

### Problem 1

A line in the plane is called *sunny* if it is **not** parallel to any of the  $x$ -axis, the  $y$ -axis, and the line  $x + y = 0$ .

Let  $n \geq 3$  be a given integer. Determine all nonnegative integers  $k$  such that there exist  $n$  distinct lines in the plane satisfying both of the following:

- for all positive integers  $a$  and  $b$  with  $a + b \leq n + 1$ , the point  $(a, b)$  is on at least one of the lines; and
- exactly  $k$  of the  $n$  lines are sunny.

Let  $n \geq 3$  be a given integer. We want to determine all nonnegative integers  $k$  such that there exist  $n$  distinct lines in the plane that cover the set of points  $P_n = \{(a, b) \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \times \mathbb{Z}^+ : a + b \leq n + 1\}$ , and exactly  $k$  of these lines are sunny. A line is sunny if it is not parallel to the  $x$ -axis (Horizontal, H), the  $y$ -axis (Vertical, V), or the line  $x + y = 0$  (Diagonal, D, slope  $-1$ ). Lines of these three types are called shady.

We will show that the possible values for  $k$  are  $\{0, 1, 3\}$ .

The proof relies on reducing the problem to the specific case where  $n = k$  and all lines must be sunny. Let  $C(k)$  be the assertion that  $P_k$  can be covered by  $k$  distinct sunny lines. We define  $P_0 = \emptyset$ .

#### 1. The Reduction Principle

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a set of  $n$  distinct lines covering  $P_n$ . Let  $k$  be the number of sunny lines. Let  $N_V, N_H, N_D$  be the number of V, H, D lines in  $\mathcal{L}$ , respectively. Then  $N_V + N_H + N_D = n - k$ .

**Lemma 1 (Structural Lemma).** The  $N_V$  vertical lines in  $\mathcal{L}$  must be  $\{x = 1, \dots, x = N_V\}$ . The  $N_H$  horizontal lines must be  $\{y = 1, \dots, y = N_H\}$ . The  $N_D$  diagonal lines must be  $\{x + y = s\}$  for  $s = n + 2 - N_D, \dots, n + 1$ .

*Proof.* Consider the column  $C_a = P_n \cap \{x = a\}$ . We have  $|C_a| = n + 1 - a$ . Suppose the line  $x = a$  is not in  $\mathcal{L}$ . The points in  $C_a$  must be covered by the other lines in  $\mathcal{L}$ . The  $N_V$  vertical lines in  $\mathcal{L}$  are distinct from  $x = a$ , so they do not cover any point in  $C_a$ . The remaining  $n - N_V$  non-vertical lines each cover at most one point in  $C_a$ . Thus,  $|C_a| \leq n - N_V$ .  $n + 1 - a \leq n - N_V$ , which implies  $a \geq N_V + 1$ . By contraposition, if  $1 \leq a \leq N_V$ , the line  $x = a$  must be in  $\mathcal{L}$ . Since there are exactly  $N_V$  vertical lines in  $\mathcal{L}$ , these must be  $\{x = 1, \dots, x = N_V\}$ . The argument for horizontal lines is symmetric.

For diagonal lines, consider the anti-diagonal  $D_s = P_n \cap \{x + y = s\}$ . We have  $|D_s| = s - 1$ . If  $x + y = s$  is not in  $\mathcal{L}$ , the points in  $D_s$  must be covered by the  $n - N_D$  lines with slope  $\neq -1$ . Thus,  $s - 1 \leq n - N_D$ , so  $s \leq n + 1 - N_D$ . By contraposition, if  $s \geq n + 2 - N_D$ , the line  $x + y = s$  must be in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Theorem 1 (Reduction Theorem).** For  $n \geq 3$  and  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , a configuration of  $n$  distinct lines covering  $P_n$  with exactly  $k$  sunny lines exists if and only if  $C(k)$  is true.

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be such a configuration. Let  $N_V, N_H, N_D$  be the counts of the shady lines,  $N_V + N_H + N_D = n - k$ . By Lemma 1, the set of shady lines  $\mathcal{N}$  is determined. Let  $R$  be the set of points in  $P_n$  not covered by  $\mathcal{N}$ .  $R = \{(a, b) \in P_n \mid a > N_V, b >$

$N_H, a + b \leq n + 1 - N_D\}$ . The  $k$  sunny lines  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{L}$  must cover  $R$ . Consider the translation  $T(a, b) = (a - N_V, b - N_H) = (a', b')$ . If  $(a, b) \in R$ , then  $a' \geq 1, b' \geq 1$ . Also,  $a' + b' = a + b - (N_V + N_H) \leq (n + 1 - N_D) - (N_V + N_H) = n + 1 - (n - k) = k + 1$ .  $T$  maps  $R$  bijectively to  $P_k$ . The translated lines  $T(\mathcal{S})$  cover  $P_k$ . Since translation preserves slopes, these  $k$  lines are distinct and sunny. Thus  $C(k)$  is true.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $C(k)$  is true. Let  $\mathcal{L}_k$  be  $k$  distinct sunny lines covering  $P_k$ . Let  $N = n - k$ . We construct a configuration for  $P_n$ . Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be the set of  $N$  diagonal lines  $\{x + y = s \mid s = k + 2, \dots, n + 1\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_k \cup \mathcal{N}$ . This set has  $n$  lines. They are distinct since lines in  $\mathcal{L}_k$  have slope  $\neq -1$  and lines in  $\mathcal{N}$  have slope  $-1$ . They cover  $P_n$ . If  $(a, b) \in P_n$ , then  $2 \leq a + b \leq n + 1$ . If  $a + b \leq k + 1$ , then  $(a, b) \in P_k$ , covered by  $\mathcal{L}_k$ . If  $k + 2 \leq a + b \leq n + 1$ , then  $(a, b)$  is covered by  $\mathcal{N}$ . The configuration has exactly  $k$  sunny lines.

## 2. Analysis of the Core Problem $C(k)$

We determine the values of  $k \geq 0$  for which  $P_k$  can be covered by  $k$  distinct sunny lines.

1.  $k = 0$ .  $P_0 = \emptyset$ . Covered by 0 lines.  $C(0)$  is true. 2.  $k = 1$ .  $P_1 = \{(1, 1)\}$ . Covered by  $y = x$  (slope 1, sunny).  $C(1)$  is true. 3.  $k = 2$ .  $P_2 = \{(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1)\}$ . The lines connecting any pair of these points are  $x = 1$  (V),  $y = 1$  (H), or  $x + y = 3$  (D). All are shady. A sunny line can cover at most one point of  $P_2$ . To cover the 3 points, we need at least 3 sunny lines. Thus  $C(2)$  is false.

4.  $k \geq 3$ . Let  $T_k$  be the convex hull of  $P_k$ .  $T_k$  is the triangle with vertices  $V_1 = (1, 1), V_2 = (1, k), V_3 = (k, 1)$ . The edges of  $T_k$  lie on the lines  $x = 1$  (V),  $y = 1$  (H), and  $x + y = k + 1$  (D). These lines are shady.

