



**SMC Round 2, 2022**  
**Problems, Solutions and Marking Scheme**

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For SMA  
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# 1 Problems

## Problem 1:

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}}$$

$\forall x_i, y_i \in \mathbb{R}^+, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

## Problem 2:

Find all triples of prime numbers  $(p, q, r)$ , such that  $q|r - 1$ , and

$$\frac{r(p^{q-1} - 1)}{q^{p-1} - 1}$$

is prime.

## Problem 3:

The numbers  $2, 3, 4, \dots, 100$  are written on a board. Chibuike and Ismail play a game of erasing numbers from the board using the following rule: If the number,  $a$ , is erased, then only numbers,  $b$ , such that  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , can be erased in subsequent turns.

The game ends when no such  $b$  exists, to be erased, and the person that erased last wins.

If Chibuike starts the game, does there exist a winning strategy for him? (Determine with proof.)

## Problem 4:

Let  $\Omega$  be a circle with center  $O$  with  $P$ , a point lying outside. Tangents from  $P$  are drawn to touch the circle at  $A$  and  $B$ . A point,  $T$  is arbitrary chosen on major arc  $AB$ , and  $D$  is the foot of  $T$  on  $AB$ .  $K, L, M, N$  are the mid points of  $TA, TB, TD, AB$  respectively.  $PT$  intersects  $MN$  at point  $S$ . Lines  $l_a$  and  $l_b$  are the reflection of  $OA$  and  $OB$  over the angle bisectors of  $\angle SAL$  and  $\angle SBK$ , respectively. Show that  $l_a, l_b$  and  $TD$  are concurrent.

## 2 Solutions

### Problem 1:

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}}$$

$\forall x_i, y_i \in \mathbb{R}^+, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

### Solution 1

Let  $AM(a_i), HM(a_i), QM(a_i)$  denote the arithmetic mean, the harmonic mean, and the quadratic mean respectively, of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then it follows that  $QM(a_i) \geq AM(a_i) \geq HM(a_i) > 0$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} &= AM\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}}\right) \\ &\geq HM\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}}\right) = \frac{1}{AM(\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i})} = \frac{1}{AM(\sqrt{x_i}) + AM(\sqrt{y_i})} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{QM(\sqrt{x_i}) + QM(\sqrt{y_i})} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{AM(x_i)} + \sqrt{AM(y_i)}} = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}}. \end{aligned}$$

### Solution 2 (Induction)

**CLAIM:** Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  and let  $x, y, X, Y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then

$$\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{Y}} + \frac{1-\alpha}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha X + (1-\alpha)x} + \sqrt{\alpha Y + (1-\alpha)y}}.$$

#### Proof 1 of claim:

Fix  $x, y, X, Y \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and consider the function in  $\alpha$ :

$$F(\alpha) = f(\alpha) - \frac{1}{g(\alpha)},$$

where

$$f(\alpha) = \left( \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{Y}} + \frac{1-\alpha}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right), g(\alpha) = \sqrt{\alpha X + (1-\alpha)x} + \sqrt{\alpha Y + (1-\alpha)y}.$$

Observe that  $F(0) = F(1) = 0$ , so it is enough to show that  $F$  is concave.

First observe that  $f$  is linear and  $g$  is concave since

$$g''(\alpha) = -\frac{(X-x)^2}{4\sqrt{\alpha X + (1-\alpha)x}^3} - \frac{(Y-y)^2}{4\sqrt{\alpha Y + (1-\alpha)y}^3} \leq 0.$$

Indeed,

$$F'(\alpha) = f'(\alpha) + \frac{g'(\alpha)}{g(\alpha)^2} \implies F''(\alpha) = 0 + \frac{g''(\alpha)}{g(\alpha)^2} - \frac{2g'(\alpha)^2}{g(\alpha)^3} \leq 0. \quad \square$$

**Proof 2 of claim:**

Let  $h : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be given by

$$h(x, y) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}}.$$

This can be viewed as a surface in 3D.

Then the claim can be written as

$$\alpha h(X, Y) + (1 - \alpha)h(x, y) \geq h[\alpha X + (1 - \alpha)x, \alpha Y + (1 - \alpha)y] = h[\alpha(X, Y) + (1 - \alpha)(x, y)].$$

That is,  $h$  is convex by Jensen's inequality. This equivalent to checking that the Hessian of  $h$  is positive definite.

The Hessian is given by

$$H(h) = \begin{pmatrix} h_{xx} & h_{xy} \\ h_{yx} & h_{yy} \end{pmatrix}.$$

I leave the rest of the working to the reader.  $\square$

Now, we are ready to proceed via induction on  $n$ .

- $n = 1$ : This is trivial as we have equality.
- $n = 2$ : RTP:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_1} + \sqrt{y_1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_2} + \sqrt{y_2}} \right) \geq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{x_1 + x_2} + \sqrt{y_1 + y_2}}.$$

To see this, take  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}, X = x_1, Y = y_1, x = x_2, y = y_2$  in **claim**.

