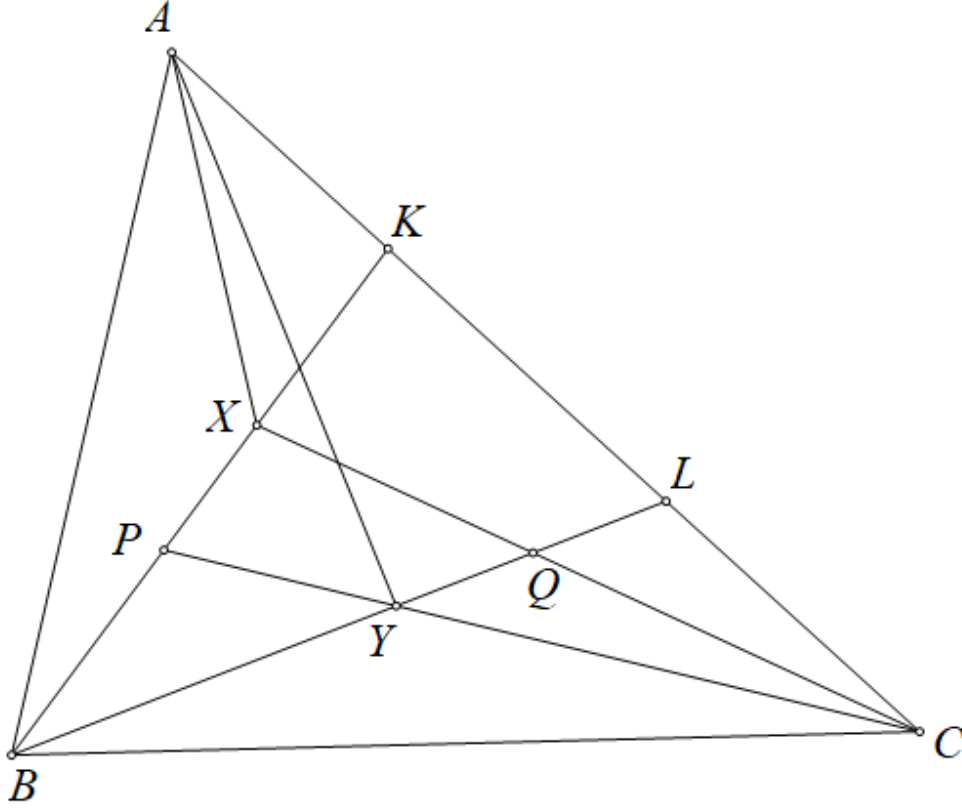


# Problem 1

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Lemma:  $ABC$ ,  $P, Q$  be two arbitrary points. Let  $BP$  cut  $CQ$  at  $X$ ,  $BQ$  cut  $CP$  at  $Y$ . Then  $AP, AQ$  are reflections through the angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$  if and only if  $AX, AY$  are reflections through the angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$ . Proof:



Assume that  $AP, AQ$  are reflections across the angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$ . Let  $BP, BQ$  intersect  $AC$  at  $K, L$ , respectively.

It is known that reflection of lines through a fixed line preserves the cross ratio. Hence, let  $Y'$  be a point on  $BQ$  such that  $AY'$  is the reflection of  $AX$  across the angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$ . Then we have

