AMM problems May 2013, due before 30 September 2013

TCDmath problem group Mathematics, Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland*

July 1, 2013

11705. Proposed by John Loase. Let C(n) be the number of distinct multisets of two or more primes that sum to n. Prove that $C(n + 1) \ge C(n)$ for all n. (For instance, C(4) = 1, C(5) = 1, and C(6) = 2).

11706. Proposed by Nguyen Thanh Binh. Let ABC and DEF be triangles in the plane. (a) Provide a compass and straightedge construction, which may use ABC and DEF, of a triangle A'B'C' that is similar to ABC and circumscribes DEF.

(b) Among all triangles A'B'C' of the sort described in part (a), determine which one has the greatest area and which one has the greatest perimeter.

11707. Proposed by José Luis Palacios. For $N \ge 1$, consider the following random walk on the (N+1)-cycle with vertices $0, 1, \ldots, N$. The walk begins at vertex 0 and continues until every vertex has been visited and the walk returns to vertex 0. Prove that the expected number of visits to any vertex other than 0 is $\frac{1}{3}(2N+1)$.

11708. Proposed by James W. Moeller. Let $\langle E_n \rangle$ and $\langle P_n \rangle$ be two sequences of distinct orthogonal projections on an infinite-dimensional Hilbert space H, whose ranges are finite-dimensional and satisfy the *intersection property*

$$\operatorname{Ran} E_n \cap (\operatorname{Ran} P_n)^{\perp} = \{O\} = \operatorname{Ran} P_n \cap (\operatorname{Ran} E_n)^{\perp}.$$

Such sequences are strongly uncorrelated if $\langle E_n \rangle$ converges strongly to O while $\langle P_n \rangle$ converges strongly to I. (A sequence $\langle L_n \rangle$ of bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space H converges strongly to L if $L_n x \to L x$ for all $x \in H$.)

Show that the set of strongly uncorrelated sequences of projections is nonempty.

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11709. Proposed by Moubinool Omarjee. Find

$$\int_{x=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} \int_{y=0}^{x} \frac{\cos(x-y) - \cos(x)}{y} dy \, dx.$$

11710. Proposed by B. Voorhees. Let n, k, and r be positive numbers such that $n \ge k+1$ and $r \ge 1$. Show that

$$r^{n+k} - 1 \ge \frac{(kr+n)(nr+k)}{(n-k)^2} \left(1 - \left(\frac{kr+n}{nr+k}\right)^{n-k}\right).$$

11711. Proposed by J.A. Grzesik. Show , for integers n and k with $n \ge 2$ and $1 \le k \le n$, that

$$(-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} k \sum_{j=1, j \neq k}^{n} \frac{1}{k-j} = -\sum_{j=1, j \neq k}^{n} (-1)^{n-j} \binom{n}{j} \frac{j}{k-j}.$$