

# APMO SOLUTIONS

**PROBLEM 1.** Let  $F$  be the set of all  $n$ -tuples  $(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$  where each  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  is a subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, 1998\}$ . Let  $|A|$  denote the number of elements of the set  $A$ . Find the number

$$\sum_{(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n) \in F} |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n|.$$

MARKING SCHEME:

Let  $M$  be a subset of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, 1998\}$  and let  $|M| = k$ . Then the set  $M$  can be obtained as the union of  $t$  sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_t$  in  $(2^t - 1)^k$  different ways since each element  $x \in M$  can belong to  $2^t - 1$  nonempty families of subsets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_t$ .

*3 points for describing the correct counting method*

Thus we have

$$\sum_{(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_t) \in F} |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_t| = \sum_{k=1}^{1998} k \binom{1998}{k} (2^t - 1)^k$$

*2 points for setting up the above formula*

$$= 1998(2^t - 1) \sum_{k=0}^{1997} \binom{1997}{k} (2^t - 1)^k = 1998(2^t - 1) 2^{1997t}.$$

*2 points for correctly carrying out the computation*

**PROBLEM 2.** Show that for any positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $(36a + b)(a + 36b)$  cannot be a power of 2.

MARKING SCHEME:

Suppose that  $(36a + b)(a + 36b)$  is a power of 2 for some positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ . Write  $36a + b = 2^m = r$  and  $a + 36b = 2^n = s$ . Then

$$36r - s = 35 \times 37a \text{ and } 36s - r = 35 \times 37b.$$

Hence

$$1/36 < r/s = 2^{m-n} < 36, \text{ or } -6 < m - n < 6.$$

*2 points for the basic setting and observation*

Furthermore,

$$4^n(4^{m-n} - 1) = r^2 - s^2 = 35 \times 37(a^2 - b^2).$$

Thus

$$4^{m-n} \equiv 1 \pmod{37}.$$

*2 points for this congruence*

Observe that the 9th power of 4 is the smallest power of 4 that is congruent to 1 (mod 37). Thus  $9 \mid (m - n)$ . Also note that  $m \neq n$ . Hence  $|m - n| \geq 9$ , which is not possible because  $|m - n| < 6$ .

*3 points for the final conclusion*

**Problem 3.** Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers. Prove that

$$\left(1 + \frac{a}{b}\right) \left(1 + \frac{b}{c}\right) \left(1 + \frac{c}{a}\right) \geq 2 \left(1 + \frac{a+b+c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}\right).$$

MARKING SCHEME:

Let

$$x = \frac{a}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}, \quad y = \frac{b}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}, \quad z = \frac{c}{\sqrt[3]{abc}}.$$

We need to show that

$$\left(1 + \frac{x}{y}\right) \left(1 + \frac{y}{z}\right) \left(1 + \frac{z}{x}\right) \geq 2(1 + x + y + z)$$

or, since  $xyz = 1$ ,

$$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) \geq 2 + 2(x+y+z) \quad (1)$$

*2 points for (1) by making change of variables or  
by assuming  $abc = 1$  without loss of generality*

which is equivalent to

$$(x+y+z)(xy+yz+zx-2) - xyz \geq 2 \quad (2)$$

*2 points for reducing to (2)*

Since  $xyz = 1$ , the AM-GM inequality implies

$$x + y + z \geq 3 \text{ and } xy + yz + zx \geq 3$$

So, (2) follows.

*3 points for successful application of AM-GM inequality*

# ALTERNATE SOLUTION

*2 points for (1) by making change of variables or by assuming  $abc = 1$  without loss of generality*

From (1), one can proceed as follows:

$$(x+y)(y+z)(z+x) = 2xyz + x^2(y+z) + y^2(z+x) + z^2(x+y) = 2 + x\left(\frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}\right) + y\left(\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{x}\right) + z\left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}\right).$$

Thus, (1) is equivalent to

$$x\left(\frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}\right) + y\left(\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{x}\right) + z\left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}\right) \geq 2(x+y+z).$$

*2 points for reducing to (3)*

Assume that  $x \geq y \geq z$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} \geq \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{x} \geq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}$$

hence we can apply Chebyshev's inequality

*1 points for checking the hypothesis of Chebyshev's inequality*

to get

$$x\left(\frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z}\right) + y\left(\frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{x}\right) + z\left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y}\right) \geq \frac{1}{3}(x+y+z)\left(\frac{2}{x} + \frac{2}{y} + \frac{2}{z}\right).$$

