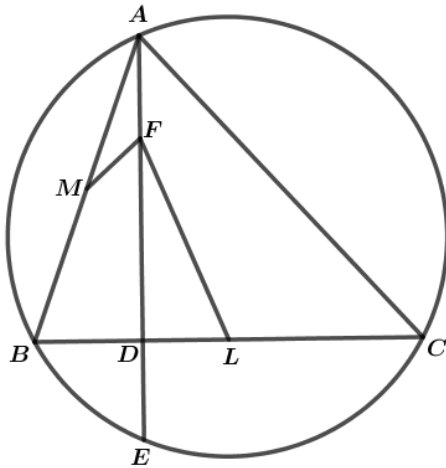
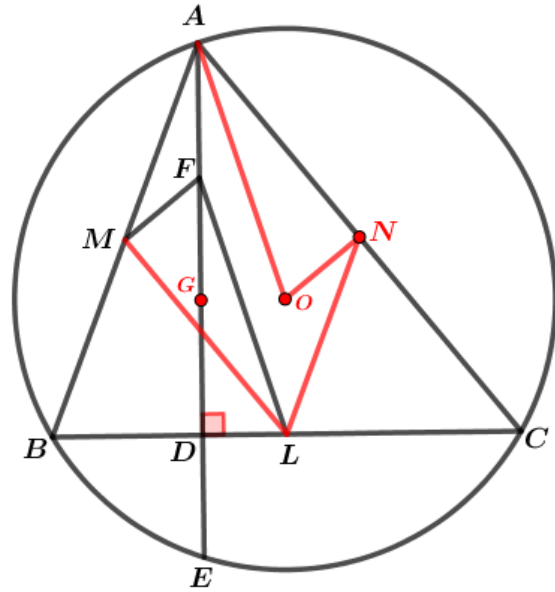


Second Prize Winner Mr. Lakshmi Narayanan Venkataraman's Solution



Figure#1



Figure#2

Let  $N, G$  be the mid-points of  $AC$  and  $AE$  respectively and  $O$  be the circumcentre of the given circumcircle of  $\triangle ABC$ .

$$\therefore \underline{\angle B} = \underline{\angle ABC} = \frac{1}{2} \underline{\angle AOC} = \underline{\angle AON}. \dots \#3$$

$AF \parallel OL$  as  $AD$  and  $OL$  are perpendicular to  $BC$ .

$$AF = AG - GF = \frac{1}{2}AE - GF \{ \text{as } G \text{ is mid - point of } AE \} = DF - GF \{ \text{given} \} = GD.$$

Now,  $OGDL$  is a rectangle as  $OG \perp GD$ ;  $GD \perp DL$ ;  $DL \perp LO$ , implies  $GD = OL$ .  $\therefore AF = OL$ .

$\therefore AFLO$  is a parallelogram implying  $AO = LF$  and  $AO \parallel LF$ .

$LM = \frac{1}{2}AC$  and  $LM \parallel AC$  by Mid-Point Theorem implying  $LM = AN$  and  $LM \parallel AN$ .

Suppose the lines  $L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4$  are such that  $L_1 \parallel L_2$  and  $L_3 \parallel L_4$  but  $L_2 \nparallel L_3$ , then the {acute or obtuse} angle between  $L_1$  and  $L_3$  is same as {acute or obtuse} angle between  $L_2$  and  $L_4$ .

So, angle between  $AO$  and  $AN$  equals angle between  $LF$  and  $LM$  as  $AO \parallel LF$  and  $AN \parallel LM$ .

$$\therefore \underline{\angle OAN} = \underline{\angle FLM}.$$

Now, in  $\triangle OAN$  and  $\triangle FLM$ , we've

$$OA = FL \text{ (side), } \underline{\angle OAN} = \underline{\angle FLM} \text{ (angle), } AN = LM \text{ (side).}$$

$$\therefore \triangle OAN \cong \triangle FLM \text{ by SAS congruency and by c.p.c.t. } \underline{\angle AON} = \underline{\angle LFM}. \dots \#4$$

From #3 and #4, we've  $\underline{\angle B} = \underline{\angle LFM}$ .