Problem Set Week 7

Math Olympiad Club Zurich

Spring 2025

Problem A-2 (IMC 1999)

Does there exist a bijective map $\pi\colon \mathbb{N}_{>0} \to \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ such that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\pi(n)}{n^2} < \infty?$$

Problem 2 (IMC 1994)

Let $f \in C^1\left(]a,b[\,,\mathbb{R}\right)$ with $\lim_{x\to a^+} f(x) = +\infty$, $\lim_{x\to b^-} f(x) = -\infty$, and $f'(x) + f^2(x) \geq -1$ for all $x \in\,]a,b[$. Prove that $b - a \geq \pi$ and give an example where $b - a = \pi$.

Problem B-3 (IMC 2005)

In the linear space of all real $n \times n$ matrices, find the maximum possible $\mathbb{R}$-dimension of an $\mathbb{R}$-linear subspace V such that

$$\forall X, Y \in V, \quad \operatorname{tr}(XY) = 0.$$

(The trace of a matrix is the sum of its diagonal entries.)

Problem 4 (Bernoulli Competition 2024)

Let $n, m \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ be positive integers, with $m \geq 3$, and let $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{n\times n}$. Suppose A has finite order ($\exists k \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$, $A^k = I_n$) and satisfies

$$A \equiv I_n \pmod{m}^{1}.$$

Prove that $A = I_n$, and find counterexamples when $m = 2$.

[1] For an integer $u \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\equiv \pmod{u}$ is the relation on the set of integer matrices $\bigcup_{r,l\in\mathbb{N}^*} \mathbb{Z}^{r\times l}$, where $C \equiv D \pmod{u} \Leftrightarrow \exists r,l \in \mathbb{N}^*, C, D \in \mathbb{Z}^{r\times l}, \forall (i,j) \in r \times l,\ u \mid (C-D)(i,j)$. It is an equivalence relation.