

# Week 1

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 6:31 AM

General information about the Putnam exam:

- Date: 12/6/2025. We can decide a time to start (maybe 9 AM and 2 PM).
- 2 sessions: 3 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the afternoon. Each session consists of 6 problems.
- Closed note, closed book, no calculator

Tentative stream of topics:

- Sequence: 3 weeks
- Number theory: 3 weeks
- Polynomials: 2 weeks
- Games and invariance principle: 2 weeks
- Enumerative combinatorics: 3 weeks

To warm up, do the following calculations by hand:

$$5424 + 73463$$

$$5424 - 73463$$

$$100 \times 345$$

$$245 \times 321$$

$$737 \div 36$$

$$2.34 \times 53.2$$

$$3 \times 2^{2^3}$$

Which number is bigger?

$$\sqrt{3} \text{ vs } 2$$

$$\frac{43}{44} \text{ vs } \frac{34}{35}$$

$$1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot \dots \cdot 51 \text{ vs } 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot \dots \cdot 50 \text{ vs } 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot \dots \cdot 52$$

**Assignment:**

Compute  $(225 - 1^2)(225 - 2^2) \dots (225 - 20^2)$