Putnam E.9

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1 Problems

Putnam 1990/A1. Let

$$T_0 = 2, T_1 = 3, T_2 = 6,$$

and for $n \geq 3$,

$$T_n = (n+4)T_{n-1} - 4nT_{n-2} + (4n-8)T_{n-3}.$$

The first few terms are

$$2, 3, 6, 14, 40, 152, 784, 5168, 40576.$$

Find, with proof, a formula for T_n of the form $T_n = A_n + B_n$, where $\{A_n\}$ and $\{B_n\}$ are well-known sequences.

Putnam 1990/A2. Is $\sqrt{2}$ the limit of a sequence of numbers of the form $\sqrt[3]{n} - \sqrt[3]{m}$ $(n, m = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$?

Putnam 1990/A3. Prove that any convex pentagon whose vertices (no three of which are collinear) have integer coordinates must have area greater than or equal to 5/2.