Let  $B_k$  be the set of points in  $P_k$  lying on the boundary of  $T_k$ . Each edge contains  $k$  points. Since the vertices are distinct (as  $k \geq 2$ ), the total number of points on the boundary is  $|B_k| = 3k - 3$ .

Suppose  $P_k$  is covered by  $k$  sunny lines  $\mathcal{L}_k$ . These lines must cover  $B_k$ . Let  $L \in \mathcal{L}_k$ . Since  $L$  is sunny, it does not coincide with the lines containing the edges of  $T_k$ . A line that does not contain an edge of a convex polygon intersects the boundary of the polygon at most at two points. Thus,  $|L \cap B_k| \leq 2$ . The total coverage of  $B_k$  by  $\mathcal{L}_k$  is at most  $2k$ . We must have  $|B_k| \leq 2k$ .  $3k - 3 \leq 2k$ , which implies  $k \leq 3$ .

Since we assumed  $k \geq 3$ , we must have  $k = 3$ .

5.  $k = 3$ . We verify  $C(3)$ .  $P_3$  consists of 6 points:  $(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1)$ . We provide a covering with 3 sunny lines:  $L_1 : y = x$  (slope 1). Covers  $(1, 1), (2, 2)$ .  $L_2 : 2x + y = 5$  (slope  $-2$ ). Covers  $(1, 3), (2, 1)$ .  $L_3 : x + 2y = 5$  (slope  $-1/2$ ). Covers  $(1, 2), (3, 1)$ . These lines are sunny and cover  $P_3$ .  $C(3)$  is true.

## 3. Conclusion

The property  $C(k)$  is true if and only if  $k \in \{0, 1, 3\}$ . By the Reduction Theorem, for a given  $n \geq 3$ , a configuration with  $k$  sunny lines exists if and only if  $C(k)$  is true and  $k \leq n$ . Since  $n \geq 3$ , the condition  $k \leq n$  is satisfied for all  $k \in \{0, 1, 3\}$ .

The possible values for  $k$  are 0, 1, and 3.

### Problem 2

Let  $\Omega$  and  $\Gamma$  be circles with centres  $M$  and  $N$ , respectively, such that the radius of  $\Omega$  is less than the radius of  $\Gamma$ . Suppose circles  $\Omega$  and  $\Gamma$  intersect at two distinct points  $A$  and  $B$ . Line  $MN$  intersects  $\Omega$  at  $C$  and  $\Gamma$  at  $D$ , such that points  $C, M, N$  and  $D$  lie on the line in that order. Let  $P$  be the circumcentre of triangle  $ACD$ . Line  $AP$  intersects  $\Omega$  again at  $E \neq A$ . Line  $AP$  intersects  $\Gamma$  again at  $F \neq A$ . Let  $H$  be the orthocentre of triangle  $PMN$ .

Prove that the line through  $H$  parallel to  $AP$  is tangent to the circumcircle of triangle  $BEF$ .

(The *orthocentre* of a triangle is the point of intersection of its altitudes.)

### Complete Proof

#### 1. Identification of $P$ as the Excenter of $\triangle AMN$ .

Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be the radii of  $\Omega$  (center  $M$ ) and  $\Gamma$  (center  $N$ ) respectively, with  $R_1 < R_2$ .  $P$  is the circumcenter of  $\triangle ACD$ , so  $PA = PC$ . Since  $A, C \in \Omega$ ,  $MA = MC = R_1$ . Thus  $PM$  is the perpendicular bisector of  $AC$  and bisects  $\angle AMC$ . The points  $C, M, N, D$  are collinear in this order. This implies that the ray  $MC$  is opposite to the ray  $MN$ . Therefore,  $\angle AMC$  and  $\angle AMN$  are supplementary.  $\angle AMC$  is the exterior angle of  $\triangle AMN$  at  $M$ . Since  $PM$  bisects  $\angle AMC$ ,  $PM$  is the external angle bisector of  $\triangle AMN$  at  $M$ .

Similarly,  $PA = PD$  and  $NA = ND = R_2$ .  $PN$  is the perpendicular bisector of  $AD$  and bisects  $\angle AND$ . Since  $M, N, D$  are in order, the ray  $ND$  is opposite to the ray  $NM$ . Thus,  $\angle AND$  is the exterior angle of  $\triangle AMN$  at  $N$ .  $PN$  is the external angle bisector of  $\triangle AMN$  at  $N$ .

Therefore,  $P$  is the excenter of  $\triangle AMN$  opposite to  $A$ . Consequently, the line  $AP$  is the internal angle bisector of  $\angle MAN$ . Let  $\angle MAN = 2\phi$ . Since the circles intersect at two distinct points  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $\triangle AMN$  is non-degenerate, so  $0 < 2\phi < 180^\circ$ , i.e.,  $0 < \phi < 90^\circ$ .

#### 2. Determining $\angle EBF$ .

By symmetry with respect to the line  $MN$ ,  $\triangle BMN \cong \triangle AMN$ . Thus  $\angle MBN = \angle MAN = 2\phi$ .

We use directed angles modulo  $180^\circ$ . Let  $T_M(B)$  and  $T_N(B)$  be the tangents to  $\Omega$  and  $\Gamma$  at  $B$ , respectively. Since  $T_M(B) \perp MB$  and  $T_N(B) \perp NB$ , we have  $\angle(T_M(B), T_N(B)) = \angle(MB, NB)$ .

By the Tangent-Chord Theorem: In  $\Omega$ ,  $\angle(T_M(B), BE) = \angle(AB, AE)$ . In  $\Gamma$ ,  $\angle(T_N(B), BF) = \angle(AB, AF)$ . Since  $A, E, F$  are collinear on the line  $AP$ , the lines  $AE$  and  $AF$  are the same. Thus  $\angle(AB, AE) = \angle(AB, AF)$ .

We compute  $\angle(BE, BF)$ :  $\angle(BE, BF) = \angle(BE, T_M(B)) + \angle(T_M(B), T_N(B)) + \angle(T_N(B), BF) = -\angle(AB, AE) + \angle(MB, NB) + \angle(AB, AF) = \angle(MB, NB)$ . Thus, the geometric angle  $\angle EBF = \angle MBN = 2\phi$ .

Since  $R_1 \neq R_2$ ,  $\triangle AMN$  is not isosceles, so  $AP$  (the angle bisector) is distinct from the altitude from  $A$ . Since  $AB$  is perpendicular to  $MN$ ,  $AB$  is the altitude line. Thus  $B$  is not on  $AP$ . Also  $R_1 \neq R_2$  implies  $E \neq F$ . Thus  $\triangle BEF$  is non-degenerate. Let  $\Sigma$  be its circumcircle.

### 3. Introduction of the Auxiliary Point $V$ and its properties.

Let  $V$  be the point such that  $AMVN$  is a parallelogram. We use vectors originating from  $A$ .  $\vec{AV} = \vec{AM} + \vec{AN}$ .

We calculate the lengths of  $AE$  and  $AF$ . In  $\triangle AME$ ,  $MA = ME = R_1$  and  $\angle MAE = \phi$ . Thus  $AE = 2R_1 \cos \phi$ . Similarly,  $AF = 2R_2 \cos \phi$ . Since  $R_1 < R_2$  and  $\cos \phi > 0$ ,  $AE < AF$ .  $A, E, F$  are collinear in this order on  $AP$ .  $EF = AF - AE = 2(R_2 - R_1) \cos \phi$ .

