

**3555.** Proposed by Vahagn Aslanyan, Yerevan, Armenia.

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be positive integers,  $1 < a < b$ , such that  $a$  does not divide  $b$ . Prove that there exists an integer  $x$  such that  $1 < x \leq a$  and both  $a$  and  $b$  divide  $x^{\phi(b)+1} - x$ , where  $\phi$  is Euler's totient function.

**3556.** Proposed by Arkady Alt, San Jose, CA, USA.

For any acute triangle with side lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ , prove that

$$(a + b + c) \min\{a, b, c\} \leq 2ab + 2bc + 2ca - a^2 - b^2 - c^2.$$

**3557.** Proposed by Paolo Perfetti, Dipartimento di Matematica, Università degli studi di Tor Vergata Roma, Rome, Italy.

Let  $\{a_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of positive real numbers with  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k = 1$  and  $a_{k+1} \leq \frac{a_k}{1 - a_k}$ . Let  $S_n^{(p)} = \left( \sum_{k=1}^n a_k^p \right)^{1/p}$ , and for  $p \geq 1$  prove that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=n+1}^n \frac{k}{n} \left( \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{j^{1/p} a_{k+j} a_j}{S_{k+j}^{(p)}} \right)^{1/n} = 0.$$

**3558.** Proposed by Johan Gunardi, student, SMPK 4 BPK PENABUR, Jakarta, Indonesia.

Given two distinct positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ , prove that there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $an$  and  $bn$  have different numbers of digits.

**3559★.** Proposed by Thanos Magkos, 3<sup>rd</sup> High School of Kozani, Kozani, Greece.

Let  $ABC$  be a triangle with side lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , inradius  $r$ , circumradius  $R$ , and semiperimeter  $s$ . Prove that

$$\frac{(b+c)^2}{4bc} \leq \frac{s^2}{3r(4R+r)}.$$

**3560.** Proposed by Pham Van Thuan, Hanoi University of Science, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be real numbers such that  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ . Find the maximum value of

$$f(x, y) = |x - y| + |x^3 - y^3|.$$