Putnam Seminar
Fall 2019

Quiz 4
Due September 25

Name:____________________________

Start Time:________________________

End Time:_________________________

Problem 1. Let L_1 and L_2 be distinct lines in the plane. Prove that L_1 and L_2 intersect if and only if, for every real number $\lambda \neq 0$ and every point P not on L_1 or L_2, there exist points A_1 on L_1 and A_2 on L_2 such that $\overrightarrow{PA_2} = \lambda \overrightarrow{PA_1}$.

Problem 2. A 2×3 rectangle has vertices as $(0,0), (2,0), (0,3)$, and $(2,3)$. It rotates 90° clockwise about the point $(2,0)$. It then rotates 90° clockwise about the point $(5,0)$, then 90° clockwise about the point $(7,0)$, and finally, 90° clockwise about the point $(10,0)$. (The side originally on the x-axis is now back on the x-axis.) Find the area of the region above the x-axis and below the curve traced out by the point whose initial position is (1,1).

Problem 3. Given a point (a,b) with $0 < b < a$, determine the minimum perimeter of a triangle with one vertex at (a,b), one on the x-axis, and one on the line $y = x$. You may assume that a triangle of minimum perimeter exists.

Problem 4. Let P be a given (non-degenerate) polyhedron. Prove that there is a constant $c(P) > 0$ with the following property: If a collection of n balls whose volumes sum to V contains the entire surface of P, then $n > c(P)/V^2$.

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