

**Outline Solutions of the Problems  
for the 39th IMO**

1. Choose a coordinate system so that  $AC$  and  $BD$  are the axes and the points  $A, B, C, D$  have coordinates  $(0, a), (b, 0), (0, c)$  and  $(d, 0)$ , respectively. The equations of the perpendicular bisectors of  $AB$  and  $DC$  are

$$2bx - 2ay = b^2 - a^2 \text{ and } 2dx - 2cy = d^2 - c^2,$$

respectively. The coordinates of  $P$  are obtained by solving these equations. So,  $P$  has coordinates  $(p, q)$ , where

$$p = (a(d^2 - c^2) - c(b^2 - a^2))/2(ad - bc)$$

and

$$q = (b(d^2 - c^2) - d(b^2 - a^2))/2(ad - bc).$$

Since the triangles  $ABP$  and  $PCD$  have the same orientation, they have equal areas if and only if

$$-ab + bq + pa = pc - cd + dq,$$

using the formula for the area of a triangle in terms of the coordinates of its vertices. Using the expressions for  $p$  and  $q$  above, this condition reduces to

$$(ac - bd)((a - c)^2 + (b - d)^2) = 0.$$

Since  $a$  and  $c$  have opposite signs, we see that the triangles  $ABP$  and  $PCD$  have the same area if and only if  $ac = bd$ . The last condition holds if and only if the triangles  $ABE$  and  $CDE$  are similar, where  $E$  is the point of intersection of  $AC$  and  $BD$ . It is clear that this last condition holds if and only if  $ABCD$  is a cyclic quadrilateral.

2. Consider one contestant. Suppose he receives a “pass” from  $r$  judges. Then he receives a “fail” from  $b - r$  judges. So, the

number of pairs of judges who agree for this contestant is

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{r}{2} + \binom{b-r}{2} &= \frac{1}{2}(r^2 + (b-r)^2 - b) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}(r+b-r)^2 - b\right) = \frac{1}{4}((b-1)^2 - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\binom{r}{2} + \binom{b-r}{2} \geq \frac{1}{4}(b-1)^2.$$

Since there are  $\binom{b}{2}$  pairs of judges and each pair agrees on at most  $k$  contestants, the total number of agreements is at most  $k\binom{b}{2}$ . Since there are  $a$  contestants, we get

$$k\binom{b}{2} \geq \frac{a}{4}(b-1)^2.$$

So,  $kb \geq a(b-1)/2$  and the result follows.

**3.** (Solution by Arkady Slinko.) It is easy to see that  $d$  is a multiplicative function and that  $d(p^r) = r + 1$  when  $p$  is a prime. So, if the prime factorization of  $n$  is  $p_1^{r_1} \cdots p_m^{r_m}$ , then

$$\frac{d(n^2)}{d(n)} = \frac{(2r_1 + 1) \cdots (2r_m + 1)}{(r_1 + 1) \cdots (r_m + 1)}. \tag{*}$$

Let  $k$  be a positive integer of the form (\*). Clearly,  $k$  is odd and, when  $n = 1$ , we get  $k = 1$ . We claim that every odd integer can be represented in the form (\*). We prove this by induction. Suppose that all odd  $k_0 < k$  are representable in the form (\*). Let  $k = 2^s k_0 - 1$ , where  $s$  and  $k_0$  are positive integers and  $k_0$  is odd. Since  $k_0$  is representable, it suffices to prove that  $(2^s k_0 - 1)/k_0$  can be represented in the form (\*). Letting  $m = (2^s - 1)k_0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2^s k_0 - 1}{k_0} &= \frac{2^s m - (2^s - 1)}{m} \\ &= \frac{2m - 1}{m} \times \frac{4m - 3}{2m - 1} \times \cdots \times \frac{2^s m - (2^s - 1)}{2^{s-1}m - (2^{s-1} - 1)}, \end{aligned}$$

a telescoping product of the form (\*). The result follows.

4. Since

$$b(a^2b + a + b) - a(ab^2 + b + 7) = b^2 - 7a,$$

if  $ab^2 + a + b$  is divisible by  $ab^2 + b + 7$ , then so is  $b^2 - 7a$ . Now  $b^2 - 7a < ab^2 + b + 7$  and so, if  $b^2 - 7a \geq 0$ , we get  $b^2 - 7a = 0$ . Thus  $(a, b) = (7t^2, 7t)$ , for some positive integer  $t$ . On the other hand, if  $(a, b) = (7t^2, 7t)$ , for some positive integer  $t$ , then  $ab^2 + b + 7 = 7(49t^4 + t + 1)$  divides  $a^2b + a + b = 7t(49t^4 + t + 1)$ .

