

Concours Putnam

Atelier de Pratique

Le jeudi, 24 septembre 14h30-15h30 (Salle: AA 1411)

Polynômes

1. Find a polynomial with integer coefficients whose zeros include

$$\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{5}.$$

2. Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial of degree n . Suppose that

$$P(0), P(1), \dots, P(n)$$

are all integers. Prove that $P(m)$ is an integer for every integer m .

3. The product of two of the four zeros of the quartic equation

$$x^4 - 18x^3 + kx^2 + 200x - 1984 = 0$$

is -32 . Find k .

4. Let a, b, c be distinct integers. Can the polynomial

$$(x - a)(x - b)(x - c) - 1$$

be factored into the product of two nonconstant polynomials with integer coefficients?

5. Let $P(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ have degree $n > 5$ and n distinct integer roots. Prove that $P(x) + 3$ also has n distinct real roots.

6. Let $f(x)$ be a polynomial with real coefficients, and suppose that

$$f(x) + f'(x) > 0$$

for all real x . Prove that $f(x) > 0$ for all real x .

7. Let $k \geq 6$ and let $P(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$. Suppose that at k distinct integer arguments, all the values of P belong to

$$\{1, 2, \dots, k - 1\}.$$

Prove that all these k values are equal.

8. Two players A and B play the following game. A thinks of a polynomial with nonnegative integer coefficients. B must guess the polynomial. B has two shots: she can pick a number and ask A to return the polynomial value there, and then she has one more such try. Can B win the game?

9. If $a, b, c > 0$, is it possible that each of the polynomials

$$P(x) = ax^2 + bx + c, \quad Q(x) = cx^2 + ax + b, \quad R(x) = bx^2 + cx + a$$

has two real roots?