We calculate the distances  $VE$  and  $VF$ .  $\vec{VE} = \vec{AE} - \vec{AV} = \vec{AE} - (\vec{AM} + \vec{AN})$ .  $VE^2 = AE^2 + AM^2 + AN^2 - 2\vec{AE} \cdot \vec{AM} - 2\vec{AE} \cdot \vec{AN} + 2\vec{AM} \cdot \vec{AN}$ .  $AM = R_1, AN = R_2$ .  $\angle MAN = 2\phi$ .  $\angle MAE = \angle NAE = \phi$ .  $\vec{AE} \cdot \vec{AM} = AE \cdot R_1 \cos \phi = 2R_1^2 \cos^2 \phi$ .  $\vec{AE} \cdot \vec{AN} = AE \cdot R_2 \cos \phi = 2R_1 R_2 \cos^2 \phi$ .  $\vec{AM} \cdot \vec{AN} = R_1 R_2 \cos(2\phi) = R_1 R_2 (2 \cos^2 \phi - 1)$ .

$VE^2 = (2R_1 \cos \phi)^2 + R_1^2 + R_2^2 - 4R_1^2 \cos^2 \phi - 4R_1 R_2 \cos^2 \phi + 2R_1 R_2 (2 \cos^2 \phi - 1)$ .  $VE^2 = R_1^2 + R_2^2 - 4R_1 R_2 \cos^2 \phi + 4R_1 R_2 \cos^2 \phi - 2R_1 R_2 = (R_2 - R_1)^2$ . So  $VE = R_2 - R_1$ . A similar calculation shows  $VF = R_2 - R_1$ . Thus  $VE = VF$ .

### 4. $V$ lies on the circumcircle $\Sigma$ .

We calculate  $\angle EVF$  using the Law of Cosines in the isosceles triangle  $\triangle EVF$ .  $EF^2 = VE^2 + VF^2 - 2VE \cdot VF \cos(\angle EVF) = 2VE^2(1 - \cos(\angle EVF))$ .  $(2(R_2 - R_1) \cos \phi)^2 = 2(R_2 - R_1)^2(1 - \cos(\angle EVF))$ .  $4 \cos^2 \phi = 2(1 - \cos(\angle EVF))$ .  $\cos(\angle EVF) = 1 - 2 \cos^2 \phi = -\cos(2\phi)$ . Since  $2\phi \in (0, 180^\circ)$ ,  $\angle EVF = 180^\circ - 2\phi$ .

We have  $\angle EBF + \angle EVF = 2\phi + (180^\circ - 2\phi) = 180^\circ$ . To conclude that  $BEVF$  is cyclic, we must verify that  $B$  and  $V$  lie on opposite sides of the line  $AP$ . We set up a coordinate system with  $A$  at the origin  $(0, 0)$  and  $AP$  along the positive x-axis. We can orient it such that  $M = (R_1 \cos \phi, R_1 \sin \phi)$  and  $N = (R_2 \cos \phi, -R_2 \sin \phi)$ . Then  $V = M + N$  has y-coordinate  $y_V = (R_1 - R_2) \sin \phi$ . Since  $R_1 < R_2$  and  $\phi > 0$ ,  $y_V < 0$ .

$B$  is the reflection of  $A$  across the line  $MN$ . The line  $MN$  has the equation  $y - y_M = m(x - x_M)$ , where the slope is  $m = \frac{-(R_1 + R_2) \sin \phi}{(R_2 - R_1) \cos \phi}$ . The y-intercept  $b$  (intersection with the axis perpendicular to  $AP$  through  $A$ ) is  $y_M - mx_M$ .  $b = R_1 \sin \phi - mR_1 \cos \phi = R_1 \sin \phi + \frac{R_1(R_1 + R_2) \sin \phi}{R_2 - R_1} = \frac{2R_1 R_2 \sin \phi}{R_2 - R_1}$ . Since  $R_i > 0$  and  $\sin \phi > 0$ ,  $b > 0$ . The line  $MN$  passes "above"  $A$  with respect to the y-axis. The reflection  $B$  of  $A(0, 0)$  across the line  $y = mx + b$  has y-coordinate  $y_B = 2b/(m^2 + 1) > 0$ . Since  $y_V < 0$  and  $y_B > 0$ ,  $V$  and  $B$  are on opposite sides of  $AP$ . Thus,  $BEVF$  is cyclic, and  $V$  lies on  $\Sigma$ .

### 5. The Orthocenter $H$ and the Tangency Condition.

Let  $I$  be the incenter of  $\triangle AMN$ . Since  $P$  is the excenter opposite to  $A$ , the points  $A, I, P$  are collinear on the line  $AP$ . The internal bisector  $MI$  and the external bisector  $MP$  at  $M$  are perpendicular. Similarly,  $NI \perp NP$ . Thus, the quadrilateral  $IMP$  is cyclic. This circle is the circumcircle of  $\triangle PMN$ . Let  $O$  be its center.  $IP$  is the diameter, so  $O$  is the midpoint of  $IP$ .

$H$  is the orthocenter of  $\triangle PMN$ . By Sylvester's theorem relating the circumcenter  $O$  and the orthocenter  $H$ , we have (using vectors originating from  $A$ ):  $\vec{AH} = \vec{AP} + \vec{AM} + \vec{AN} - 2\vec{AO}$ . By definition of  $V$ ,  $\vec{AV} = \vec{AM} + \vec{AN}$ .  $\vec{AH} = \vec{AP} + \vec{AV} - 2\vec{AO}$ . The vector from  $V$

to  $H$  is  $\vec{VH} = \vec{AH} - \vec{AV} = \vec{AP} - 2\vec{AO}$ . Since  $O$  is the midpoint of  $IP$ ,  $2\vec{AO} = \vec{AI} + \vec{AP}$ .  $\vec{VH} = \vec{AP} - (\vec{AI} + \vec{AP}) = -\vec{AI} = \vec{IA}$ .

Since  $I$  and  $A$  lie on the line  $AP$ , the vector  $\vec{IA}$  is parallel to  $AP$ . Thus, the line segment  $VH$  is parallel to  $AP$ . The line through  $H$  parallel to  $AP$  is the line  $VH$ .

We must show that the line  $VH$  is tangent to  $\Sigma$ . Since  $V \in \Sigma$  (Step 4), it suffices to show that  $VH$  is perpendicular to the radius at  $V$ . Let  $O_\Sigma$  be the center of  $\Sigma$ . We need to show  $VH \perp O_\Sigma V$ . Since  $VH \parallel AP$ , we need  $AP \perp O_\Sigma V$ . The points  $E, F$  lie on  $AP$ . In Step 3, we proved  $VE = VF$ . Thus  $V$  lies on the perpendicular bisector of the chord  $EF$ .  $O_\Sigma$  also lies on this bisector. Therefore, the line  $O_\Sigma V$  is the perpendicular bisector of  $EF$ . Thus  $O_\Sigma V \perp EF$ . Since  $EF$  lies on  $AP$ ,  $O_\Sigma V \perp AP$ .

