

**Problem 1.** Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$xf(x + f(y)) = (y - x)f(f(x)).$$

**Solution.** Answer: For any real  $c$ ,  $f(x) = c - x$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $P(x, y)$  denote the proposition that  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the given equation.  $P(0, 1)$  gives us  $f(f(0)) = 0$ .

From  $P(x, x)$  we get that  $xf(x + f(x)) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , which together with  $f(f(0)) = 0$  gives us  $f(x + f(x)) = 0$  for all  $x$ .

Now let  $t$  be any real number such that  $f(t) = 0$ . If  $y$  is any number, we have from  $P(t - f(y), y)$  the equality

$$(y + f(y) - t)f(f(t - f(y))) = 0$$

for all  $y$  and all  $t$  such that  $f(t) = 0$ . So, by taking  $y = f(0)$  we obtain

$$(f(0) - t)f(f(t)) = 0 \quad \text{and hence} \quad (f(0) - t)f(0) = 0. \quad (\text{A1-1})$$

Recall that as  $t$  with  $f(t) = 0$  we can take  $x + f(x)$  for any real number  $x$ . If for all reals  $x$  we have  $x + f(x) = f(0)$ , then  $f(x)$  must be of the form  $f(x) = c - x$  for some real  $c$ . It is straightforward that all functions of this form are indeed solutions.

Otherwise we can find some  $a \neq 0$  so that  $a + f(a) \neq f(0)$ . If  $t = a + f(a)$  in (A1-1), then  $f(0)$  must be equal to 0. Now  $P(x, 0)$  gives us  $f(f(x)) = -f(x)$  for all real  $x$ . From here  $P(x, x + f(x))$  gives us  $xf(x) = -f(x)^2$  for all real  $x$ , which means for every  $x$  either  $f(x) = 0$  or  $f(x) = -x$ .

Let us assume that in this case there is some  $b \neq 0$  so that  $f(b) = -b$ . For any  $y$  we get from  $P(b, y)$  and  $f(f(b)) = -f(b) = b$  the equality  $bf(b + f(y)) = (y - b)b$ , which gives us  $f(b + f(y)) = y - b$  for all  $y$ . If  $y \neq b$ , then the right hand side in the previous equality is not zero, so we must have  $f(b + f(y)) = -b - f(y)$ , which means that  $-b - f(y) = y - b$ , or that  $f(y) = -y$  for all real  $y$ . But we already covered this solution (take  $c = 0$  above). If there is no such  $b$ , then  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x$ , which gives us the final solution.

Thus, all such functions are of the form  $c - x$  for real  $c$  or the zero function.

**Problem 2.** In triangle  $ABC$ , the incircle touches sides  $BC, CA, AB$  at  $D, E, F$  respectively. Assume there exists a point  $X$  on the line  $EF$  such that

$$\angle XBC = \angle XCB = 45^\circ.$$

Let  $M$  be the midpoint of the arc  $BC$  on the circumcircle of  $ABC$  not containing  $A$ . Prove that the line  $MD$  passes through  $E$  or  $F$ .

**Solution 1.** We first state a well-known lemma.

*Lemma:* In triangle  $ABC$ , let  $D, E, F$  be the points of tangency of the incircle to the sides  $BC, CA, AB$  and let  $I$  be the incenter. Then the intersection of  $EF$  and  $BI$  lies on the circle of diameter  $BC$ .

*Proof:* Let  $S$  be the intersection of  $EF$  and  $BI$ .  $\angle BIC = \angle EFC$ , hence  $S$  lies on the circumcircle of  $FIC$  in which  $IC$  is a diameter. Thus  $\angle ISC = 90^\circ$ , hence  $\angle BSC = 90^\circ$ .

Returning to the problem, let  $I$  be the incenter. The lemma implies that the two intersection points of  $EF$  with the circle of diameter  $BC$  are precisely the intersection points of  $EF$  with  $BI$  and  $CI$ . We have  $\angle BXC = 90^\circ$ , therefore either  $BX$  or  $CX$  is an internal angle bisector, which means either  $\angle B = 90^\circ$  or  $\angle C = 90^\circ$ .

