

Past Exam Questions: Algebra 1 - 3

Week 20 revision

Question 6

(30 marks)

- (a) $h(x) = x^2 + bx - 12$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and b is a constant.

Find the value of b for which $x - 4$ is a factor of $h(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} h(4) &= 0 \\ (4)^2 + b(4) - 12 &= 0 \\ 4b &= -4 \\ b &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Write the following expression as a single fraction in terms of t :

$$\frac{4}{2t+1} - \frac{7}{12t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4}{2t+1} - \frac{7}{12t} &= \frac{4(12t) - 7(2t+1)}{(2t+1)(12t)} \\ &= \frac{48t - 14t - 7}{(2t+1)(12t)} \\ &= \frac{34t - 7}{(2t+1)(12t)} \end{aligned}$$

Question 1

(30 marks)

- (a) Solve the following equation for $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$n - 3 = \sqrt{3n + 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (n - 3)^2 &= (\sqrt{3n + 1})^2 \\ n^2 - 6n + 9 &= 3n + 1 \\ n^2 - 9n + 8 &= 0 \\ (n - 8)(n - 1) &= 0 \\ n &= 8, n = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $n = 8$ [as $n = 1$ gives $-2 = \sqrt{4}$]

- (c) Solve the following simultaneous equations for $x, y, w \in \mathbb{Z}$:

$$x + 2y = 143$$

$$y + 3w = -74$$

$$4x + 5w = 4$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 1: & x + 2y & = 143 \\ 2 \times (-2): & -2y - 6w & = 148 \\ 4: & x - 6w & = 291 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 3: & 4x + 5w & = 4 \\ 4 \times (4): & 4x - 24w & = 1164 \\ 5: & 29w & = -1160 \\ \text{So} & w & = -40 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 4: & x - 6(-40) & = 291 \\ \text{So} & x & = 51 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 1: & 51 + 2y & = 143 \\ \text{So} & y & = 46 \end{array}$$

Question 1
(30 marks)

- (a) Find the two values of $m \in \mathbb{R}$ for which $|5 + 3m| = 11$.

Method 1:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 5 + 3m = 11 & 5 + 3m = -11 \\ 3m = 6 & 3m = -16 \\ m = 2 & m = -\frac{16}{3} \end{array}$$

Method 2:

$$\begin{aligned} (5 + 3m)^2 &= 11^2 \\ 25 + 30m + 9m^2 &= 121 \\ 9m^2 + 30m - 96 &= 0 \\ 3m^2 + 10m - 32 &= 0 \\ (3m + 16)(m - 2) &= 0 \\ m &= -\frac{16}{3}, m = 2 \end{aligned}$$

- (c) $x^2 - px + 1$ is a factor of $x^3 - 2x - 3r$, where $p, r \in \mathbb{R}$ and $p < 0$.

Find the value of p and the value of r .

Method 2

$$(x^2 - px + 1)(x + k) = x^3 - 2x - 3r$$

$$x^3 - px^2 + x + kx^2 - pkx + k = x^3 - 2x - 3r$$

$$x^3 + (k - p)x^2 + (1 - pk)x + k = x^3 - 2x - 3r$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l|l} k - p = 0 & 1 - pk = -2 & k = -3r \\ k = p & 1 - p^2 = -2 & r = -\frac{k}{3} \\ & p^2 = 3 & = -\frac{-\sqrt{3}}{3} \\ & p = -\sqrt{3} [p < 0] & = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \end{array}$$

- (b) For the real numbers h, j , and k :

$$\frac{1}{h} = \frac{k}{j+k}$$

Express k in terms of h and j .

$$\begin{aligned} j + k &= hk \\ k - hk &= -j \\ k(1 - h) &= -j \\ k &= -\frac{j}{1-h} \text{ or } k = \frac{j}{h-1} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) $f(x) = 2x^3 - 21x^2 + 40x + 63$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

- (i) $x + 1$ is a factor of $f(x)$. Find the three values of x for which $f(x) = 0$.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 23x + 63 \\ x + 1 \overline{) 2x^3 - 21x^2 + 40x + 63} \\ \underline{2x^3 + 2x^2} \\ -23x^2 + 40x + 63 \\ \underline{-23x^2 - 23x} \\ 63x + 63 \\ \underline{63x + 63} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$(x + 1)(2x^2 - 23x + 63) = 0$$

$$(x + 1)(2x - 9)(x - 7) = 0$$

$$x = -1, 4.5, \text{ or } 7$$

- (ii) The areas of the three regions **K**, **L**, and **N** give the following three equations (including the equation from **part (b)(i)**):

$$4a + 3b + 3c = 807$$

$$28a + 9b + 3c = 879$$

$$76a + 15b + 3c = 663$$

Solve these equations to find the values of a , b , and c .

