

# Math 280 Problems for September 25

## Pythagoras Level

#1. Let  $x$ ;  $y$ ;  $z$  be real numbers such that

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{x+y+z}.$$

Prove that either  $x + y = 0$  or  $y + z = 0$  or  $z + x = 0$ .

#2. Seven people come to a party, each with his/her own coat. At the end of the party, the coats are randomly distributed to the people, one coat per person. What is the average number, over all  $7!$  possibilities, of the number of people who get their own coat? For example, if there were only two people at the party, there would only be two possibilities – either both people would get back their own coat or each would get the other person's coat. This gives an average of  $(2 + 0)/2 = 1$ , in this case.

## Newton Level

#3. Let  $g$  be the function defined by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} & x \neq 0 \\ 1 & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $h$  be the function defined by  $h(x) = \int_x^\pi g(t)dt$ . Find the area of the region bounded by the curve  $y = h(x)$ ,  $x = 0$ ,  $x = \pi$ , and the  $x$ -axis.

#4. Evaluate the following limit:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2^3 - 1)(3^3 - 1)(4^3 - 1) \cdots (n^3 - 1)}{(2^3 + 1)(3^3 + 1)(4^3 + 1) \cdots (n^3 + 1)}.$$

## Wiles Level

#5. All of the positive integers are printed, in order, on an infinite strip:

1234567891011121399100101102

Then, all zeroes are erased to give:

1234567891 111213991 1 11 2

Then all the spaces are removed and the tape is cut into 4-digit strips:

|      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1234 | 5678 | 9111 | 1213 |
|------|------|------|------|

Show that every single 4-digit sequence,  $abcd$ , with  $a, b, c, d \in \{1, 2, \dots, 9\}$ , appears on infinitely many strips.

#6. Let  $N_n$  denote the number of ordered  $n$ -tuples of positive integers  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  such that  $1/a_1 + 1/a_2 + \dots + 1/a_n = 1$ . Determine whether  $N_{10}$  is even or odd.