SOLUTIONS

No problem is ever permanently closed. Any comments, new solutions, or new insights on old problems are always welcomed by the editor.

17. Proposed by Stanley Rabinowitz, Westford, Massachusetts.

Let ABCD be an isosceles tetrahedron. (An isosceles tetrahedron is a tetrahedron whose opposite edges are equal.) Denote the dihedral angle at edge AB by $\angle AB$. Prove that

$$\frac{AB}{\sin \angle AB} = \frac{AC}{\sin \angle AC} = \frac{AD}{\sin \angle AD} \ .$$

Solution by the proposer.

Let AH be the altitude from A to face BCD and let AE be the altitude from A to BC in face ABC. Then triangle AHE is a right triangle with $\angle AEH = \angle BC$. Hence $\sin \angle BC = AH/AE$. But AH = 3V/K, where V is the volume of the tetrahedron and K is the area of any face; and AE = 2K/BC. Therefore $\sin \angle BC = 3V(BC)/2K^2$ and hence

$$\frac{\sin \angle BC}{BC}$$

is constant. Since BC was arbitrary, this is true for all six edges of the tetrahedron.

18. Proposed by Jayanthi Ganapathy, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Let f be differentiable on an interval of the form (M, ∞) . Suppose

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} (f(x) + xf'(x)) = \alpha ,$$

where α is finite. Prove

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} f(x)$$
 and $\lim_{x \to \infty} f'(x)$

exist and evaluate these limits.