

*European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad*

*2014 - Turkey*

**Six Proposed Problems  
of the Islamic Republic of Iran's team**

by

**Amir Reza Arab**



**Problem 1:** How many pairs  $(m, n)$  of integers are there such that

$$f(m, n) = 5m^2 - n^2 - 3m - n = 0$$

**Solution:** Since  $f(1,1) = 0$  then  $(1,1)$  is one of the desired pairs. We find integer coefficients  $a, b$  such that:

$$(an+bm+1)(5an+5bm+2)-(bn+5am+1)(bn+5am+2)=m(5m-3)-n(n+1)$$

We have:  $a = -4, b = -9$ .

If we put

$$(m_1, n_1) = (1,1) \text{ and } (m_{k+1}, n_{k+1}) = (-4n_k - 9m_k + 1, -9n_k - 20m_k + 1)$$

It is obvious that for every positive integer  $k$ ,

$$f(m_k, n_k) = 0$$

Since

$$|m_{k+1}| > |m_k|$$

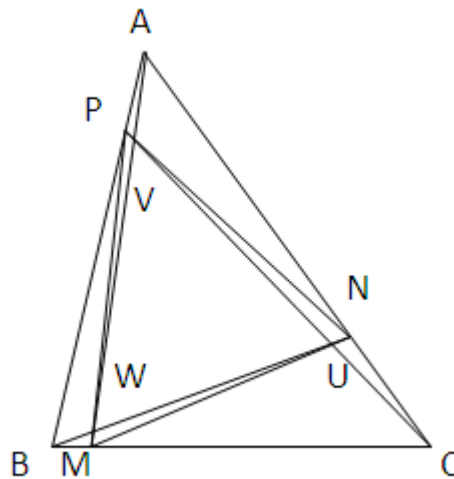
Thus there are infinitely many pairs  $(m, n)$  of integers such that  $f(m, n) = 0$ .

**Problem 2:** Consider acute triangle  $\triangle ABC$  and points  $M, N, P$  on sides  $BC, CA, AB$  respectively such that

$$\angle ANM = \angle BPN = \angle CMP$$

Suppose that  $(BN, PC) = U, (PC, AM) = V, (AM, BN) = W$  (Notation for intersection two segments). Prove that the circumscribed circles of triangles  $\triangle MNW, \triangle NPU$ , and  $\triangle PMV$  pass through a common point.

**Solution:**



By looking at the above figure,

$$\angle A = \angle PNM, \angle B = \angle MPN, \angle C = \angle PMN$$

Therefore  $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle MNP$ .

Now we prove some lemmas:

*Lemma 1:* The center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AB$  to segment  $CD$  coincides with the center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AC$  to segment  $BD$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $O$  is the center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AB$  to segment  $CD$ . Thus  $\angle AOB = \angle COD$  and  $\frac{AO}{BO} = \frac{CO}{DO}$ , hence  $\angle AOC = \angle BOD$  and  $\frac{AO}{CO} = \frac{BO}{DO}$  then  $\triangle AOC \sim \triangle BOD$  and  $O$  is the center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AC$  to segment  $BD$ .

*Lemma 2:* Suppose that  $M$  is the intersection point of two segments  $AB, CD$ . The circumscribed circles of triangles  $\triangle MAC$  and  $\triangle MBD$  pass through the center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AB$  to segment  $CD$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $O$  is the center of rotational homothety that maps segment  $AB$  to segment  $CD$ . Since the oriented angle between  $MA$  and  $AO =$  the oriented angle between  $MC$  and  $CO$ , and also the oriented angle between  $MB$  and  $BO =$  the oriented angle between  $MD$

and  $DO$ , therefore the circumscribed circles of triangles  $\triangle MAC$  and  $\triangle MBD$  pass through point  $O$  and lemma 2 is proved. Suppose that  $O$  is the center of rotational homothety that maps  $\triangle ABC$  to  $\triangle MNP$ . By using the above lemmas, the circumscribed circles of pairs of triangles  $\triangle ABW$ ,  $\triangle MNW - \triangle BCU$ ,  $\triangle NPU - \triangle CAV$ ,  $\triangle PMV$  pass through  $O$ . Thus the circumscribed circles of  $\triangle MNW$ ,  $\triangle NPU$ ,  $\triangle PMV$  pass through a common point.

