$ and to replace them by the three segments $A M, M N$, and $N C$, where $M$ is the midpoint of $A B$ and $N$ is the midpoint of $B C$. In other words, one cuts off the triangle $M B N$ to obtain a convex ( $n+1$ )-gon. A regular hexagon $\mathcal{P}_{6}$ of area 1 is clipped to obtain a heptagon $\mathcal{P}_{7}$. Then $\mathcal{P}_{7}$ is clipped (in one of the seven possible ways) to obtain an octagon $\mathcal{P}_{8}$, and so on. Prove that no matter how the clippings are done, the area of $\mathcal{P}_{n}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{3}$, for all $n \geq 6$.

5 Prove that, for all positive real numbers $a, b, c$, the inequality

$$
\frac{1}{a^{3}+b^{3}+a b c}+\frac{1}{b^{3}+c^{3}+a b c}+\frac{1}{c^{3}+a^{3}+a b c} \leq \frac{1}{a b c}
$$

holds.
6 Suppose the sequence of nonnegative integers $a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{1997}$ satisfies

$$
a_{i}+a_{j} \leq a_{i+j} \leq a_{i}+a_{j}+1
$$

for all $i, j \geq 1$ with $i+j \leq 1997$. Show that there exists a real number $x$ such that $a_{n}=\lfloor n x\rfloor$ (the greatest integer $\leq n x$ ) for all $1 \leq n \leq 1997$.

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