Suppose now that  $b^2 - 7a < 0$ . Then  $ab^2 + b + 7$  divides the positive integer  $7a - b^2$ . If  $b \geq 3$ , then  $ab^2 + b + 7 > 9a$ . Hence  $b = 1$  or  $b = 2$ . If  $b = 1$ , then  $a + 8$  divides  $7a - 1$  and, since the multiple is at most 6, we get  $a = 11$  or  $a = 49$ . It is easy to see that  $(a, b) = (11, 1), (49, 1)$  are solutions to the problem. Finally, if  $b = 2$ , then  $4a + 9$  divides  $7a - 4$  and since the only possibility is  $4a + 9 = 7a - 4$ , we do not get an integer value for  $a$  in this case.

So, the complete list of solutions is:

$$(11, 1), (49, 1), (7t^2, 7t), \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{N}.$$

5. (Solution by Andy Liu.) It is easy to see that

$$\angle RMB = \angle AML = \angle MKL = \angle BSK$$

and that

$$\angle RBM = \angle BMK = \angle BKM = \angle BSK.$$

So the triangles  $MRB$  and  $KBS$  are similar. Thus  $BR \times BS = BK^2$ . Since  $\angle RBM = \angle SBK$  and  $IB$  bisects  $\angle ABC$ , the lines  $IB$  and  $RS$  are perpendicular. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} IR^2 + IS^2 &= RB^2 + BS^2 + 2IB^2 \\ &> RB^2 + BS^2 + 2BK^2 \\ &= RB^2 + BS^2 + 2RB \times BS = RS^2 \end{aligned}$$

So, since  $IR^2 + IS^2 > RS^2$ , the angle  $RIS$  is acute.

6. Let  $f(n^2(f(m))) = mf(n)^2$  for all  $m$  and  $n$  in  $\mathbb{N}$ . Let  $f(1) = a$ . Then

$$f(f(m)) = a^2m \text{ and } f(an^2) = f(n)^2$$

for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $f(r) = f(s)$ , then  $a^2r = f(f(r)) = f(f(s)) = a^2s$  and thus  $r = s$ , so that  $f$  is injective. Note that  $f(a) = f(f(1)) = a^2$ .

Now

$$\begin{aligned} (f(m)f(n))^2 &= f(m)^2f(n)^2 = f(am^2)f(n)^2 = f(n^2f(f(am^2))) \\ &= f(a^3m^2n^2) = f(a(amn)^2) = f(amn)^2. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $f(amn) = f(m)f(n)$ . In particular,  $f(an) = af(n)$ . Thus

$$af(mn) = f(m)f(n) \text{ for all } m, n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

We claim that  $a$  divides  $f(m)$  for all positive integers  $m$ . For suppose that  $a \neq 1$  and let  $p^k$  be the highest power of the prime  $p$  that divides  $a$ . Since  $af(m^2) = f(m)^2$ ,  $p^r$  divides  $f(m)$  for all  $m$ , for some integer  $r \geq k/2$ . Consider the largest such  $r$ . Then  $p^{k+r}$  divides  $f(m)^2$ , for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . So  $k+r \leq 2r$ . Thus  $r \geq k$  and hence  $p^k$  divides  $f(m)$  for all  $m$ . Thus  $a$  divides  $f(m)$  for all  $m$ .

So, there exists a function  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(n) = ag(n)$  for all  $n$ . Now  $g(1) = 1$  and  $g(n^2g(m)) = mg(n)^2$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $g(1998) \leq f(1998)$ , the least possible value of  $f(1998)$  for functions satisfying the given identity will be attained for a function  $f$  with  $f(1) = 1$ .

Thus, we need only consider functions  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$f(1) = 1 \text{ and } f(n^2f(m)) = mf(n)^2$$

for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $f(mn) = f(m)f(n)$  and  $f(f(m)) = m$  for all positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ . Clearly, a function  $f$  with the last two properties also satisfies  $f(1) = 1$  and  $f(n^2f(m)) = mf(n)^2$  for all positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ . By the multiplicative property, once  $f(p)$  is determined for each prime  $p$ , then  $f$  will be completely determined. Let  $p$  be a prime and suppose that  $f(p) = ab$  for

certain  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $p = f(f(p)) = f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$ . We may suppose that  $f(a) = 1$ . Then since  $f(1) = 1$ , the injectivity of  $f$  implies that  $a = 1$ . Thus  $f(p)$  is a prime for all primes  $p$  and injectivity implies that  $f$  maps distinct primes to distinct primes. Since  $1998 = 2 \times 3^3 \times 37$ , to find a function satisfying the given conditions such that  $f(1998)$  is as small as possible, it is clear that letting

$$f(2) = 3, \quad f(3) = 2, \quad f(37) = 5$$

and for each other prime  $p$ ,  $f(p)$  equal any prime not already chosen, will produce the required function. Thus the minimal possible value for  $f(1998)$  is  $3 \times 2^3 \times 5 = 120$ .