Putnam E.4

Po-Shen Loh

20 September 2022

1 Problems

Putnam 2004/B1. Let $P(x) = c_n x^n + c_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \cdots + c_0$ be a polynomial with integer coefficients. Suppose that r is a rational number such that $P(r) = 0$. Show that the n numbers

$$c_n r,\ c_n r^2 + c_{n-1} r,\ c_n r^3 + c_{n-1} r^2 + c_{n-2} r,$$
$$\ldots,\ c_n r^n + c_{n-1} r^{n-1} + \cdots + c_1 r$$

are integers.

Putnam 2004/B2. Let m and n be positive integers. Show that

$$\frac{(m+n)!}{(m+n)^{m+n}} < \frac{m!}{m^m}\frac{n!}{n^n}.$$

Putnam 2004/B3. Determine all real numbers $a > 0$ for which there exists a nonnegative continuous function $f(x)$ defined on $[0, a]$ with the property that the region

$$R = \{(x, y); 0 \le x \le a, 0 \le y \le f(x)\}$$

has perimeter k units and area k square units for some real number k.