We conclude that  $VH \perp O_\Sigma V$ . Therefore, the line  $VH$ , which is the line through  $H$  parallel to  $AP$ , is tangent to the circumcircle of triangle  $BEF$  at  $V$ .

### Problem 3

Let  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the set of positive integers. A function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is said to be *bonza* if

$$f(a) \text{ divides } b^a - f(b)^{f(a)}$$

for all positive integers  $a$  and  $b$ .

Determine the smallest real constant  $c$  such that  $f(n) \leq cn$  for all bonza functions  $f$  and all positive integers  $n$ .

We want to determine the smallest real constant  $c$  such that  $f(n) \leq cn$  for all bonza functions  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . A function  $f$  is bonza if  $f(a) \mid b^a - f(b)^{f(a)}$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $P(a, b)$  denote this assertion.

We will show that the smallest constant is  $c = 4$ .

#### Part 1: Properties and Classification of Bonza Functions

First, we establish some basic properties.  $P(a, a)$  implies  $f(a) \mid a^a$ .  $P(1, 1)$  implies  $f(1) = 1$ . Let  $S$  be the set of primes  $p$  such that  $f(p) > 1$ . Since  $f(p) \mid p^p$ , if  $p \in S$ , then  $f(p) = p^k$  for some  $k \geq 1$ .

**Lemma 1:** If  $p \in S$ , then  $f(b) \equiv b \pmod{p}$  for all  $b \in \mathbb{N}$ . *Proof:*  $P(p, b) \implies f(p) \mid b^p - f(b)^{f(p)}$ . Since  $p \in S$ ,  $p \mid f(p)$ . Thus  $b^p \equiv f(b)^{f(p)} \pmod{p}$ . By Fermat's Little Theorem (FLT),  $b^p \equiv b \pmod{p}$ . Since  $f(p)$  is a power of  $p$ , applying FLT repeatedly yields  $f(b)^{f(p)} \equiv f(b) \pmod{p}$ . Thus,  $b \equiv f(b) \pmod{p}$ .

**Lemma 2 (Classification):** The set  $S$  is either the set of all primes  $\mathbb{P}$ , the empty set  $\emptyset$ , or the singleton set  $\{2\}$ . *Proof:* Case 1:  $S$  is infinite. By Lemma 1, for any  $b \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f(b) - b$  is divisible by every prime in  $S$ . Since  $S$  is infinite,  $f(b) - b = 0$ , so  $f(b) = b$  for all  $b$ . Then  $f(p) = p > 1$  for all primes  $p$ , so  $S = \mathbb{P}$ .

Case 2:  $S$  is finite. Let  $M = \prod_{p \in S} p$ . (If  $S = \emptyset$ ,  $M = 1$ ). Let  $q$  be a prime not in  $S$ . Then  $f(q) = 1$ . If  $S$  is non-empty, for any  $p \in S$ , Lemma 1 gives  $1 = f(q) \equiv q \pmod{p}$ . Thus  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{M}$ .

Suppose  $S$  is finite and non-empty. Then  $M \geq 2$ . Suppose  $M > 2$ . Consider  $A = M - 1$ . Since  $M > 2$ ,  $1 < A < M$ . We have  $\gcd(A, M) = 1$ . Let  $q_0$  be any prime factor of  $A$ . Then  $q_0 \nmid M$ , so  $q_0 \notin S$ . Thus  $q_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{M}$ . This implies  $M \mid q_0 - 1$ , so  $M \leq q_0 - 1$ . Since  $q_0 \mid A$ ,  $q_0 \leq A = M - 1$ . Combining these gives  $M \leq q_0 - 1 \leq (M - 1) - 1 = M - 2$ .  $M \leq M - 2$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore, if  $S$  is finite and non-empty, we must have  $M = 2$ . This means  $S = \{2\}$ . If  $S$  is empty,  $M = 1$ .

#### Part 2: Establishing the Upper Bound $c \leq 4$

We analyze the three cases from Lemma 2.

Case 1:  $S = \mathbb{P}$ . We found  $f(n) = n$ . Then  $f(n)/n = 1$ .

Case 2:  $S = \emptyset$ .  $f(p) = 1$  for all primes  $p$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $f(n) > 1$ , let  $q$  be a prime factor of  $f(n)$ . Since  $f(n) \mid n^n$ ,  $q \mid n$ .  $P(n, q) \implies f(n) \mid q^n - f(q)^{f(n)}$ . Since  $q \notin S$ ,  $f(q) = 1$ . So  $f(n) \mid q^n - 1$ . Since  $q \mid f(n)$ ,  $q \mid q^n - 1$ . As  $q \mid n$ ,  $q \mid q^n$ . Thus  $q \mid 1$ . Contradiction. So  $f(n) = 1$  for all  $n$ .  $f(n)/n \leq 1$ .

Case 3:  $S = \{2\}$ .  $f(2) > 1$ , and  $f(p) = 1$  for all odd primes  $p$ . First, we show  $f(n)$  is a power of 2 for all  $n$ . Let  $q$  be an odd prime factor of  $f(n)$ . Then  $q \mid n$ .  $f(q) = 1$ .  $P(n, q) \implies f(n) \mid q^n - f(q)^{f(n)} = q^n - 1$ . Since  $q \mid f(n)$ ,  $q \mid q^n - 1$ . This is impossible as  $q \mid n$  implies  $q \mid q^n$ . Thus  $f(n)$  is a power of 2.

If  $n$  is odd,  $f(n) \mid n^n$  (odd). So  $f(n) = 1$ .

If  $n$  is even. Let  $n = 2^k m$ , where  $k = v_2(n) \geq 1$  and  $m$  is odd. Let  $f(n) = 2^e$ . Let  $b$  be any odd integer.  $f(b) = 1$ .  $P(n, b) \implies f(n) \mid b^n - f(b)^{f(n)} = b^n - 1$ . So  $2^e \mid b^n - 1$ . Thus  $e \leq \min_{b \text{ odd}} v_2(b^n - 1)$ .

We need the following lemma to analyze the 2-adic valuation.

**Lemma 3:** Let  $X$  be an odd integer and  $K \geq 1$  an integer. Then  $v_2(X^{2^K} - 1) = v_2(X^2 - 1) + K - 1$ . *Proof:* We use induction on  $K$ . Base case  $K = 1$ :  $v_2(X^2 - 1) = v_2(X^2 - 1) + 1 - 1$ . Inductive step: Assume it holds for  $K \geq 1$ . We check  $K + 1$ .  $v_2(X^{2^{K+1}} - 1) = v_2((X^{2^K} - 1)(X^{2^K} + 1))$ . Since  $X$  is odd,  $X^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ . Since  $K \geq 1$ ,  $X^{2^K} = (X^2)^{2^{K-1}} \equiv 1^{2^{K-1}} = 1 \pmod{8}$ . Thus  $X^{2^K} + 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{8}$ , so  $v_2(X^{2^K} + 1) = 1$ .  $v_2(X^{2^{K+1}} - 1) = v_2(X^{2^K} - 1) + 1 = (v_2(X^2 - 1) + K - 1) + 1 = v_2(X^2 - 1) + K$ .