- Assume true for  $n = k$ , some  $k \geq 2$ :

$$S = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^k y_i}}$$

- Show for  $n = k + 1$ : RTP

$$\frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{k+1}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} y_i}}.$$

Now let  $x = x_{k+1}, y = y_{k+1}$ , and

$$X = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k x_i, Y = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k y_i.$$

So,

$$LHS = \frac{1}{k+1} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} = \frac{1}{k+1} \left( kS + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right) \geq \frac{1}{k+1} \left( \frac{k}{\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{Y}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right),$$

$$\geq \frac{\sqrt{k+1}}{\sqrt{kX+x} + \sqrt{kY+y}} = RHS.$$

The first inequality follows from assume step, while the last inequality follows by taking  $\alpha = \frac{k}{k+1}$  in **claim**.  $\square$

**Solution 3** (Partly induction)

**CLAIM:** Let  $x, y, X, Y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{X} + \sqrt{Y}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \geq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{X+x} + \sqrt{Y+y}}.$$

**Proof 1 of claim:**

Apply **claim** as in **solution 2**.  $\square$

**Proof 2 of claim:**

Let  $X = a^2, Y = b^2, x = c^2, y = d^2$ . Then **claim** becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{a+b} + \frac{1}{c+d} &\geq \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{a^2+c^2} + \sqrt{b^2+d^2}} \\ \iff \sqrt{a^2+c^2} + \sqrt{b^2+d^2} &\geq \frac{2\sqrt{2}(a+b)(c+d)}{a+b+c+d}. \end{aligned}$$

Indeed,

$$\sqrt{a^2+c^2} + \sqrt{b^2+d^2} \geq \frac{a+c+b+d}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \frac{2\sqrt{2}(a+b)(c+d)}{a+b+c+d},$$

The first in equality follows from QM-AM, while the second follows from AM-GM (after cross multiplication) or AM-HM (indirectly).  $\square$

First, we prove the problem for  $n = 2^m$ , some  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , by induction on  $m$ .

- $m = 0$ : This is trivial as we have equality.
- $m = 1$ : RTP:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_1} + \sqrt{y_1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_2} + \sqrt{y_2}} \right) \geq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{x_1+x_2} + \sqrt{y_1+y_2}}.$$

This is exactly the same as **claim**.

- Assume true for  $m = k$ , some  $k \geq 1$ :

$$\frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{i=1}^{2^k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{2^k}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_i}}$$

- Show for  $m = k + 1$ : RTP

$$\frac{1}{2^{k+1}} \sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{2^{k+1}}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} y_i}}.$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{2^{k+1}} \sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{i=1}^{2^k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} + \frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{i=1}^{2^k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_{i+2^k}} + \sqrt{y_{i+2^k}}} \right\} \\
 &\geq \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{\sqrt{2^k}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_i}} + \frac{\sqrt{2^k}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_{i+2^k}} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_{i+2^k}}} \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_i}{2^k}} + \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_i}{2^k}}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_{i+2^k}}{2^k}} + \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_{i+2^k}}{2^k}}} \right\} \\
 &\geq \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_i}{2^k} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} x_{i+2^k}}{2^k}} + \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_i}{2^k} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{2^k} y_{i+2^k}}{2^k}}} \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{2^{k+1}}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{2^{k+1}} y_i}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The first inequality follows from assume step, while the last inequality follows from **claim**.

Next, we prove for general  $n \neq 2^m$ . We may assume  $n < 2^m$ , some  $m > 1$ . More specifically, we shall show that if the problem holds for some  $n = k > 3$ , then it also holds for  $n = k - 1$ . This is a finite downward induction.

The construction is quite straight forward. To prove for  $n = k - 1$ , apply the case  $n = k$  by taking  $x_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k - 1$  as before, then take  $x_k$  as their arithmetic mean (same goes for  $y_i$ ). The rest is easy deduction.  $\square$

**Problem 2:**

Find all triples of prime numbers  $(p, q, r)$ , such that  $q|r - 1$ , and

$$\frac{r(p^{q-1} - 1)}{q^{p-1} - 1}$$

is prime.

**Solution**

Let

$$\frac{r(p^{q-1} - 1)}{q^{p-1} - 1} = s,$$

then

$$r(p^{q-1} - 1) = s(q^{p-1} - 1).$$

Note that

$$r = s \iff p^{q-1} - 1 = q^{p-1} - 1 \iff p^{q-1} = q^{p-1} \iff p^{\frac{1}{p-1}} = q^{\frac{1}{q-1}} \iff p = q.$$

To see the final step, take  $\ln$  and consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{\ln(x)}{x-1}$ . Then  $f'(x) = \frac{x-1-x\ln(x)}{x(x-1)^2} < 0$  for  $x > 1$ , since  $x \ln(x) + 1 - x = \int_1^x \ln(t) dt$ .

In this case, need  $q|r - 1$ . Thus we get solution  $(q, q, r)$ , where  $r$  is an odd prime and  $q$  is a prime divisor of  $r - 1$ .

Suppose  $r \neq s$ , then  $p \neq q$ . Thus by FLT, have

$$\begin{aligned} p | (q^{p-1} - 1) &\implies p | r (p^{q-1} - 1) \implies p | r, \\ q | (p^{q-1} - 1) &\implies q | s (q^{p-1} - 1) \implies q | s. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $p = r, q = s$ .

Need  $p^q - p = q^p - q$  and  $q|p - 1$ .

Consider the function  $g(x) = q^x - q - x^q + x$ .

Have  $g(q) = 0$  and  $g'(x) = q^x \ln(q) - qx^{q-1} + 1 > q[q^{x-1} - x^{q-1}] > 0$  for  $x > q \geq 3$ . That is,  $g$  is strictly increasing (and hence positive) in the interval  $(q, +\infty)$ , when  $q \geq 3$ .

However,  $g(p) = 0, p > q$ . Thus,  $q = 2$ .