$$(2) - (1): 24a + 6b = 72 \quad \dots(4)$$

$$(3) - (2): 48a + 6b = -216 \quad \dots(5)$$

$$(5) - (4): 24a = -288$$

$$\text{So } a = -12$$

$$(4): 24(-12) + 6b = 72$$

$$6b = 360 \text{ so } b = 60$$

$$(1): 4(-12) + 3(60) + 3c = 807$$

$$3c = 675 \text{ so } c = 225$$

Question 1

(30 marks)

- (a) Find the two values of $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ for which the following equation in x has exactly **one** solution:

$$3x^2 - mx + 3 = 0$$

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0$$

$$m^2 - 4(3)(3) = 0$$

$$m^2 = 36$$

$$m = \pm 6$$

- (b) Explain why the following equation in x has **no** real solutions:

$$(2x + 3)^2 + 7 = 0$$

$$(2x + 3)^2 \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{So } (2x + 3)^2 + 7 \geq 7 > 0$$

OR

$$(2x + 3)^2 = -7$$

$$2x + 3 = \pm\sqrt{-7}, \text{ which is not real}$$

OR

$$4x^2 + 12x + 9 + 7 = 0$$

$$4x^2 + 12x + 16 = 0$$

$$b^2 - 4ac = 12^2 - 4(4)(16) < 0, \\ \text{so no real roots}$$

- (c) (i) Show that $x = -1$ is **not** a solution of $3x^2 + 2x + 5 = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & 3(-1)^2 + 2(-1) + 5 \\ & = 3 - 2 + 5 = 6 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Find the **remainder** when $3x^2 + 2x + 5$ is divided by $x + 1$.

That is, find the value of c when $3x^2 + 2x + 5$ is written in the form

$$3x^2 + 2x + 5 = (x + 1)(ax + b) + c$$

where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad & (x + 1)(ax + b) + c \\ & = ax^2 + (a + b)x + b + c = 3x^2 + 2x + 5 \\ \text{So } a &= 3, \\ 3 + b &= 2, \text{ so } b = -1 \\ -1 + c &= 5, \text{ so } c = 6. \end{aligned}$$

Remainder, $c =$ _____

Question 2

(30 marks)

- (a) Given that $x = -3$ is a solution to $|x + p| = 5$, find the two values of p , where $p \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$\begin{aligned} |-3 + p| &= 5 && [LPC] \\ 9 - 6p + p^2 &= 25 && [MPC] \\ p^2 - 6p - 16 &= 0 \\ (p + 2)(p - 8) &= 0 && [HPC] \\ p &= -2 \text{ or } p = 8 \\ \text{OR} \\ |-3 + p| &= 5 \\ -3 + p &= 5 && \text{or } -3 + p = -5 \\ p &= 8 && \text{or } p = -2 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) $(x + 4)$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^3 + qx^2 - 22x + 56$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $q \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Show that $q = -5$, and find the three roots of $f(x)$.

Show

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 9x + 14 \\ x + 4 \overline{) \sqrt{x^3 - 5x^2 - 22x + 56}} \\ \underline{x^3 + 4x^2} \\ -9x^2 - 22x + 56 \\ \underline{-9x^2 - 36x} \\ 14x + 56 \\ \underline{14x + 56} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Remainder = 0, $\therefore q = -5$

$$x^3 - 5x^2 - 22x + 56 = 0$$

$$x^2(x + 4) - 9x(x + 4) + 14(x + 4) = 0$$

$$(x^2 - 9x + 14)(x + 4) = 0$$

$$(x - 2)(x - 7)(x + 4) = 0$$

$$\text{Roots} = (-4, 2, 7)$$

Question 1**(25 marks)**

(a) $f(x) = x^2 + 5x + p$ where $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $-3 \leq p \leq 8$, and $p \in \mathbb{Z}$.