Now we analyze  $v_2(b^n - 1) = v_2(b^{2^k m} - 1)$ . Let  $X = b^m$ . Since  $b, m$  are odd,  $X$  is odd. By Lemma 3 (with  $K = k$ ),  $v_2(b^n - 1) = v_2(X^{2^k} - 1) = v_2(X^2 - 1) + k - 1$ . We want to minimize this over odd  $b$ .  $X^2 - 1 = b^{2m} - 1$ . Since  $b^m$  is odd,  $(b^m)^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , so  $v_2(b^{2m} - 1) \geq 3$ . The minimum is achieved when  $b = 3$ . We calculate  $v_2(3^{2m} - 1) = v_2(9^m - 1)$ .  $9^m - 1 = (9 - 1)(9^{m-1} + \dots + 1)$ . The second factor is a sum of  $m$  odd terms. Since  $m$  is odd, the sum is odd.  $v_2(9^m - 1) = v_2(8) = 3$ . Thus,  $\min_{b \text{ odd}} v_2(b^n - 1) = 3 + (k - 1) = k + 2$ . So  $e \leq k + 2$ .

The ratio is  $\frac{f(n)}{n} = \frac{2^e}{2^k m} \leq \frac{2^{k+2}}{2^k m} = \frac{4}{m}$ . Since  $m \geq 1$ ,  $f(n)/n \leq 4$ .

In all cases,  $f(n) \leq 4n$  for all bonza functions  $f$ . Thus  $c \leq 4$ .

### Part 3: Construction and Lower Bound $c \geq 4$

We construct a bonza function  $g(n)$  that achieves the bound 4. Define  $g(n)$  as follows:

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 16 & \text{if } n = 4 \\ 2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even and } n \neq 4 \end{cases}$$

For  $n = 4$ ,  $g(4) = 16$ , so  $g(4)/4 = 4$ . If  $g$  is bonza, then  $c \geq 4$ .

We verify that  $g$  is bonza. We check  $g(a) \mid b^a - g(b)^{g(a)}$ .

Case 1:  $a$  is odd.  $g(a) = 1$ . The condition holds trivially.

Case 2:  $a = 4$ .  $g(4) = 16$ . We need  $16 \mid b^4 - g(b)^{16}$ . If  $b$  is odd,  $g(b) = 1$ . We need  $16 \mid b^4 - 1$ . For any odd  $b$ ,  $b^2 \pmod{16}$  is in  $\{1, 9\}$ . So  $b^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{16}$ . If  $b$  is even,  $v_2(b) \geq 1$ .  $v_2(b^4) \geq 4$ . So  $16 \mid b^4$ .  $g(b)$  is either 2 or 16.  $g(b)$  is even.  $v_2(g(b)^{16}) \geq 16$ . So  $16 \mid g(b)^{16}$ . The condition holds.

Case 3:  $a$  is even and  $a \neq 4$ .  $g(a) = 2$ .  $a \geq 2$ . We need  $2 \mid b^a - g(b)^2$ . If  $b$  is odd,  $b^a$  is odd.  $g(b) = 1$ .  $b^a - g(b)^2$  is odd-1=even. If  $b$  is even.  $b^a$  is even (since  $a \geq 2$ ).  $g(b) \in \{2, 16\}$ .  $g(b)$  is even, so  $g(b)^2$  is even.  $b^a - g(b)^2$  is even. The condition holds.

The function  $g(n)$  is bonza.

## Conclusion

We have proved that  $f(n) \leq 4n$  for all bonza functions  $f$ , so  $c \leq 4$ . We have constructed a bonza function  $g(n)$  such that  $g(4)/4 = 4$ , so  $c \geq 4$ . Therefore, the smallest real constant  $c$  is 4.



### Problem 4

A *proper divisor* of a positive integer  $N$  is a positive divisor of  $N$  other than  $N$  itself.

The infinite sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  consists of positive integers, each of which has at least three proper divisors. For each  $n \geq 1$ , the integer  $a_{n+1}$  is the sum of the three largest proper divisors of  $a_n$ .

Determine all possible values of  $a_1$ .

We want to determine all possible values of  $a_1$  such that the sequence defined by  $a_{n+1} = S(a_n)$  is an infinite sequence of positive integers, where  $S(N)$  is the sum of the three largest proper divisors of  $N$ , and each  $a_n$  has at least three proper divisors (i.e., the total number of divisors  $\tau(a_n) \geq 4$ ).

Let  $R(N) = S(N)/N$ . If  $\tau(N) \geq 5$ , and  $1 = d_1 < d_2 < d_3 < d_4$  are the smallest divisors of  $N$ , then  $R(N) = \frac{1}{d_2} + \frac{1}{d_3} + \frac{1}{d_4}$ .

**Step 1: Proving that  $a_n$  is even for all  $n$ .**

Suppose  $N$  is odd and  $\tau(N) \geq 4$ . The divisors of  $N$  are odd. If  $\tau(N) \geq 5$ ,  $d_2 \geq 3, d_3 \geq 5, d_4 \geq 7$ .  $R(N) \leq \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7} = \frac{71}{105} < 1$ . If  $\tau(N) = 4$ ,  $N = p^3$  or  $N = pq$  for odd primes  $p < q$ . The proper divisors are  $1, p, p^2$  or  $1, p, q$ .  $S(p^3) = 1 + p + p^2$ . For  $p \geq 3$ ,  $p^3 - (1 + p + p^2) = p^2(p - 1) - p - 1 \geq 9(2) - 3 - 1 = 14 > 0$ .  $S(pq) = 1 + p + q$ . For  $p \geq 3, q \geq 5$ ,  $pq - (1 + p + q) = (p - 1)(q - 1) - 2 \geq 2 \cdot 4 - 2 = 6 > 0$ . In all cases,  $S(N) < N$ . Furthermore, the three largest proper divisors are odd, so their sum  $S(N)$  is odd.

If  $a_n$  were odd for some  $n$ . Since  $\tau(a_n) \geq 4$  by the problem statement,  $a_{n+1} = S(a_n) < a_n$  and  $a_{n+1}$  is odd. By induction,  $(a_k)_{k \geq n}$  would be a strictly decreasing infinite sequence of positive integers. This contradicts the Well-Ordering Principle. Thus,  $a_n$  is even for all  $n$ .

**Step 2: Proving that  $a_n$  is divisible by 3 for all  $n$ .**

Suppose  $N$  is even,  $\tau(N) \geq 4$ , and  $3 \nmid N$ .  $d_2 = 2$ . Since  $3 \nmid N$ ,  $d_3 \geq 4$ . If  $\tau(N) \geq 5$ ,  $d_4 \geq 5$ .  $R(N) \leq \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{19}{20} < 1$ . If  $\tau(N) = 4$ .  $N = 8$  or  $N = 2p$  (prime  $p \geq 5$ ).  $S(8) = 7 < 8$ .  $S(2p) = p + 3 < 2p$ . In all cases,  $S(N) < N$ .