From the AM-GM inequality and the fact that  $xyz = 1$  we obtain

$$\left(\frac{2}{x} + \frac{2}{y} + \frac{2}{z}\right) \geq 6$$

and hence (3) follows. *2 points for successful applications of Chebyshev's and AM-GM inequalities*

**Problem 4.** Let  $ABC$  be a triangle and  $D$  the foot of the altitude from  $A$ . Let  $E$  and  $F$  be on a line passing through  $D$  such that  $AE$  is perpendicular to  $BE$ ,  $AF$  is perpendicular to  $CF$ , and  $E$  and  $F$  are different from  $D$ . Let  $M$  and  $N$  be the midpoints of the line segments  $BC$  and  $EF$ , respectively. Prove that  $AN$  is perpendicular to  $NM$ .

**MARKING SCHEME:**

Let  $P$  be such that  $ADMP$  is a rectangle. Choose points  $Q$  and  $R$  on the line  $AP$  such that  $QBDA$  and  $ADCR$  are rectangles. Points  $Q$ ,  $B$  and  $D$  lie on the circle of diameter  $AB$ , hence  $ADEQ$  is a cyclic quadrilateral. Similarly,  $R$ ,  $C$  and  $D$  lie on the circle of diameter  $AC$ , hence  $ADFR$  is a cyclic quadrilateral.

*1 point for proving  $ADEQ$  and/or  $ADFR$  are cyclic*

The two quadrilaterals share a side, and have the same supporting lines for other two sides. Since they are cyclic, the remaining two sides  $EQ$  and  $RF$  must be parallel. Thus  $E$ ,  $Q$ ,  $R$  and  $F$  are vertices of a trapezoid.

*1 point for proving  $EQ \parallel RF$*

On the other hand, in rectangle  $QBCR$   $M$  is the midpoint of  $BC$ , and  $MP$  is parallel to  $QB$ , so  $P$  is the midpoint of  $QR$ . Since  $N$  is the midpoint of  $EF$ , we obtain that, in trapezoid  $QEFR$ ,  $NP$  is parallel to  $QE$ .

*2 points for proving  $NP \parallel QE$*

This implies that quadrilateral  $ADNP$  is cyclic, having the sides parallel to the sides of  $ADFR$ . Moreover,  $A$  lies on the circle circumscribed to this quadrilateral, because the other three vertices of the rectangle  $ADMP$  lie on it. Hence the quadrilateral  $ADMN$  is cyclic.

*2 points for proving  $ADNP$  and  $ADMN$  are cyclic*

Consequently,  $\angle ANM = 180^\circ - \angle ADM = 90^\circ$ .

*1 point for proving  $\angle ANM = 180^\circ - \angle ADM = 90^\circ$*



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**Problem 5.** Determine the largest of all integers  $n$  with the property that  $n$  is divisible by all positive integers that are less than  $\sqrt[n]{n}$ .

**MARKING SCHEME:**

Observation from that  $\text{lcm}(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) = 420$  is divisible by every integer less than or equal to  $7 = \lfloor \sqrt[7]{420} \rfloor$  and that  $\text{lcm}(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) = 840$  is not divisible by  $9 = \lfloor \sqrt[9]{840} \rfloor$ , one may guess 420 is the required integer. *2 points for the correct guess*

Let  $N$  be the required integer and suppose  $N > 420$ . Put  $t = \lfloor \sqrt[N]{N} \rfloor$ . Then

$$N \leq t(t^3 + 3t + 3)(1)$$

Since  $t \geq 7$ ,  $\text{lcm}(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) = 420$  should divide  $N$  and hence  $N \geq 840$ , which implies  $t \geq 9$ . But then  $\text{lcm}(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9) = 2520$  should divide  $N$ , which implies  $t \geq 13 = \lfloor \sqrt[13]{2520} \rfloor$ .

*1 point for  $t \geq 13$*

Observe that any four consecutive integers are divisible by 8 and that any two out of four consecutive integers have  $\text{gcd}$  either 1, 2, or 3. So, we have  $t(t-1)(t-2)(t-3)$  divides  $6N$  and in particular,

$$t(t-1)(t-2)(t-3) \leq 6N(2)$$

*2 points for  $t(t-1)(t-2)(t-3) \leq 6N$*

From (1) and (2) follows

$$t(t-1)(t-2)(t-3) \leq 6t(t^3 + 3t + 3) \frac{12}{t} + \frac{7}{t^2} + \frac{24}{t^3} \geq 1.$$

Since  $t \geq 13$ ,

$$\frac{12}{t} + \frac{7}{t^2} + \frac{24}{t^3} < 1,$$

which is a contradiction.

*2 points for the contradiction*