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Herman, Jirí. **Equations and inequalities: elementary problems and theorems in algebra and number theory**, by Jirí Herman, Radan Kucera, and Jaromír Simsa; tr. by Karl Dilcher. Springer, 2000. 344p bibl index afp ISBN 0-387-98942-0, \$69.95

Dilcher's translation of *Metody reseni matematickych Uloh I* (Methods for Solving Mathematics Problems I) by Herman (Gymnazium Brno, Czech Republic), Kucera (Masaryk Univ., Czech Republic), and Simsa (Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic) is intended for first- and second-year university students, with an emphasis on technical skills. The first of three chapters contains a varied assortment of results on finite sums and the theory of equations. Though the results are elementary, they are useful in both their application and derivations. The second chapter develops useful theorems and strategies for inequalities (an area the reviewer feels is neglected in many current curricula). The final chapter is devoted to rudimentary results and techniques in number theory. An excellent source of problems, the book would make a good supplement to many lower-division undergraduate courses and would assist in preparing students for mathematics competitions. Highly recommended for virtually any mathematics course involving problem solving. An excellent addition to any undergraduate mathematics library. Lower-division undergraduates; two-year technical program students.—

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