BMC Monthly Contest 3

Due Nov 30, 2022

Instructions (Read carefully)

• This contest consists of seven problems of varying difficulty. Problems 1–4 comprise the Beginner Contest (for grades 8 and below) and Problems 3–7 comprise the Advanced Contest (intended for grades 9–12). Younger students are also eligible for and will automatically be entered into the advanced contest if they receive a top score on the last 5 problems.

• Each problem is worth 7 points; to receive full points all results must be completely proven. Include all relevant explanations in words and all intermediate calculations; answers without justification will receive little or no credit. Submit solutions to as many problems as you can since partial credit will be awarded for sufficient progress.

• You may type up your solutions or write them by hand. Use separate page(s) for each problem, as they are graded separately. Begin each solution with the contest number, problem number, your name, BMC group, grade level, and school. An example header:

BMC Monthly Contest 3, Problem 2
Evan O’Dorney, BMC Beginners I
Grade 3, Springfield Middle School, Springfield

• Every BMC student should have received an email invitation to join this year’s BMC Monthly Contest course on Gradescope. Submit your solutions by logging into https://www.gradescope.com/ before the deadline, Nov 30, 2022 at 11:00PM. There is a one-hour grace period to resolve any last-minute technical issues, but if you have not yet created your Gradescope account you should do so well ahead of this deadline to sort out any account or access issues.

• If you typed your solutions or if you have access to a scanner, submitting a single PDF file is preferred; otherwise you can take a picture of each page and submit these individually. Be sure that your phrasing is clear and that your writing is legible and in focus - no credit can be given for your hard work if it cannot be understood by the graders. As part of the submission process, you are asked to assign problem numbers to each page of your submission. This step is important, as the grader will not otherwise see your submission when working on a particular problem.

• Three winners are awarded from each of the Beginner and Advanced contests. Winners from last month’s contest automatically receive a 7-point winner’s handicap this time around. Should they continue to win despite this handicap they will receive a 14-point handicap at the next contest, and so on. This rule is to give more participants a chance to win and ultimately encourage broader participation.

• Remember you are not allowed to talk to anyone else about the problems, but you may consult any book you wish. For the full contest rules, please visit https://mathcircle.berkeley.edu/monthly-contest/contest-rules

Enjoy working on these problems and good luck!
Problems for Contest 3

1. How many ways are there to write all numbers from 1 to 9 in the cells of a $3 \times 3$ grid so that for all integers $1 \leq n < 9$, the cell labeled $n$ shares an edge with the cell labeled $n + 1$?

2. A trapezoid has height 12 and diagonals of length 13 and 15. What is its area?

3. A sequence that starts with a positive number has the property that each of the following terms is the perimeter of the square with area equal to the preceding term. If the first three terms form an arithmetic sequence, what are the possible values for the first term of the sequence? (Having a common difference of 0 is allowed.)

4. Let $a$ be any positive integer. Show that there is always a Fibonacci number divisible by $a$.

5. Let $S$ be a finite set of positive real numbers. If $S$’s average is at most 1 but its product is at least $0.9$, show that any three elements of $S$ can form the sides of a triangle.

6. Show that the product of any two side lengths of a triangle is greater than the product of the diameters of the inscribed and circumscribed circles.

7. Mathlandia has 2022 cities. Show that the number of ways to construct 2021 roads connecting pairs of cities such that it is possible to get between any two cities, there are no loops, and each city has exactly one or three roads coming out of it is given by

$$
\frac{4044! \cdot 2019!!}{2023!}.
$$

(The notation $2019!!$ means $2019 \cdot 2017 \cdots \cdot 3 \cdot 1$.)