$$(AB, AP, AX, AK) = (AL, AQ, AY', AB),$$

which is equivalent to

$$A(BP, XK) = A(LQ, Y'B).$$

Now consider the projection from  $C$ . We obtain

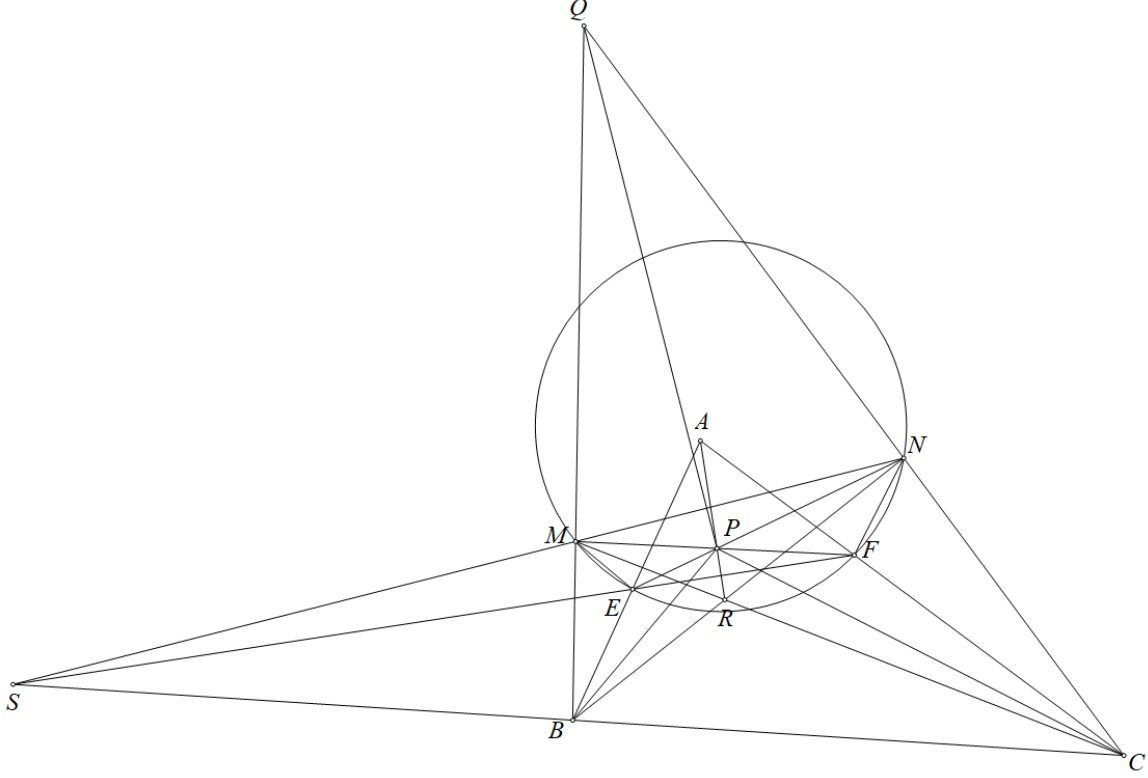
$$(CB, CY, CQ, CL) = (CB, CP, CX, CK),$$

which is equivalent to

$$(BY, QL) = (BP, XK) = (LQ, Y'B) = (BY', QL).$$

Hence,  $Y' \equiv Y$ , or equivalently,  $AX$  and  $AY$  are reflections across the angle bisector of  $\angle BAC$ , as desired.

Back to the main problem,



Claim:  $MN, EF, BC$  are concurrent.

Since  $\angle BPF = \angle CPE$ , we have  $\angle PFM = \angle PEN$ , so  $MFEN$  is a cyclic quadrilateral.

Let  $MN$  intersect  $EF$  at  $S$ . Then

$$\frac{SE}{SF} = \frac{SE}{SM} \cdot \frac{SM}{SF} = \frac{EN}{FM} \cdot \frac{SM}{SF} \quad (1).$$

Let  $BC$  intersect  $EF$  at  $S'$ .

$$\text{We have } \frac{BF}{BA} = \frac{\sin \angle BPF}{\sin \angle APB} \cdot \frac{PF}{PA}, \quad \frac{CE}{CA} = \frac{\sin \angle CPE}{\sin \angle CPA} \cdot \frac{PE}{PA}.$$

Hence, by Menelaus' theorem,

$$\frac{S'E}{S'F} = \frac{CE}{CA} \cdot \frac{BA}{BF} = \frac{\sin \angle CPE}{\sin \angle BPF} \cdot \frac{\sin \angle APB}{\sin \angle CPA} \cdot \frac{PE}{PF} = \frac{\sin \angle MFE}{\sin \angle SMF} \cdot \frac{PE}{PF} = \frac{SM}{SF} \cdot \frac{EN}{FM}.$$

Combining with (1), we get  $S' \equiv S$ , so  $MN, EF, BC$  are concurrent at  $S$ , or the claim is proved.

Therefore, we have that  $S$ -the intersection of  $MN$  and  $BC$ ;  $E$ -the intersection of  $PM$  and  $AC$ ;  $F$ -the intersection of  $PN$  and  $AB$  are collinear(2).

Hence, applying Desargues' theorem to  $\triangle ABC$  and  $\triangle PNM$ , using (2) we obtain that  $AP, BN, CM$  are concurrent at  $R$ .

Since  $PB$  and  $PC$  are isogonal lines in  $\angle MPN$ , and  $Q$  is the intersection of  $BM$  and  $CN$ , while  $R$  is the intersection of  $BN$  and  $CM$ , it follows that  $PQ$  and  $PR$  are isogonal lines in  $\angle MPN$ . Therefore,  $PQ \perp MN$ .