

Virginia Tech Regional Math Contest 2019¹

Problem 1

For each positive integer n , define $f(n)$ to be the sum of the digits of 2771^n (so $f(1) = 17$). Find the minimum value of $f(n)$ (where $n \geq 1$). Justify your answer.

Problem 2

Let X be the point on the side AB of the triangle ABC such that $\frac{BX}{XA} = 9$. Let M be the midpoint of BX and let Y be the point on BC such that $\angle BMY = 90^\circ$. Suppose AC has length 20 and that the area of the triangle XYC is $\frac{9}{100}$ of the area of the triangle ABC . Find the length of BC .

Problem 3

Let n be a nonnegative integer and let $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ be a polynomial with real coefficients a_i . Suppose that

$$\frac{a_n}{(n+1)(n+2)} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n(n+1)} + \dots + \frac{a_1}{6} + \frac{a_0}{2} = 0.$$

Prove that $f(x)$ has a real zero.

Problem 4

Compute $\int_0^1 \frac{x^2}{x + \sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$ (the answer is a rational number).

Problem 5

Find the general solution of the differential equation

$$x^4 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 2x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + (1 - 2x)y = 0$$

valid for $0 < x < \infty$.

Problem 6

Let S be a subset of $\mathbb{R}$ with the property that for every $s \in S$, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $(s - \varepsilon, s + \varepsilon) \cap S = \{s\}$. Prove there exists a function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, the positive integers, such that for all $s, t \in S$, if $s \neq t$ then $f(s) \neq f(t)$.

Problem 7

Let S denote the positive integers that have no 0 in their decimal expansion. Determine whether $\sum_{n \in S} n^{-\frac{99}{100}}$ is convergent.

¹VTRMC problems source: <https://personal.math.vt.edu/plinnell/Vtregional/>