Now for  $q = 2$ , have  $g(4) = 2$  and  $g'(x) = 2^x \ln(2) - 2x + 1 > 2^{x-1} - 2x = \int_4^x [2^{t-1} \ln(2) - 2] dt \geq 0$  for  $x \geq 4$ . That is,  $g$  is strictly increasing (and hence positive) in the interval  $[4, +\infty)$ .

Again,  $g(p) = 0, p \geq 3$ , so we conclude that  $p = 3$ .

Therefore,  $p = r = 3, q = 2$ .

**Note 1:**

The first inequality may be avoided by taking the two cases:  $p = q$  and  $p \neq q$ , as opposed to taking cases  $r = s$  and  $r \neq s$  as in the proof above.

**Note 2:**

Since the domains can be restricted to positive integers, the above inequalities can also be shown using **induction** or **standard** inequality. The induction approach is standard, so I will only present the standard inequality application in the case of  $p^q - p = q^p - q, q|p - 1$ :

If  $q \geq 3$ .

Then  $p^q > p^q - p = q^p - q > q^{p-1}$ . Thus  $p > q^{\frac{p-1}{q}}$ . (This still holds in the case of  $p^{q-1} = q^{p-1}$ .)  
 $q|p - 1 \implies p = 2qk + 1$ , for some  $k \geq 1$ .

So  $2kq + 1 = p > q^{2k} \implies 2k \geq q^{2k-1} \geq 1 + (q-1)(q^{2k-2} + q^{2k-3} + \dots + q + 1) \geq 1 + 2(2k-1)$ .  
 This is a contradiction.

If  $q = 2$ . (Then  $p \geq 3$ .)

First,  $n \geq 1 \implies 2^n = 2(1 + 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{n-3} + 2^{n-2}) \geq 2n$ .

Hence,

$$p \binom{p-1}{2} = 2^{p-1} - 1 = \left(2^{\frac{p-1}{2}} + 1\right) \left(2^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1\right) \geq \left(2 \binom{p-1}{2} + 1\right) \left(2 \binom{p-1}{2} - 1\right) = p(p-2).$$

So,  $p = 3$ .



**Problem 3:**

The numbers  $2, 3, 4, \dots, 100$  are written on a board. Chibuike and Ismail play a game of erasing numbers from the board using the following rule: If the number,  $a$ , is erased, then only numbers,  $b$ , such that  $\gcd(a, b) = 1$ , can be erased in subsequent turns.

The game ends when no such  $b$  exists, to be erased, and the person that erased last wins.

If Chibuike starts the game, does there exist a winning strategy for him? (Determine with proof.)

**Solution**

Chibuike (the first player) has a winning strategy as follows:

First note that every pair of numbers erased will be coprime. Let  $S$  denote the set of these numbers and let  $p$  denote a prime. This implies that

- If  $a \in S$  and  $p|a$ , then  $p < 100$ . There are exactly 25 such primes.
- If  $p < 100$ , then there exists exactly one  $a \in S$  such that  $p|a$ .
- If  $a \in S$ , then there are at most 3 primes satisfying  $p|a$ . Moreover, they form one of the sets  $\{2, 3, 11\}$ ,  $\{2, 3, 13\}$ , or a subset of  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ . Thus only one such number can belong to  $S$ .
- If  $a \in S$  has exactly 2 prime divisors, then each must have a divisor from the set  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ . Thus, there are at most 4 such numbers.
- If  $a \in S$  has 3 prime divisors, then there is at most one other element of  $S$  with more than one prime divisor, except in the special cases when  $S = \{66, 91, 85, \dots\}$ ,  $\{66, 91, 85, \dots\}$ ,  $\{66, 91, 95, \dots\}$ ,  $\{78, 77, 85, \dots\}$ , or  $\{78, 77, 95, \dots\}$ .
- If  $p > 50$ , then  $p \in S$ .

In what follows, we present a simple strategy:

To begin the game, Chibuike erases  $14 = 2 \cdot 7$ .

- If Ismail erases  $3^a$ , then Chibuike will erase 55.
- If Ismail erases  $5^a$ , then Chibuike will erase 33.
- If Ismail erases  $3^a 5^b$ , then Chibuike will erase 11.
- If Ismail erases  $3^a p$ , where  $p > 10$  is prime, then Chibuike will erase 5.
- If Ismail erases  $5p$ , where  $p > 10$  is prime, then Chibuike will erase 3.
- If Ismail erases  $p > 10$ , then Chibuike will erase 15.

After this, no player can erase a number that is a multiple of 2, 3, 5 or 7, so it must be prime greater than 10.

Since 5 primes have been used up so far, the remaining 20 primes ensures that Chibuike erases the last prime.