Assume, without loss of generality, that  $\angle B = 90^\circ$ . Then we have  $\angle AMC = 90^\circ$ , so  $M$  is the second intersection point of  $AI$  with the circle of diameter  $AC$ , thus the lemma implies that  $M$  lies on  $DF$ .

**Solution 2.**

Let  $I$  be the incenter of  $\triangle ABC$  and let  $K$  be the foot of the perpendicular from  $D$  to  $EF$ . We begin by proving that  $BKXC$  is cyclic, which can be done in two ways:

**First Way.** Note that  $\angle KFD = 90^\circ - \frac{\angle C}{2}$  and  $\angle KED = 90^\circ - \frac{\angle B}{2}$ , so by using  $KD \perp EF$ , we have  $\frac{FK}{ED} = \frac{\tan \frac{\angle C}{2}}{\tan \frac{\angle B}{2}}$ . Similarly, since  $\angle IBD = \frac{\angle B}{2}$  and  $\angle ICD = \frac{\angle C}{2}$ , by using  $ID \perp BC$ , we have  $\frac{BF}{EC} = \frac{BD}{DC} = \frac{\tan \frac{\angle C}{2}}{\tan \frac{\angle B}{2}}$ . Then, since  $\angle BFK = 90^\circ + \frac{\angle A}{2} = \angle KEC$ , we conclude that  $\triangle BFK$  and  $\triangle CEK$  are similar, so  $\angle FKB = \angle KCE$  which shows line  $EF$  is the external-angle bisector of  $\angle BKC$ . Therefore,  $X$  lies on both the perpendicular bisector of the segment  $BC$  and the external angle bisector of  $\angle BKC$  (and these lines are distinct) thus it lies on the circumcircle of  $\triangle BKC$  (in particular the midpoint of arc  $BKC$ ).

**Second Way.** Let  $T$  be the intersection of  $EF$  and  $BC$ , and  $N$  be the midpoint of the segment  $BC$ . It is well-known that  $(T, D; B, C)$  is harmonic and  $TB \cdot TC = TD \cdot TN$ . On the other hand, since  $XB = XC$ , we have  $\angle XND = 90^\circ = \angle XKD$ , so  $XKDN$  is cyclic and  $TD \cdot TN = TK \cdot TX$ . Therefore, we have  $TK \cdot TX = TB \cdot TC$ , which implies  $BKXC$  is cyclic.

Now we will show that either  $\angle B = 90^\circ$  or  $\angle C = 90^\circ$ . Note that  $\angle BKC = \angle BXC = 90^\circ = \angle FKD = \angle EKD$  and  $\angle FKB = \angle EKC$ . Then we have

$$\angle FKB = \angle BKD = \angle DKC = \angle KCE = 45^\circ.$$

Hence  $BK$  bisects  $\angle FKD$ , but  $B$  also lies on the perpendicular bisector of  $DF$ . Therefore, either  $FKDB$  is cyclic or  $KF = KD$  while the former implies that  $\angle B = 180^\circ - \angle FKD = 90^\circ$ . In the latter case, we have  $KB \perp FD$ , which gives  $90^\circ - \frac{\angle C}{2} = \angle FKD = 90^\circ - \angle FKB = 45^\circ$  and so  $\angle C = 90^\circ$  as desired.

We consider, without loss of generality, the case where  $\angle B = 90^\circ$ . Observing that  $A, I, M$  are collinear we get:

$$\angle CDI = 90^\circ = \angle CBA = \angle CMA = \angle CMI$$

Hence  $MDIC$  is cyclic so:

$$\angle MDC = \angle MIC = 180^\circ - \angle CIA = 180^\circ - \left(90^\circ + \frac{\angle B}{2}\right) = 45^\circ$$

We also have  $\angle FDB = 90^\circ - \frac{\angle B}{2} = 45^\circ$  so  $\angle FDB = \angle MDC$  and thus  $M, D, F$  are collinear as required.