We prove a lemma: Lemma: Let  $N$  be even,  $\tau(N) \geq 4$ , and  $3 \nmid N$ . If  $3 \mid S(N)$ , then  $S(N)$  is odd. Proof: If  $\tau(N) = 4$ ,  $S(8) = 7$ ,  $S(2p) = p + 3$ . Since  $3 \nmid p$ ,  $3 \nmid p + 3$ . So  $3 \nmid S(N)$ . The implication holds vacuously. If  $\tau(N) \geq 5$ .  $R(N) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{d_3} + \frac{1}{d_4}$ . Since  $3 \nmid N$ ,  $3 \nmid d_i$ . If  $3 \mid S(N)$ , since  $3 \nmid N$ , we must have  $v_3(R(N)) > 0$ .  $R(N) = \frac{d_3 d_4 + 2d_3 + 2d_4}{2d_3 d_4}$ . The denominator is not divisible by 3. The numerator  $X = d_3 d_4 + 2d_3 + 2d_4$  must be divisible by 3.  $X \equiv d_3 d_4 - d_3 - d_4 \equiv (d_3 - 1)(d_4 - 1) - 1 \pmod{3}$ .  $X \equiv 0 \implies (d_3 - 1)(d_4 - 1) \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . This requires  $d_3 \equiv 2$  and  $d_4 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . If  $4 \mid N$ . Since  $3 \nmid N$ , the divisors start  $1, 2, 4$ . So  $d_3 = 4$ . But  $4 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , contradicting  $d_3 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . Thus  $v_2(N) = 1$ .  $N = 2M$  with  $M$  odd,  $3 \nmid M$ . Let  $p$  be the smallest prime factor of  $M$  ( $p \geq 5$ ).  $d_3 = p$ . We need  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .  $d_4$  is the next smallest divisor.  $2p \equiv 2(2) = 4 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . Since  $d_4 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $d_4 \neq 2p$ . So  $d_4$  must be the next smallest divisor of  $M$ , call it  $m_3$ .  $d_4$  is odd.  $S(N) = N/2 + N/p + N/d_4 = M + 2M/p + 2M/d_4$ . Since  $M$  is odd and  $p, d_4$  are

odd divisors of  $M$ ,  $M/p$  and  $M/d_4$  are odd integers.  $S(N) = \text{Odd} + \text{Even} + \text{Even} = \text{Odd}$ . The lemma is proved.

Now, suppose  $3 \nmid a_n$  for some  $n$ . We know  $a_n$  is even and  $a_{n+1} = S(a_n) < a_n$ . If  $3|a_{n+1}$ , by the Lemma applied to  $a_n$ ,  $a_{n+1}$  must be odd. This contradicts Step 1. Thus  $3 \nmid a_{n+1}$ . By induction,  $(a_k)_{k \geq n}$  is a strictly decreasing infinite sequence of positive integers. Contradiction. Therefore,  $3|a_n$  for all  $n$ .

Combining Step 1 and Step 2,  $6|a_n$  for all  $n$ . Note that  $6|N$  implies  $\tau(N) \geq 4$ .

### Step 3: Analyzing the dynamics when $6|N$ .

If  $6|N$ , the smallest divisors are 1, 2, 3. The fourth smallest divisor  $d_4$  must be 4, 5, or 6.  $R(N) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{d_4} = \frac{5}{6} + \frac{1}{d_4}$ . (This holds even if  $\tau(N) = 4$ , i.e.,  $N = 6$ , where  $S(6) = 6$ ,  $R(6) = 1$ , and  $d_4$  is formally  $N = 6$ ).

We identify three regimes: Regime A (Growth):  $d_4 = 4$ . Occurs if  $12|N$ .  $R(N) = 13/12$ . Regime B (Boost):  $d_4 = 5$ . Occurs if  $30|N$  and  $4 \nmid N$  ( $v_2(N) = 1$ ).  $R(N) = 31/30$ . Regime C (Fixed Point):  $d_4 = 6$ . Occurs if  $6|N$ ,  $4 \nmid N$ ,  $5 \nmid N$ .  $R(N) = 1$ .

### Step 4: Evolution of the sequence and constraints on $a_1$ .

If  $a_n \in B$ .  $v_2(a_n) = 1$ .  $a_{n+1} = (31/30)a_n$ .  $v_2(a_{n+1}) = v_2(a_n) + v_2(31/30) = 1 - 1 = 0$ .  $a_{n+1}$  is odd. This contradicts Step 1. Thus, the sequence must remain in  $A \cup C$ .

If  $a_n \in A$ .  $a_{n+1} = (13/12)a_n$ .  $v_2(a_{n+1}) = v_2(a_n) - 2$ .  $v_3(a_{n+1}) = v_3(a_n) - 1$ . Since  $6|a_k$  for all  $k$ ,  $v_2(a_k) \geq 1$  and  $v_3(a_k) \geq 1$ . As the valuations decrease in Regime A, the sequence cannot stay in A indefinitely. It must eventually reach Regime C and stabilize there ( $a_{n+1} = a_n$ ).

In Regimes A ( $R = 13/12$ ) and C ( $R = 1$ ),  $v_5(R(N)) = 0$ . Thus  $v_5(a_n)$  is constant. Let  $L$  be the stable value in C. By definition of C,  $5 \nmid L$ . So  $v_5(L) = 0$ . Therefore,  $v_5(a_1) = 0$ .

### Step 5: Characterization of $a_1$ .

Let  $K \geq 0$  be the number of steps the sequence spends in Regime A before reaching Regime C.  $a_1, \dots, a_K \in A$  (if  $K \geq 1$ ) and  $a_{K+1} \in C$ . Since  $5 \nmid a_1$ ,  $5 \nmid a_n$  for all  $n$ .

Let  $A = v_2(a_1)$  and  $B = v_3(a_1)$ .  $a_{K+1} = (13/12)^K a_1$ .  $v_2(a_{K+1}) = A - 2K$ .  $v_3(a_{K+1}) = B - K$ . Since  $a_{K+1} \in C$ , we must have  $v_2(a_{K+1}) = 1$  (as  $6|a_{K+1}$  and  $4 \nmid a_{K+1}$ ) and  $v_3(a_{K+1}) \geq 1$ .  $A - 2K = 1 \implies A = 2K + 1$ .  $B - K \geq 1 \implies B \geq K + 1$ .

We verify that these conditions are sufficient. We must ensure  $a_i \in A$  for  $1 \leq i \leq K$ . This means  $12|a_i$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq K$ :  $v_2(a_i) = A - 2(i-1) = 2K + 1 - 2i + 2 = 2(K-i) + 3$ . Since  $i \leq K$ ,  $v_2(a_i) \geq 3$ .  $v_3(a_i) = B - (i-1) \geq (K+1) - (i-1) = K - i + 2$ . Since  $i \leq K$ ,  $v_3(a_i) \geq 2$ . Thus  $2^3 \cdot 3^2 = 72$  divides  $a_i$ . This implies  $12|a_i$ , so  $a_i \in A$ . This also ensures that  $a_{i+1} = (13/12)a_i$  is an integer. The sequence is valid.