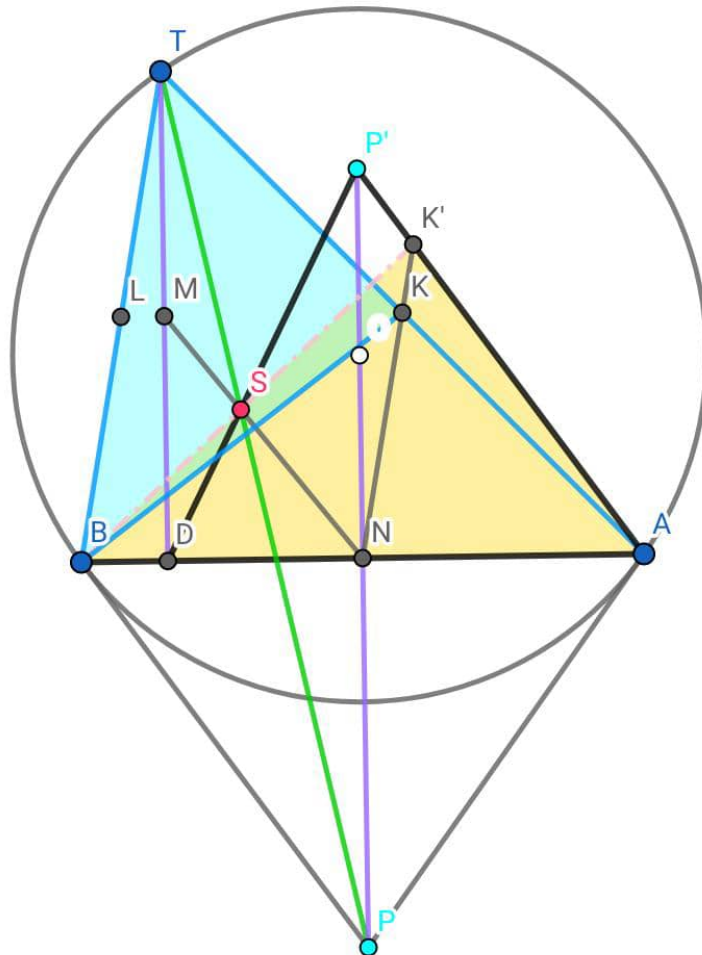
Note that in the strategy above, the role of 2 and 3 can be swapped. Same goes for 5 and 7, and also for 11 and 13.

**Problem 4:**

Let  $\Omega$  be a circle with center  $O$  with  $P$ , a point lying outside. Tangents from  $P$  are drawn to touch the circle at  $A$  and  $B$ . A point,  $T$  is arbitrary chosen on major arc  $AB$ , and  $D$  is the foot of  $T$  on  $AB$ .  $K, L, M, N$  are the mid points of  $TA, TB, TD, AB$  respectively.  $PT$  intersects  $MN$  at point  $S$ . Lines  $l_a$  and  $l_b$  are the reflection of  $OA$  and  $OB$  over the angle bisectors of  $\angle SAL$  and  $\angle SBK$ , respectively. Show that  $l_a, l_b$  and  $TD$  are concurrent.

**Solution 1**

**CLAIM:**  $BS$  is the reflection of  $BK$  on the angle bisector of  $\angle ABT$ , which in turn is equal to the angle bisector of  $\angle SBK$ . Similarly,  $AS$  is the reflection of  $AL$  on the angle bisector of  $\angle BAT$ , which in turn is equal to the angle bisector of  $\angle SAL$ .



*Proof.* Let  $P'$  be the reflection of  $P$  on  $AB$ . Then  $PP'$  is parallel to  $TD$ ,  $N$  is midpoint of  $PP'$ ,  $M$  is midpoint of  $TD$ ,  $PST$  is collinear, and  $NSM$  is collinear. Thus, by homothety, have  $P'SD$

is also collinear and  $\frac{DS}{SP'} = \frac{DT}{PP'}$ .

Now, let  $K'$  be the point of intersection of  $BS$  and  $AP'$ . We shall show that  $\frac{K'A}{AB} = \frac{KT}{TB}$ . Since  $\angle K'AB = \angle PAB = \angle KTB$ , it will follow from side S-A-S criteria that  $\triangle K'AB$  and  $\triangle KTB$  are similar, so that  $\angle ABS = \angle K'BA = \angle KBT$  as desired.

Indeed, Menalaus's theorem applied to line  $BSK'$  in  $\triangle P'AD$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \frac{AB}{BD} \cdot \frac{DS}{SP'} \cdot \frac{P'K'}{K'A} = \frac{AB}{BD} \cdot \frac{DT}{PP'} \cdot \frac{P'K'}{K'A} = \frac{2AN}{BD} \cdot \frac{DT}{2PN} \cdot \frac{PA - K'A}{K'A} \\ &\implies 1 = \frac{AN}{PN} \cdot \frac{DT}{BD} \cdot \frac{PA - K'A}{K'A} = \frac{\tan(\angle ABT)}{\tan(\angle BAP)} \cdot \frac{PA - K'A}{K'A} \\ &\implies 1 = \frac{AN \sin(\angle ABT) - K'A \sin(\angle ABT) \cos(\angle BAP)}{K'A \sin(\angle BAP) \cos(\angle ABT)} \\ &\implies K'A \sin(\angle BAP + \angle ABT) = \frac{1}{2} AB \sin(\angle ABT) \\ &\implies \frac{K'A}{AB} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \sin(\angle ABT)}{\sin(\angle BAT)} = \frac{KT}{TB}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Using the claim, we have that  $l_a$  and  $l_b$  are the reflection of  $OA$  and  $OB$  over the angle bisectors of  $\angle BAT$  and  $\angle ABT$ , respectively. This implies that  $l_a$  and  $l_b$  are the altitudes of  $\triangle ABT$  from  $A$  and  $B$  respectively. The third altitude is  $TD$  so it follows that  $l_a, l_b$  and  $TD$  are concurrent. □

## Solution 2

### Lemma 1:

In a triangle  $ABC$  with  $D, E, F$  midpoints of sides  $BC, CA$  and  $AB$  respectively, let  $J, K, L$  be points on  $EF, FD$  and  $DE$  respectively, such that  $AJ \perp EF, BK \perp FD$  and  $CL \perp DE$ .