**Problem 3.** For each positive integer  $n$ , denote by  $\omega(n)$  the number of distinct prime divisors of  $n$  (for example,  $\omega(1) = 0$  and  $\omega(12) = 2$ ). Find all polynomials  $P(x)$  with integer coefficients, such that whenever  $n$  is a positive integer satisfying  $\omega(n) > 2023^{2023}$ , then  $P(n)$  is also a positive integer with

$$\omega(n) \geq \omega(P(n)).$$

**Solution.** Answer: All polynomials of the form  $f(x) = x^m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $f(x) = c$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $\omega(c) \leq 2023^{2023} + 1$ .

First of all we prove the following (well-known) Lemma. *Lemma:* Let  $f(x)$  be a non-constant polynomial with integer coefficients. Then, the number of primes  $p$  such that  $p|f(n)$  for some  $n$  is infinite.

*Proof:* If  $f(0) = 0$ , then the Lemma is obvious. Otherwise, define the polynomial

$$g(x) = \frac{f(xf(0))}{f(0)},$$

which has integer coefficients. Observe that  $g(0) = 1$  and if  $g$  satisfies the property of the Lemma, then so does  $f$ . So, we need to prove that there are infinitely many primes  $p$  such that  $p|g(n)$  for some  $n$ . Suppose, for the sake of contradiction that the number of such primes is finite, and let those be  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ . Then, set  $n = Np_1 \cdots p_k$  for some large  $N$ , such that  $|g(n)| > 1$ . It is evident that  $g(n)$  has a prime divisor, but it is none of the  $p_i$ 's. This is a contradiction and therefore the result follows.

Let  $M = 2023^{2023} + 1$ . Observe that constant polynomials  $f(x) = c$  with  $c \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\omega(c) \leq M$  satisfy the conditions of the problem. On the other hand, if  $f(x) = c$  with  $\omega(c) > M$ , we can choose some  $n$  such that  $\omega(n) = M$  to see that the condition of the problem is not satisfied. Next, we look for non-constant polynomials that satisfy the conditions of the problem. Let  $f(x) = x^m g(x)$ , where  $m \geq 0$  and  $g(x)$  is a polynomial with  $g(0) \neq 0$ . We claim that  $g$  is a constant polynomial. Indeed, if it is not, then (due to the Lemma) there exist pairwise distinct primes  $q_1, \dots, q_{M+1}$  and non-zero integers  $n_1, \dots, n_{M+1}$  such that  $q_i > |g(0)|$  and  $q_i | g(n_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, M+1$ . Set  $n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_M$ , where  $p_1, \dots, p_M$  are distinct primes such that

$$p_1 \equiv n_i \pmod{q_i}, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, M+1$$

and

$$p_j \equiv 1 \pmod{q_i}, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, M+1, \quad \forall j = 2, 3, \dots, M.$$

Observe that since  $q_i > |g(0)|$ , it is impossible to have  $q_i | n_i$ , so the existence of such primes is guaranteed by the Chinese Remainder Theorem and the Dirichlet's Theorem. Now, for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, M+1$  we can see that  $n = p_1 \cdots p_M \equiv n_i \pmod{q_i}$ , which means that

$$g(n) \equiv g(n_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{q_i} \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, M+1.$$

Thus,  $\omega(f(n)) \geq \omega(g(n)) \geq M+1 > M = \omega(n)$ , which gives the desired contradiction. Therefore,  $f(x) = cx^m$ , for some  $m \geq 1$  (since  $f$  was non-constant). If  $c < 0$ , take some  $n$  with  $\omega(n) = M$  to see that  $f(n)$  is negative and so, does not satisfy the conditions of the problem. If  $c > 1$ , choose some  $n$  with  $\omega(n) = M$  and  $\gcd(n, c) = 1$  to observe that  $f$  cannot satisfy the conditions of the problem. This means that  $f(x) = x^m$  (which is for sure a solution to the problem) for some  $m \geq 1$  and  $f(x) = c$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  with  $\omega(c) \leq M$  are the only polynomials that satisfy the conditions of the problem.