We express the possible values of  $a_1$ .  $a_1 = 2^{2K+1}3^B M$ , where  $K \geq 0$ ,  $B \geq K + 1$ , and  $M$  is a positive integer such that  $\gcd(M, 30) = 1$  (since  $v_5(a_1) = 0$ ). We rewrite this as:  $a_1 = (2^{2K+1}3^{K+1}) \cdot (3^{B-(K+1)}M)$ .  $2^{2K+1}3^{K+1} = (2 \cdot 4^K) \cdot (3 \cdot 3^K) = 6 \cdot (12^K)$ . Let  $J = 3^{B-K-1}M$ .  $J$  is a positive integer. Since  $\gcd(M, 30) = 1$ ,  $J$  is not divisible by 2 or 5. That is,  $\gcd(J, 10) = 1$ . Conversely, any positive integer  $J$  such that  $\gcd(J, 10) = 1$  can be represented in this form for a given  $K$  (by taking  $B = K + 1 + v_3(J)$  and  $M = J/3^{v_3(J)}$ ).

The set of all possible values of  $a_1$  consists of the integers of the form  $6J \cdot 12^K$ , where  $K \geq 0$  is an integer and  $J$  is a positive integer such that  $\gcd(J, 10) = 1$ .

### Problem 5

Alice and Bazza are playing the *inekoalaty game*, a two-player game whose rules depend on a positive real number  $\lambda$  which is known to both players. On the  $n^{\text{th}}$  turn of the game (starting with  $n = 1$ ) the following happens:

- If  $n$  is odd, Alice chooses a nonnegative real number  $x_n$  such that

$$x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n \leq \lambda n.$$

- If  $n$  is even, Bazza chooses a nonnegative real number  $x_n$  such that

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_n^2 \leq n.$$

If a player cannot choose a suitable number  $x_n$ , the game ends and the other player wins. If the game goes on forever, neither player wins. All chosen numbers are known to both players.

Determine all values of  $\lambda$  for which Alice has a winning strategy and all those for which Bazza has a winning strategy.

We determine the values of  $\lambda$  for which Alice has a winning strategy and those for which Bazza has a winning strategy. Let  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$  and  $Q_n = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$ . Alice (A) plays at odd  $n$ , ensuring  $x_n \geq 0$  and  $S_n \leq \lambda n$ . Bazza (B) plays at even  $n$ , ensuring  $x_n \geq 0$  and  $Q_n \leq n$ . The critical value for  $\lambda$  is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ .

Case 1:  $0 < \lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Bazza has a winning strategy.

Let  $\delta = \sqrt{2} - 2\lambda$ . Since  $\lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ , we have  $\delta > 0$ .

Bazza's strategy (B-MaxQ) is to ensure  $Q_{2k} = 2k$  at every turn  $n = 2k$ . This requires choosing  $x_{2k} = \sqrt{2k - Q_{2k-1}}$ . This is feasible if  $Q_{2k-1} \leq 2k$ .

Let  $C_k$  be the budget available to Alice at the start of turn  $2k-1$ :  $C_k = \lambda(2k-1) - S_{2k-2}$  (with  $S_0 = 0$ ). Alice must choose  $x_{2k-1} \in [0, C_k]$ . If  $C_k < 0$ , Alice loses immediately.

We analyze the evolution of  $C_k$ , assuming the game continues and Bazza follows B-MaxQ.  $C_{k+1} = \lambda(2k+1) - S_{2k} = C_k + 2\lambda - (x_{2k-1} + x_{2k})$ .

If Bazza successfully follows B-MaxQ up to turn  $2k$ , then  $Q_{2k} = 2k$  and  $Q_{2k-2} = 2k-2$ . Thus,  $x_{2k-1}^2 + x_{2k}^2 = Q_{2k} - Q_{2k-2} = 2$ . Since  $x_i \geq 0$ ,  $(x_{2k-1} + x_{2k})^2 = 2 + 2x_{2k-1}x_{2k} \geq 2$ , so  $x_{2k-1} + x_{2k} \geq \sqrt{2}$ .

Therefore,  $C_{k+1} \leq C_k + 2\lambda - \sqrt{2} = C_k - \delta$ .

We must verify that B-MaxQ is always feasible as long as the game continues (i.e.,  $C_k \geq 0$ ). We proceed by induction.  $C_1 = \lambda$ . Since  $\delta > 0$ , if  $C_k \geq 0$ , the sequence  $C_k$  is strictly decreasing. Thus  $C_k \leq C_1 = \lambda$ . Since  $\lambda < 1/\sqrt{2}$ , Alice must choose  $x_{2k-1} \leq C_k < 1/\sqrt{2}$ . If Bazza maintained  $Q_{2k-2} = 2k-2$ , then  $Q_{2k-1} = Q_{2k-2} + x_{2k-1}^2 = 2k-2 + x_{2k-1}^2 < 2k-2 + 1/2 = 2k-3/2$ . Since  $Q_{2k-1} < 2k$ , Bazza can choose  $x_{2k}$  to achieve  $Q_{2k} = 2k$ . B-MaxQ is always feasible.

Since  $C_{k+1} \leq C_k - \delta$ , the budget decreases by at least  $\delta$  in each round pair.  $C_k \leq C_1 - (k-1)\delta = \lambda - (k-1)\delta$ . Since  $\lambda$  is fixed and  $\delta > 0$ , there exists an integer  $K$  such that  $(K-1)\delta > \lambda$ . For this  $K$ ,  $C_K < 0$ . At turn  $2K-1$ , Alice needs to choose  $x_{2K-1} \geq 0$  such that  $x_{2K-1} \leq C_K$ . Since  $C_K < 0$ , no such choice exists. Bazza wins.

Case 2:  $\lambda > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Alice has a winning strategy.

Consider the function  $h(K) = \frac{K\sqrt{2}}{2K-1}$  for  $K \geq 1$ .  $h(K)$  is strictly decreasing and  $\lim_{K \rightarrow \infty} h(K) = 1/\sqrt{2}$ . Since  $\lambda > 1/\sqrt{2}$ , there exists an integer  $K \geq 1$  such that  $\lambda > h(K)$ . This implies  $L = \lambda(2K-1) > K\sqrt{2}$ .

Alice's strategy (A-Spike-K): Play  $x_{2i-1} = 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, K-1$ . At turn  $2K-1$ , play the maximum possible value.

First, we verify the feasibility. For  $i < K$ , Alice plays  $x_{2i-1} = 0$ . She needs  $S_{2i-1} = S_{2i-2} \leq \lambda(2i-1)$ . Bazza is constrained by  $Q_{2i-2} \leq 2(i-1)$ . By the QM-AM inequality (or Cauchy-Schwarz),  $S_{2i-2} \leq \sqrt{(i-1)Q_{2i-2}} \leq \sqrt{(i-1)2(i-1)} = (i-1)\sqrt{2}$ . We check the constraint:  $(i-1)\sqrt{2} \leq \lambda(2i-1)$ , or  $\lambda \geq \frac{(i-1)\sqrt{2}}{2i-1}$ . The RHS is an increasing sequence converging to  $1/\sqrt{2}$ . Since  $\lambda > 1/\sqrt{2}$ , the strategy is feasible.