**Problem 3:** For a function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a positive integer  $n$ , let  $f^n = f \circ f \circ \dots \circ f$ ,  $n$ -th iterate of  $f$ . We say that  $f$  is "nice", if for any two non empty open intervals  $I$  and  $J$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists  $n$  such that  $f^n(I) \cap J \neq \emptyset$ . ( $f^n(I) = \{f^n(x): x \in I\}$ )

- a) Find a nice function.
- b) Is there a nice polynomial :  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ?

**Solution:** a) For every integer  $k$ , we let  $A_k = \{x \in \mathbb{R}: 2k \leq x \leq 2k + 1\}$ ,  $B_k = \{x \in \mathbb{R}: 2k - 1 \leq x \leq 2k\}$  and define  $f$  in the following way:

For  $x \in A_k$ , we put  $f(x) = -3x + 8k + 2$  and for  $x \in B_k$ , put  $f(x) = 5x - 8k + 2$ .

For  $n$  even:  $f(n, n + 1) = (n - 1, n + 2)$ ,  $f(n - 1, n + 2) = (n - 3, n + 4)$ , and so on.

For  $n$  odd:  $f(n, n + 1) = (n - 2, n + 3)$ ,  $f(n - 2, n + 3) = (n - 4, n + 5)$ , and so on.

Thus  $f$  is a nice function.

b)No. Since the range of an even degree polynomial is a proper subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , hence there is no nice even degree polynomial. Suppose that  $P$  is a nice odd degree polynomial. Therefore the following expression is satisfied:

There exists a real number  $a$  such that for any non empty open interval  $I$ , the following set has infinitely many members:

$$\{P^n(a): n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cap I$$

Case 1:  $\deg(P)=1$

We let  $P(x) = bx + c$ ,

$$\{P^n(a): n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \{ba + c, b^2a + bc + c, \dots\}$$

If  $|b| < 1$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P^n(a) = \frac{c}{1-b}$ , if  $|b| > 1$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |P^n(a)| = \infty$ , if  $b = 1$  then  $P^n(a) = a + nc$ , and finally if  $b = -1$  then  $\{P^n(a): n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  has two members. These results contradict the above expression.

Case 2:  $\deg(P) \geq 3$

**Lemma:** For a function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , there is a positive real number  $m$  such that for any  $x$ ,  $|x| \geq m$  we have  $|f(x)| \geq |x|$  and there exists an open interval  $K$ , such that  $K \subset \{x: |f(x)| < |x|\}$ , then  $f$  hasn't the property of the above expression.

**Proof:** We note that if  $|P^n(a)| > m$  then  $|P^l(a)| > m$  for any  $l \geq n$ .

By using this lemma, we conclude that there is no nice odd degree polynomial.

Thus there is no nice real polynomial.

**Problem 4:** Six students, Azer, Birgit, Charles, Dan, Emil, and Geoff from EGMOLAND are doing the following game:

In each move, they must choose six distinct positive integers  $a, b, c, d, e, g$ , respectively such that

$$M = abcdeg + (a + b)^2$$

be a perfect square. They aren't authorized to choose the numbers were used in the previous moves. Will the game get stopped?

**Solution:** No.

*Lemma:* For the Fibonacci sequence:  $F_1 = F_2 = 1$  and  $F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$ , the following identities are satisfied:

1- *Catalan's Identity* :

$$F_n F_{n+2r} + (-1)^n F_r^2 = F_{n+r}^2 \quad (r \text{ is a nonnegative integer})$$

2- *Generalized Catalan's Identity:*

$$F_n F_{n+r+s} + (-1)^n F_r F_s = F_{n+r} F_{n+s} \quad (r, s \text{ are nonnegative integers})$$