- (i)  $DJ, EK$  and  $FL$  are concurrent.
- (ii) Suppose the point of concurrency in (i) is  $X$ , then  $AX$  is the  $A$ -symmedian in triangle  $ABC$ . Furthermore, this will imply that  $X$  is the concurrency point of the symmedians in triangle  $ABC$  since  $B$  or  $C$  can take the place of  $A$ . Hence, we have 6 concurrent lines. (Symmedian is the reflection of the median over the angle bisector of the respective angle)

### Proof:

$D, E, F$  are the midpoints of sides  $BC, CA$  and  $AB$  respectively, hence we have  $EF \parallel BC, FD \parallel CA, DE \parallel AB$ . Let  $AJ$  intersect  $BC$  at  $P, BK$  intersect  $CA$  at  $Q$  and  $CL$  intersect  $AB$  at  $R$ . Since  $AJ \perp EF, BK \perp FD$  and  $CL \perp DE$ , we have that  $AP \perp BC, BQ \perp CA$  and  $CR \perp AB$  (They are altitudes in triangle  $ABC$ ). It is well known that the altitudes of a triangle are concurrent, therefore,  $AP, BQ$  and  $CR$  are concurrent, hence by Ceva's theorem, we have that

$$\frac{|AR|}{|RB|} \cdot \frac{|BP|}{|PC|} \cdot \frac{|CQ|}{|QA|} = 1.$$

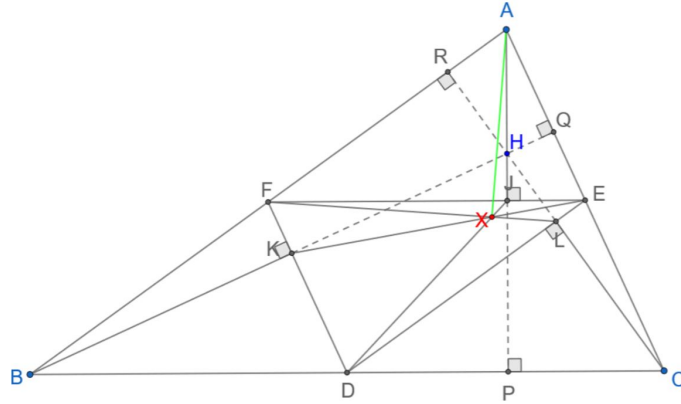
Also, from  $EF \parallel BC, FD \parallel CA, DE \parallel AB$ , we have the following ratio equalities:

$$\frac{|BP|}{|PC|} = \frac{|FJ|}{|JE|}, \frac{|CQ|}{|QA|} = \frac{|DK|}{|KF|} \text{ and } \frac{|AR|}{|RB|} = \frac{|EL|}{|LD|}.$$

Multiplying these ratios gives,

$$\frac{|DK|}{|KF|} \cdot \frac{|FJ|}{|JE|} \cdot \frac{|EL|}{|LD|} = \frac{|AR|}{|RB|} \cdot \frac{|BP|}{|PC|} \cdot \frac{|CQ|}{|QA|} = 1.$$

Hence, we have  $\frac{|DK|}{|KF|} \cdot \frac{|FJ|}{|JE|} \cdot \frac{|EL|}{|LD|} = 1$  and by Ceva's theorem again, we have that  $DJ, EK$  and  $FL$  are concurrent. This completes the proof for (i). By Sine rule on triangle  $AXE$ , we have



$$\sin(\angle XAE) = \frac{\sin(\angle AEX)}{|AX|} \cdot |EX|.$$

$$\text{Similarly, by Sine rule on triangle } AXF, \sin(\angle XAF) = \frac{\sin(\angle AFX)}{|AX|} \cdot |FX|.$$

These two equations combine to give

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \frac{|EX| \sin(\angle AEX)}{|FX| \sin(\angle AFX)} \tag{1}$$

$$\text{From Sine rule on triangle } DKE, \sin(\angle DKE) = \frac{\sin(\angle EDK)}{|EK|} \cdot |DE|.$$

$$\text{Analogously, from triangle } DLF, \sin(\angle DLF) = \frac{\sin(\angle FDL)}{|FL|} \cdot |DF|.$$

Combining the last two equations, noting that  $\angle EDK = \angle FDL$ , we have,

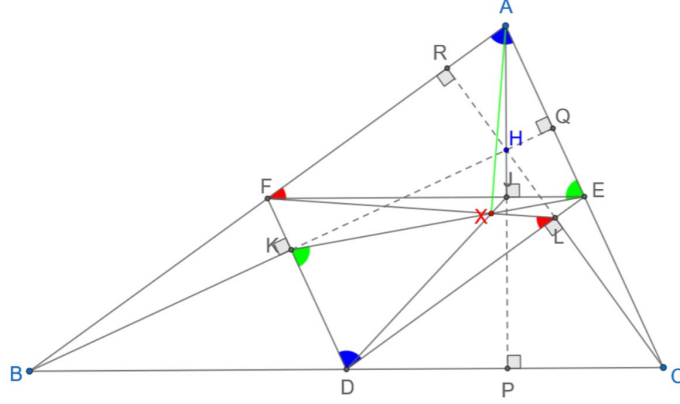
$$\frac{\sin(\angle DKE)}{\sin(\angle DLF)} = \frac{|DE||FL|}{|DF||EK|}.$$

Recall that  $EF \parallel BC, FD \parallel CA, DE \parallel AB$ , hence  $AEDF$  is a parallelogram and  $\angle AEX = \angle DKE, \angle AFX = \angle DLF$ . This gives

$$\frac{\sin(\angle AEX)}{\sin(\angle AFX)} = \frac{|DE||FL|}{|DF||EK|}.$$

Hence, (1) becomes

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \frac{|EX| \sin(\angle AEX)}{|FX| \sin(\angle AFX)} = \frac{|EX||DE||FL|}{|FX||DF||EK|} \tag{2}$$



We apply Extended Law of Sines on triangle  $ABC$ .