Now we analyze the outcome. Let  $N = K-1$ . Bazza has made  $N$  moves  $y_i = x_{2i}$  ( $i = 1, \dots, N$ ). At turn  $2K-1$ , Alice plays  $x_{2K-1} = L - S_{2N}$ . Since  $S_{2N} \leq N\sqrt{2}$  and  $L > K\sqrt{2} = (N+1)\sqrt{2}$ ,  $x_{2K-1} > \sqrt{2} > 0$ .

Alice wins if Bazza cannot move at turn  $2K$ , i.e.,  $Q_{2K-1} > 2K$ .  $Q_{2K-1} = Q_{2N} + (L - S_{2N})^2$ .

Bazza aims to minimize this quantity subject to his constraints:  $y_i \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^i y_j^2 \leq 2i$ . These constraints imply  $Q_{2N} \leq 2N$ , and consequently  $S_{2N} \leq N\sqrt{2}$ .

Let  $F(y) = Q_{2N}(y) + (L - S_{2N}(y))^2$ . Consider the strategy  $y^* = (\sqrt{2}, \dots, \sqrt{2})$ . This is feasible for Bazza as  $\sum_{j=1}^i (\sqrt{2})^2 = 2i$ . Let  $S^* = N\sqrt{2}$  and  $Q^* = 2N$ .

Let  $y$  be any feasible strategy for Bazza. Let  $\Delta S = S^* - S_{2N}(y) \geq 0$ . We compare  $F(y)$  with  $F(y^*)$ . We use the identity  $\sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 = Q_{2N}(y) - 2\sqrt{2}S_{2N}(y) + 2N$ .  $Q_{2N}(y) - Q^* = Q_{2N}(y) - 2N = \sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 + 2\sqrt{2}S_{2N}(y) - 4N$ .  $2\sqrt{2}S_{2N}(y) = 2\sqrt{2}(S^* - \Delta S) = 4N - 2\sqrt{2}\Delta S$ .  $Q_{2N}(y) - Q^* = \sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 - 2\sqrt{2}\Delta S$ .

$F(y) - F(y^*) = Q_{2N}(y) - Q^* + (L - S_{2N}(y))^2 - (L - S^*)^2$ .  $(L - S_{2N}(y))^2 = (L - (S^* - \Delta S))^2 = (L - S^*)^2 + 2(L - S^*)\Delta S + (\Delta S)^2$ .

$F(y) - F(y^*) = (\sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 - 2\sqrt{2}\Delta S) + 2(L - S^*)\Delta S + (\Delta S)^2$ .  $F(y) - F(y^*) = \sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 + 2(L - S^* - \sqrt{2})\Delta S + (\Delta S)^2$ .

By the choice of  $K$ ,  $L > K\sqrt{2} = (N+1)\sqrt{2} = S^* + \sqrt{2}$ . Let  $\epsilon = L - S^* - \sqrt{2} > 0$ .  $F(y) - F(y^*) = \sum (y_i - \sqrt{2})^2 + 2\epsilon\Delta S + (\Delta S)^2$ . Since all terms are non-negative,  $F(y) \geq F(y^*)$ . The minimum value of  $Q_{2K-1}$  is  $F(y^*)$ .

$Q_{2K-1} \geq F(y^*) = 2N + (L - N\sqrt{2})^2 = 2N + (\sqrt{2} + \epsilon)^2$ . Since  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $(\sqrt{2} + \epsilon)^2 > 2$ .  $Q_{2K-1} > 2N + 2 = 2K$ . Bazza cannot move at turn  $2K$ . Alice wins.

Case 3:  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Neither player has a winning strategy.

We show that both players have a strategy to ensure the game continues forever (a draw).

1. Alice's drawing strategy (A-Zero):  $x_{2k-1} = 0$  for all  $k$ . We verify the game continues forever. Alice's feasibility at turn  $2k-1$ : We need  $S_{2k-2} \leq \lambda(2k-1)$ . Bazza maximizes  $S_{2k-2}$  subject to  $Q_{2k-2} \leq 2k-2$ , achieving at most  $(k-1)\sqrt{2}$ . We check:  $(k-1)\sqrt{2} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(2k-1) \iff 2k-2 \leq 2k-1$ . True. Bazza's survival at turn  $2k$ : We need  $Q_{2k-1} \leq 2k$ .  $Q_{2k-1} = Q_{2k-2} \leq 2k-2 < 2k$ . Bazza survives. Alice's survival at turn  $2k+1$ : We need  $S_{2k} \leq \lambda(2k+1)$ . Bazza maximizes  $S_{2k}$  subject to  $Q_{2k} \leq 2k$ , achieving at most  $k\sqrt{2}$ . We check:  $k\sqrt{2} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(2k+1) \iff 2k \leq 2k+1$ . True. The game continues forever. Bazza cannot win.

2. Bazza's drawing strategy (B-MaxQ):  $Q_{2k} = 2k$ . We verify the game continues forever. Bazza's feasibility (survival). As shown in Case 1, if Bazza follows B-MaxQ,  $S_{2k-2} \geq (k-1)\sqrt{2}$ . Alice's budget  $C_k = \lambda(2k-1) - S_{2k-2}$ .  $C_k \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(2k-1) - (k-1)\sqrt{2} = \frac{2k-1-2(k-1)}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Alice must choose  $x_{2k-1} \leq 1/\sqrt{2}$ . Then  $Q_{2k-1} = 2k-2 + x_{2k-1}^2 \leq 2k-2 + 1/2 < 2k$ . B-MaxQ is feasible. Bazza survives.

Alice's survival. We must show  $C_k > 0$  for all  $k$ .  $C_1 = 1/\sqrt{2} > 0$ .  $C_{k+1} = C_k + 2\lambda - (x_{2k-1} + x_{2k}) = C_k + \sqrt{2} - (x_{2k-1} + x_{2k})$ . Bazza ensures  $x_{2k-1}^2 + x_{2k}^2 = 2$ . Let  $g(t) = t + \sqrt{2-t^2}$ .  $C_{k+1} = C_k + \sqrt{2} - g(x_{2k-1})$ . Alice chooses  $x_{2k-1} \in [0, C_k]$ . To ensure Alice survives, we check the minimum possible budget for the next turn. Since  $C_k \leq 1/\sqrt{2} < 1$  and  $g(t)$  is increasing on  $[0, 1]$  (as  $g'(t) = 1 - t/\sqrt{2-t^2} > 0$  for  $t < 1$ ),  $g(x_{2k-1})$  is maximized when  $x_{2k-1} = C_k$ .  $C_{k+1} \geq C_k + \sqrt{2} - g(C_k) = \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2-C_k^2}$ . If  $C_k > 0$ , then  $\sqrt{2-C_k^2} < \sqrt{2}$ , so  $C_{k+1} > 0$ . By induction,  $C_k > 0$  for all  $k$ . Alice survives. The game continues forever. Alice cannot win.

Conclusion: Alice has a winning strategy if and only if  $\lambda > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . Bazza has a winning strategy if and only if  $0 < \lambda < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ . If  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ , neither player has a winning strategy.