By using lemma ,

$$4F_n F_{n+1} F_{n+2} F_{n+4} F_{n+5} F_{n+6} + 4(3F_n + 4F_{n+1})^2 = (F_{n+1} F_{n+2} F_{n+6} + F_n F_{n+4} F_{n+5})^2$$

Since  $F_{n+1} F_{n+2} F_{n+6}$  and  $F_n F_{n+4} F_{n+5}$  are even, and  $F_{n+2} + F_{n+4} = 3F_n + 4F_{n+1}$  ,

$$F_n F_{n+1} F_{n+2} F_{n+4} F_{n+5} F_{n+6} + (F_{n+2} + F_{n+4})^2 = \left( \frac{F_{n+1} F_{n+2} F_{n+6} + F_n F_{n+4} F_{n+5}}{2} \right)^2$$

Thus the game will not be stopped!

**Problem 5:** Let  $x, y, z$  be positive real numbers such that  $xy+yz+zx=1$ , prove the following inequality:

$$\frac{(1-x^2)(1-y^2)}{(1+x^2)(1+y^2)} + \frac{(1-y^2)(1-z^2)}{(1+y^2)(1+z^2)} + \frac{(1-z^2)(1-x^2)}{(1+z^2)(1+x^2)} \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

**Solution:** First we note that if  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are angles of a triangle ABC ( $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 180^\circ$ ), then:

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} &= \cotan \left( \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) = \frac{1 - \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} \tan \frac{\beta}{2}}{\tan \frac{\alpha}{2} + \tan \frac{\beta}{2}} \\ \Rightarrow \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} \tan \frac{\beta}{2} + \tan \frac{\beta}{2} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} + \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we put  $x = \tan \frac{\alpha}{2}, y = \tan \frac{\beta}{2}, z = \tan \frac{\gamma}{2}$  and the inequality is written in the following form:

$$\frac{(1-\tan^2 \frac{\alpha}{2})(1-\tan^2 \frac{\beta}{2})}{(1+\tan^2 \frac{\alpha}{2})(1+\tan^2 \frac{\beta}{2})} + \frac{(1-\tan^2 \frac{\beta}{2})(1-\tan^2 \frac{\gamma}{2})}{(1+\tan^2 \frac{\beta}{2})(1+\tan^2 \frac{\gamma}{2})} + \frac{(1-\tan^2 \frac{\gamma}{2})(1-\tan^2 \frac{\alpha}{2})}{(1+\tan^2 \frac{\gamma}{2})(1+\tan^2 \frac{\alpha}{2})} \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

or equivalently

$$\cos \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \beta \cos \gamma + \cos \gamma \cos \alpha \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

Now we prove some lemmas:

*Lemma 1:*  $\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta}{2} \sin \frac{\gamma}{2} = \frac{r}{4R}$ , where  $r, R$  are radii of circumscribed and inscribed circles of  $\Delta ABC$ , respectively.

*Proof:* By constructing the inscribed circle of  $\Delta ABC$ ,

$$2R \sin \gamma = r \left( \cotan \frac{\alpha}{2} + \cotan \frac{\beta}{2} \right) = \frac{r \sin \left( \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right)}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta}{2}} = \frac{r \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha}{2} \sin \frac{\beta}{2}}$$

By using  $\sin \gamma = 2 \sin \frac{\gamma}{2} \cos \frac{\gamma}{2}$ , lemma 1 is proved.

*Lemma 2:*  $\cos \alpha + \cos \beta + \cos \gamma \leq \frac{3}{2}$ .

*Proof:*

$$\cos \alpha + \cos \beta = 2 \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}$$



$$\cos\gamma = -\cos(\alpha + \beta) = -2\cos^2\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + 1$$

$$\cos\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} - \cos\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} = 2\sin\frac{\alpha}{2}\sin\frac{\beta}{2}$$

From the above equalities and lemma 1,

$$\cos\alpha + \cos\beta + \cos\gamma = 4\sin\frac{\alpha}{2}\sin\frac{\beta}{2}\sin\frac{\gamma}{2} + 1 = \frac{r}{R} + 1$$

By using the Euler's inequality ( $2r \leq R$ ) lemma 2 is proved.