**Problem 4.** Find the greatest integer  $k \leq 2023$  for which the following holds: whenever Alice colours exactly  $k$  numbers of the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2023\}$  in red, Bob can colour some of the remaining uncoloured numbers in blue, such that the sum of the red numbers is the same as the sum of the blue numbers.

**Solution.** Answer: 592.

For  $k \geq 593$ , Alice can color the greatest 593 numbers  $1431, 1432, \dots, 2023$  and any other  $(k - 593)$  numbers so that their sum  $s$  would satisfy

$$s \geq \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} - \frac{1430 \cdot 1431}{2} > \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} \right),$$

thus anyhow Bob chooses his numbers, the sum of his numbers will be less than Alice's numbers' sum.

We now show that  $k = 592$  satisfies the condition. Let  $s$  be the sum of Alice's 592 numbers; note that  $s < \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} \right)$ . Below is a strategy for Bob to find some of the remaining 1431 numbers so that their sum is

$$s_0 = \min \left\{ s, \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} - 2s \right\} \leq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \left( \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} \right),$$

(Clearly, if Bob finds some numbers whose sum is  $\frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} - 2s$ , then the sum of remaining numbers will be  $s$ ).

*Case 1.*  $s_0 \geq 2024$ . Let  $s_0 = 2024a + b$ , where  $0 \leq b \leq 2023$ . Bob finds two of the remaining numbers with sum  $b$  or  $2024 + b$ , then he finds  $a$  (or  $a - 1$ ) pairs among the remaining numbers with sum 2024. Note that  $a \leq 337$  since  $s_0 \leq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \left( \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} \right)$ .

The  $\left\lfloor \frac{b-1}{2} \right\rfloor$  pairs

$$(1, b-1), (2, b-2), \dots, \left( \left\lfloor \frac{b-1}{2} \right\rfloor, b - \left\lfloor \frac{b-1}{2} \right\rfloor \right),$$

have sum of their components equal to  $b$  and the  $\left\lfloor \frac{2023+b}{2} \right\rfloor - b$  pairs

$$(2023, b+1), (2022, b+2), \dots, \left( 2024 + b - \left\lfloor \frac{2023+b}{2} \right\rfloor, \left\lfloor \frac{2023+b}{2} \right\rfloor \right)$$

have sum of their components equal to  $2024 + b$ . The total number of these pairs is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{2023+b}{2} \right\rfloor - b + \left\lfloor \frac{b-1}{2} \right\rfloor \geq \frac{2022+b}{2} + \frac{b-2}{2} - b = \frac{2020}{2} = 1010 > 592,$$

hence some of these pairs have no red-colored components, so Bob can choose one of these pairs and color those two numbers in blue. Thus 594 numbers are colored so far.

Further, the 1011 pairs

$$(1, 2023), (2, 2022), \dots, (1011, 1013)$$

have sum of the components equal to 2024. Among these, at least  $1011 - 594 = 417 > 337 \geq a$  pairs have no components colored, so Bob can choose  $a$  (or  $a - 1$ ) uncolored pairs and color them all blue to achieve a collection of blue numbers with their sum equal to  $s_0$ .

*Case 2.*  $s_0 \leq 2023$ . Note that  $s \geq 1 + 2 + \dots + 592 > 2023$ , thus we have  $s_0 = \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{2} - 2s$ , i.e.  $s = \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{4} - \frac{s_0}{2}$ .

If  $s_0 > 2 \cdot 593$ , at least one of the 593 pairs

$$(1, s_0 - 1), (2, s_0 - 2), \dots, (593, s_0 - 593)$$

have no red-colored components, so Bob can choose these two numbers and immediately achieve the sum of  $s_0$ . And if  $s_0 \leq 2 \cdot 593$ , then

$$s = \frac{2023 \cdot 2024}{4} - \frac{s_0}{2} \geq (1432 + 1433 + \dots + 2023) - 593 = 839 + (1434 + 1435 + \dots + 2023),$$

hence Alice cannot have colored any of the numbers  $1, 2, \dots, 838$ . Then Bob can easily choose one or two of these numbers having the sum of  $s_0$ .