Let the circumradius of triangle  $ABC$  be  $R$  units. This gives us that  $|BC| = 2R \sin A$ ,  $|CA| = 2R \sin B$  and  $|AB| = 2R \sin C$  where  $\angle CAB = A$ ,  $\angle ABC = B$  and  $\angle BCA = C$ .

From right angled triangle  $ACR$ ,  $|AR| = 2R \sin B \cos A$ .

From  $ED \parallel AB$  we have that  $\triangle ACR \sim \triangle ECL$ .

Hence  $\frac{|EL|}{|AR|} = \frac{|EC|}{|AC|} = \frac{1}{2}$  (Since  $E$  is the midpoint of  $CA$ )

$$\implies |EL| = R \sin B \cos A. \quad (3)$$

Analogously, for  $|FK|$ , we have that from right angled triangle  $ABQ$ ,  $|AQ| = 2R \sin C \cos A$ .

From  $FD \parallel AC$  we have that  $\triangle ABQ \sim \triangle FBK$ .

Hence  $\frac{|FK|}{|AQ|} = \frac{|FB|}{|AB|} = \frac{1}{2}$  (Since  $F$  is the midpoint of  $AB$ )

$$\implies |FK| = R \sin C \cos A. \quad (4)$$

Since  $AEDF$  is a parallelogram, we have that  $|AF| = |DE|$  and  $|AE| = |DF|$ , hence  $|DE| = R \sin C$  and  $|DF| = R \sin B$ .

Equation (2) then becomes

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \frac{|EX||FL| \sin C}{|FX||EK| \sin B} \quad (5)$$

In triangle  $EKF$ , we have that  $\angle KFE = \angle FEA$  ( $FD \parallel CA$ )  $\angle FEA = \angle BCA = C$  ( $EF \parallel BC$ ).

Now, applying Sine rule,

$$\frac{\sin(\angle KFE)}{\sin(\angle FEK)} = \frac{|EK|}{|FK|} \implies \frac{\sin C}{\sin(\angle FEK)} = \frac{|EK|}{|FK|}.$$

Similarly, in triangle  $ELF$ , we have that  $\angle LEF = \angle EFA$  ( $DE \parallel AB$ ),  $\angle EFA = \angle ABC = B$  ( $EF \parallel BC$ ).

Now, applying Sine rule,

$$\frac{\sin(\angle LEF)}{\sin(\angle EFL)} = \frac{|FL|}{|EL|} \implies \frac{\sin B}{\sin(\angle EFL)} = \frac{|FL|}{|EL|}.$$

Combining the last two lines of equality, we have

$$\frac{|FL|}{|EK|} = \left( \frac{\sin B}{\sin C} \right) \frac{|EL| \sin(\angle FEK)}{|FK| \sin(\angle EFL)}.$$

From (3) and (4) we further get that

$$\frac{|FL|}{|EK|} = \left( \frac{\sin B}{\sin C} \right)^2 \frac{\sin(\angle FEK)}{\sin(\angle EFL)}.$$

Hence (5) gives

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \left( \frac{\sin B}{\sin C} \right) \left( \frac{|EX| \sin(\angle FEK)}{|FX| \sin(\angle EFL)} \right).$$

But, from Sine rule on triangle  $EFX$ , we have that  $\frac{|EX| \sin(\angle FEX)}{|FX| \sin(\angle EFX)} = 1$ , but  $\sin(\angle FEK) = \sin(\angle FEX)$  and  $\sin(\angle EFL) = \sin(\angle EFX)$ , hence  $\frac{|EX| \sin(\angle FEK)}{|FX| \sin(\angle EFL)} = \frac{|EX| \sin(\angle FEX)}{|FX| \sin(\angle EFX)} = 1$ . Hence, we have

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \frac{\sin B}{\sin C}. \quad (6)$$

Now, finally, we compute  $\frac{\sin(\angle DAB)}{\sin(\angle DAC)}$ . Applying Sine rule to triangle  $ABD$ , we have that  $\sin(\angle DAB) = \frac{\sin B}{|AD|} |BD|$  and applying Sine rule to triangle  $ACD$ , we have that  $\sin(\angle DAC) = \frac{\sin C}{|AD|} |CD|$ . Dividing and noting that  $|BD| = |CD|$  we get

$$\frac{\sin(\angle DAB)}{\sin(\angle DAC)} = \frac{\sin B}{\sin C}$$

. Hence, we have that

$$\frac{\sin(\angle XAE)}{\sin(\angle XAF)} = \frac{\sin(\angle DAB)}{\sin(\angle DAC)}.$$