*Lemma 3:*  $\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma \geq \frac{3}{4}$ .

*Proof:*

$$\cos 2\alpha + \cos 2\beta = 2\cos(\alpha + \beta)\cos(\alpha - \beta) = -2\cos\gamma\cos(\alpha - \beta)$$

$$\cos 2\gamma = 2\cos^2\gamma - 1 = -2\cos\gamma\cos(\alpha + \beta) - 1$$

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) + \cos(\alpha - \beta) = 2\cos\alpha\cos\beta$$

From the above equalities,

$$\cos 2\alpha + \cos 2\beta + \cos 2\gamma + 4\cos\alpha\cos\beta\cos\gamma + 1 = 0$$

By using  $\cos 2x = 2\cos^2x - 1$ ,

$$\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma = 1 - 2\cos\alpha\cos\beta\cos\gamma \quad (*)$$

For an acute triangle  $\triangle ABC$ , by the AM-GM inequality and lemma 2,

$$\cos\alpha\cos\beta\cos\gamma \leq \left(\frac{\cos\alpha + \cos\beta + \cos\gamma}{3}\right)^3 \leq \frac{1}{8} \quad (**)$$

For an obtuse triangle  $\triangle ABC$ ,

$$\cos\alpha\cos\beta\cos\gamma < 0$$

Lemma 3 is derived from (\*), (\*\*).

Finally, by using the following identity and three lemmas, problem 5 is solved.

$$\cos\alpha\cos\beta + \cos\beta\cos\gamma + \cos\gamma\cos\alpha = \frac{1}{2}[(\cos\alpha + \cos\beta + \cos\gamma)^2 - (\cos^2\alpha + \cos^2\beta + \cos^2\gamma)]$$

**Problem 6:** Consider the sequence  $1, 2, \dots, n$  and in each move invert every maximal increasing subsequence to reach the arrangement  $n, n-1, \dots, 2, 1$ . Prove that we reach new arrangement in at most  $n-1$  moves.

**Solution:** We prove that for any  $k$ , the numbers aren't greater than  $k$ , will be to the right of the numbers  $k+1, k+2, \dots, n$  after at most  $n-1$  moves. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be these sets respectively, and suppose that  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is the  $A$ - $B$  pattern for the initial arrangement and  $\mathcal{M}_i$  is the arrangement after move  $i$ . Also let  $\mathcal{N}_0$  be  $aa\dots abb\dots b$  ( $k$   $a$ 's and  $n-k$   $b$ 's) and  $\mathcal{N}_i$  be obtained from  $\mathcal{N}_{i-1}$  by changing each  $ab$  into  $ba$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{N}_{n-1}$  is  $bb\dots baa\dots a$ .

We claim that the  $j$ -th  $b$  (from the left) in  $\mathcal{M}_i$  is no farther from the left end than the  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{N}_i$ . It is clear for  $i=0$ . Suppose that it is true for  $i-1$  and we prove it is true for  $i$ .

For  $j=1$ : in  $\mathcal{M}$ 's the leftmost  $b$  moves to the left by at least 1 in each move until it reaches the left-end position and in  $\mathcal{N}$ 's it moves to the left by exactly 1 position in each move until it reaches the left-end position. Let  $j$  be the smallest value, if any, for which it fails. The  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{i-1}$  didn't move then in move  $i$ , whereas the  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{N}_{i-1}$  moved by one place. Since the  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{i-1}$  is not to the right of the  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{N}_{i-1}$  they must be in the same place in these two words. But the  $j$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{i-1}$  doesn't move in move  $i$ , it must be immediately preceded by the  $j-1$ -th  $b$ , while in  $\mathcal{N}_{i-1}$  it is preceded by an  $a$ . Then the  $j-1$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{i-1}$  is to the right of the  $j-1$ -th  $b$  in  $\mathcal{N}_{i-1}$ , contrary to assumption.

Hence we need at most  $n-1$  moves to reach  $n, n-1, \dots, 2, 1$ .