

AoPS Community

2009 Irish Math Olympiad

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-	Paper 1

- 1 Hamilton Avenue has eight houses. On one side of the street are the houses numbered 1,3,5,7 and directly opposite are houses 2,4,6,8 respectively. An eccentric postman starts deliveries at house 1 and delivers letters to each of the houses, finally returning to house 1 for a cup of tea. Throughout the entire journey he must observe the following rules. The numbers of the houses delivered to must follow an odd-even-odd-even pattern throughout, each house except house 1 is visited exactly once (house 1 is visited twice) and the postman at no time is allowed to cross the road to the house directly opposite. How many different delivery sequences are possible?
- **2** Let ABCD be a square. The line segment AB is divided internally at H so that $|AB| \cdot |BH| = |AH|^2$. Let E be the midpoints of AD and X be the midpoint of AH. Let Y be a point on EB such that XY is perpendicular to BE. Prove that |XY| = |XH|.
- **3** Find all positive integers *n* for which $n^8 + n + 1$ is a prime number.
- **4** Given an *n*-tuple of numbers $(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)$ where each $x_i = +1$ or -1, form a new *n*-tuple

 $(x_1x_2, x_2x_3, x_3x_4, \ldots, x_nx_1),$

and continue to repeat this operation. Show that if $n = 2^k$ for some integer $k \ge 1$, then after a certain number of repetitions of the operation, we obtain the *n*-tuple

 $(1, 1, 1, \ldots, 1).$

5 Hello.

Suppose *a*, *b*, *c* are real numbers such that a + b + c = 0 and $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$. Prove that $a^2b^2c^2 \leq \frac{1}{54}$ and determine the cases of equality.

- Paper 2

1 Let P(x) be a polynomial with rational coefficients. Prove that there exists a positive integer n such that the polynomial Q(x) defined by

$$Q(x) = P(x+n) - P(x)$$

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has integer coefficients.

2 For any positive integer n define $E(n) = n(n+1)(2n+1)(3n+1)\cdots(10n+1).$ Find the greatest common divisor of $E(1), E(2), E(3), \ldots, E(2009)$. 3 Find all pairs (a, b) of positive integers such that $(ab)^2 - 4(a + b)$ is the square of an integer. 4 At a strange party, each person knew exactly 22 others. For any pair of people X and Y who knew each other, there was no other person at the party that they both knew. For any pair of people X and Y who did not know one another, there were exactly 6 other people that they both knew. How many people were at the party? 5 In the triangle ABC we have |AB| < |AC|. The bisectors of the angles at B and C meet AC and AB at D and E respectively. BD and CE intersect at the incenter I of $\triangle ABC$. Prove that $\angle BAC = 60^{\circ}$ if and only if |IE| = |ID|

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