But  $\angle XAE + \angle XAF = \angle DAB = \angle DAC = A$ . Consider the following:

$$\frac{\sin(X - a)}{\sin a} = \frac{\sin(X - b)}{\sin b}.$$

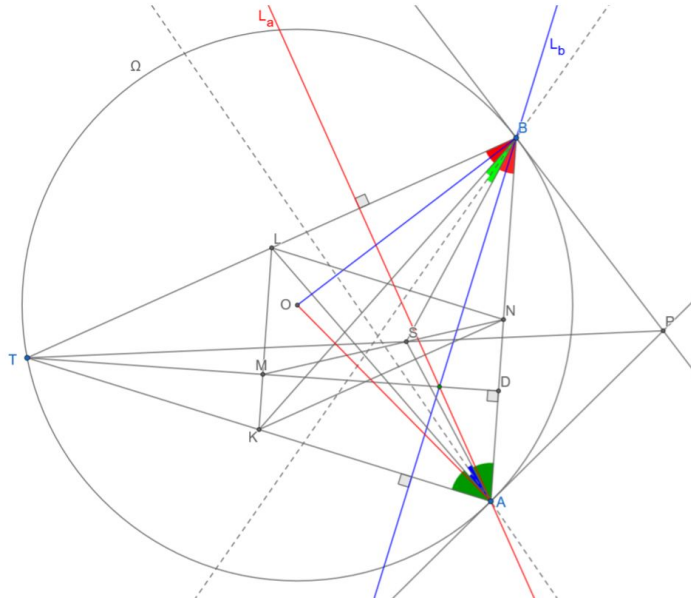
Observe that  $X - a + a = X - b + b = X$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(\sin X \cos a - \sin a \cos X)}{\sin a} &= \frac{(\sin X \cos b - \sin b \cos X)}{\sin b} \implies \sin X \cot a - \cos X = \sin X \\ &\cot b - \cos X \implies \cot a = \cot b \end{aligned}$$

Using this, we can conclude that  $\cot(\angle XAE) = \cot(\angle DAB)$  and  $\cot(\angle XAF) = \cot(\angle DAC)$  and hence,  $\angle XAE = \angle DAB, \angle XAF = \angle DAC$  ( $\cot(x)$  is injective in the range  $(0, \pi)$ ). This implies that  $AX$  is the  $A$ -symmedian in triangle  $ABC$ . Similarly,  $BX$  is the  $B$ -symmedian and  $CX$  is the  $C$ -symmedian and  $X$  is the concurrency point of the symmedians in triangle  $ABC$ . This completes the proof of the lemma.

Lemma 2 Let the tangents to the circumcircle of triangle  $ABC$  at  $B$  and  $C$  meet at  $T$ .  $AT$  is the  $A$ -symmedian of triangle  $ABC$ . Proof is overlooked as this lemma is quite well known.

Now to the problem. By Lemma 2,  $TP$  is the  $T$ -symmedian of triangle  $ABT$ . Since  $K, L$  and  $M$  are midpoints of  $TA, TB$  and  $TD$  respectively, we have that  $K, L$  and  $M$  are collinear and  $KL \parallel AB$ . By Lemma 1,  $S$  is the point of concurrency of the symmedians in triangle  $ABT$ . Hence,  $AS$  is the reflection of  $AL$  over the angle bisector of  $\angle TAB$ , and therefore, the angle bisector of  $\angle SAL$  is the same line as the angle bisector of  $\angle TAB$ . Analogously,  $BS$  is the reflection of  $BK$



over the angle bisector of  $\angle TBA$ , and therefore, the angle bisector of  $\angle SBK$  is the same line as the angle bisector of  $\angle TBA$ . Now, the reflection of  $OA$  over the angle bisector of  $\angle TAB$  is the altitude from  $A$  in triangle  $ABT$ . Likewise, the reflection of  $OB$  over the angle bisector of  $\angle TBA$  is the altitude from  $B$  in triangle  $ABT$ . Hence,  $l_a, l_b$  and  $TD$  are altitudes in triangle  $ABT$  and are hence concurrent. *qed*



### 3 Marking Scheme

#### Problem 1: (7 points)

Prove that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_i} + \sqrt{y_i}} \geq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}}$$

$\forall x_i, y_i \in \mathbb{R}^+, i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$

#### Full Solution:

Every full solution deserves **7 points**.

- 1 minor error. [-1 points]  
Or
- 2 or 3 minor errors. [-2 points]

#### Partial Solution:

Partial solutions can gain up to a maximum of **5 points**. The following are additive:

- Applying AM-HM inequality properly as in **solution 1**. [3 points]
- Applying QM-AM inequality properly as in **solution 1**. [3 points]
- Proving for the case  $n = 2$  without proving **claim** as in **solution 2**. [3 points]
- Proving **claim** as in **solution 2**. [5 points]
- Checking the case  $n = 1$  as in **solutions 2 & 3**. [0 points]
- Proving for the case  $n = 2^m$  by assuming for the case  $n = 2$  as in **solution 3**. [2 points]
- Proving for the case  $n \neq 2^m$  by assuming for the case  $n = 2^m$  as in **solution 3**. [2 points]

#### Good Attempts:

Good attempts that don't conform to the official solutions can gain at most **2 points**.

Making correct claims that are vital to solving the problem may be awarded **1 point**.

**Problem 2: (7 points)**

Find all triples of prime numbers  $(p, q, r)$ , such that  $q|r - 1$ , and

$$\frac{r(p^{q-1} - 1)}{q^{p-1} - 1}$$

is prime.

**Full Solution:**

Every full solution deserves **7 points**.

- 1 minor error. [**-1 points**]

Or

- 2 or 3 minor errors. [**-2 points**]

**Partial Solution:**

Partial solutions can gain up to a maximum of **5 points**. The following are additive:

- Observing the set of solutions  $(q, q, r)$ . [**1 point**]

Or

Deducing the set of solutions  $(q, q, r)$  such that  $r \geq 3, q|r - 1$  from the case  $p = q$ . [**2 points**]

Or

Deducing the set of solutions  $(q, q, r)$  such that  $r \geq 3, q|r - 1$  from the case  $r = s$ . [**3 points**]

- Deducing the set of solutions  $(q, q, r)$  without stating  $r \geq 3, q|r - 1$ . [**-1 point**]
- Stating the solution  $(3, 2, 3)$ . [**1 points**]
- Deducing  $p^q - p = q^p - q, q|p - 1$  by applying FLT (or otherwise), in the case  $r \neq s, p \neq q$ . [**1 points**]  
Note: Not points for only using FLT once.
- Showing that  $(p, q) = (3, 2)$  is the only solution to  $p^q - p = q^p - q, q|p - 1$  in the case  $q = 2$ . [**2 points**]
- Showing that no solution to  $p^q - p = q^p - q, q|p - 1$  in the case  $q \geq 3$ . [**2 points**]

**Good Attempts:**

Good attempts that don't conform to the official solutions can gain at most **2 points**.

Making correct claims that are vital to solving the problem may be awarded **1 point**.

**Problem 3:**

The numbers  $2, 3, 4, \dots, 100$  are written on a board. Chibuike and Ismail play a game of erasing numbers from the board using the following rule: If the number,  $a$ , is erased, then only numbers,  $b$ , such that  $\gcd(a, b)$ , can be erased in subsequent turns.

The game ends when no such  $b$  exists, to be erased, and the person that erased last wins.

If Chibuike starts the game, does there exist a winning strategy? If yes, whom? (Determine with proof.)

**Full Solution:**

Every full solution deserves **7 points**.

- 1 minor error. [-1 points]

Or

- 2 or 3 minor errors. [-2 points]

**Good Approach:**

Good approaches can gain up to a maximum of **4 points**. The following are additive:

Points are gained by showing

- If  $a \in S$  and  $p|a$ , then  $p < 100$ . There are exactly 25 such primes. [1 point]
- If  $p < 100$ , then there exists exactly one  $a \in S$  such that  $p|a$ . [1 point]
- If  $a \in S$ , then there are at most 3 primes satisfying  $p|a$ . Moreover, they form one of the sets  $\{2, 3, 11\}$ ,  $\{2, 3, 13\}$ , or a subset of  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ . Thus only one such number can belong to  $S$ . [1 point]
- If  $a \in S$  has exactly 2 prime divisors, then each must have a divisor from the set  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ . Thus, there are at most 4 such numbers. [1 point]
- If  $a \in S$  has 3 prime divisors, then there is at most one other element of  $S$  with more than one prime divisor, except in the special cases when  $S = \{66, 91, 85, \dots\}$ ,  $\{66, 91, 85, \dots\}$ ,  $\{66, 91, 95, \dots\}$ ,  $\{78, 77, 85, \dots\}$ , or  $\{78, 77, 95, \dots\}$ . [1 point]
- If  $p > 50$ , then  $p \in S$ . [1 point]

**Good attempts:**

Good attempts that don't conform to the official solutions can gain at most **2 points**.

Making correct claims that are vital to solving the problem may be awarded **1 point**.

**Demonstrating an intuitive strategy (regardless of final answers) may be awarded up to 4 points.**

**Note:** other solution path ways may exist so the scheme is still open for discussion depending on the need.

**Problem 4:**

Let  $\Omega$  be a circle with center  $O$  with  $P$ , a point lying outside. Tangents from  $P$  are drawn to touch the circle at  $A$  and  $B$ . A point,  $T$  is arbitrary chosen on major arc  $AB$ , and  $D$  is the foot of  $T$  on  $AB$ .  $K, L, M, N$  are the mid points of  $TA, TB, TD, AB$  respectively.  $PT$  intersects  $MN$  at point  $S$ . Lines  $l_a$  and  $l_b$  are the reflection of  $OA$  and  $OB$  over the angle bisectors of  $\angle SAL$  and  $\angle SBK$ , respectively. Show that  $l_a, l_b$  and  $TD$  are concurrent.

**Full Solution:**

Every full solution deserves **7 points**.

- 1 minor error. [**-1 points**]

Or

- 2 or 3 minor errors. [**-2 points**]

**Partial Solution:**

Partial solutions can gain up to a maximum of **5 points**. The following are additive:

- Applying **claim** as in **solution 1**. [**2 points**]
- Proving **claim** as in **solution 1**. [**5 points**]  
The breakdown is as follows:
  - Introducing point  $P'$ . [**1 point**]
  - Show that  $D, S, P'$  are collinear. [**1 point**]
  - Introduce point  $K'$  and apply Menalaus's theorem. [**1 point**]
  - Show that  $\frac{K'A}{AB} = \frac{KT}{TB}$ . [**1 point**]
  - Show that  $\Delta K'AB$  and  $\Delta KTB$  are similar. [**1 point**]
- Stating clearly (without proof) **Lemma 1**. [**1 point**]
- Stating **Lemma 2**. [**0 points**]
- Applying **Lemma 1** and **Lemma 2** (after claiming/stating them) to conclude. [**1 point**]
- Proving **Lemma 2** as in **solution 2**. [**1 point**]
- Proving **Lemma 1** as in **solution 2**. [**4 points**]  
The breakdown is as follows:
  - Proving part (i). [**1 point**]
  - Getting equation 5 (or something comparable). [**1 point**]
  - Getting equation 6 (after equation 5), or something comparable. [**1 point**]
  - Completing the proof. [**1 point**]

**Good Attempts:**

Good attempts that don't conform to the officials solutions can gain at most **2 points**.

Making correct claims that are vital to solving the problem may be awarded **1 point**.