(i) Find the value of p for which $x + 3$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

$$f(-3) = 0$$

$$f(-3) = -3^2 + 5(-3) + p = 0$$

$$9 - 15 + p = 0$$

$$p = 6$$

(ii) Find the value of p for which $f(x)$ has roots which differ by 3.

$$\alpha, \alpha + 3 = \text{roots}$$

$$\alpha + \alpha + 3 = -5$$

$$2\alpha = -8$$

$$\alpha = -4$$

$$\text{and } \alpha + 3 = -1$$

$$p = (-1)(-4) = 4$$

(b) Find the range of values of x for which $|2x + 5| - 1 \leq 0$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$(2x + 5)^2 \leq 1$$

$$4x^2 + 20x + 25 \leq 1$$

$$4x^2 + 20x + 24 \leq 0$$

$$x^2 + 5x + 6 \leq 0$$

$$(x + 2)(x + 3) \leq 0$$

$$x = -2, x = -3$$

$$-3 \leq x \leq -2$$

Question 3**(25 marks)**

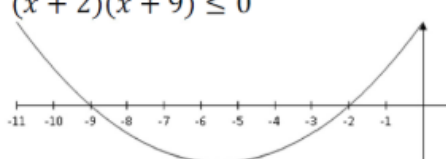
(a) Factorise fully: $3xy - 9x + 4y - 12$.

$$(3x + 4)(y - 3)$$

- (b) Solve the equation $\frac{3}{2x+1} + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{2}{3x-1}$ where $x \neq -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$, and $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{3}{2x+1} + \frac{2}{5} &= \frac{2}{3x-1} \\ \frac{15 + 2(2x+1)}{5(2x+1)} &= \frac{2}{3x-1} \\ \frac{4x+17}{10x+5} &= \frac{2}{3x-1} \\ (4x+17)(3x-1) &= 2(10x+5) \\ 12x^2 + 47x - 17 &= 20x + 10 \\ 12x^2 + 27x - 27 &= 0 \\ 4x^2 + 9x - 9 &= 0 \\ (x+3)(4x-3) &= 0 \\ x &= -3 \text{ or } x = \frac{3}{4}\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Solve the inequality $\frac{2x-3}{x+2} \geq 3$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $x \neq -2$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2x-3}{x+2} &\geq 3 \quad \times (x+2)^2 \\ (2x-3)(x+2) &\geq 3(x+2)^2 \\ 2x^2 + x - 6 &\geq 3x^2 + 12x + 12 \\ x^2 + 11x + 18 &\leq 0 \\ (x+2)(x+9) &\leq 0\end{aligned}$$


$$-9 \leq x < -2$$

Question 1

(25 marks)

- (a) Solve the simultaneous equations.

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 3y - z &= -4 \\ 3x + 2y + 2z &= 14 \\ x - 3z &= -13\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(i) \quad 2x + 3y - z &= -4 && \times (2) \\ (ii) \quad 3x + 2y + 2z &= 14 && \times (-3) \\ &&& \hline &&& 4x + 6y - 2z = -8 \\ &&& -9x - 6y - 6z = -42 \\ &&& \hline &&& -5x - 8z = -50 \\ (iii) \quad x - 3z &= -13 && \times (5) \\ &&& -5x - 8z = -50 \\ &&& \hline &&& 5x - 15z = -65 \\ &&& -23z &= -115 \\ &&& z &= 5 \\ &&& \Rightarrow x &= 2 \\ &&& \Rightarrow y &= -1 && \{2, -1, 5\}\end{aligned}$$

Question 2

(25 marks)

- (a) Find the range of values of x for which $|x-4| \geq 2$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 - 8x + 16 &\geq 4 \\ x^2 - 8x + 12 &\geq 0 \\ (x-2)(x-6) &\geq 0 \\ x &= 2 \quad x = 6 \\ \{x|x \leq 2\} \cup \{x|x \geq 6\}\end{aligned}$$

(b) Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 + xy + 2y^2 &= 4 \\ 2x + 3y &= -1.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-3y - 1}{2} \\ \left(\frac{-3y - 1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{-3y - 1}{2}\right)(y) + 2y^2 &= 4 \\ 11y^2 + 4y - 15 &= 0 \\ (11y + 15)(y - 1) &= 0 \\ y &= \frac{-15}{11} \text{ or } y = 1 \\ x &= \frac{-3\left(\frac{-15}{11}\right) - 1}{2} \text{ or } x = \frac{-3(1) - 1}{2} \\ x &= \frac{17}{11} \text{ or } x = -2\end{aligned}$$

Question 2

(25 marks)

(a) Find the set of all real values of x for which $2x^2 + x - 15 \geq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= 2x^2 + x - 15 = (2x - 5)(x + 3) \\ (2x - 5)(x + 3) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x &= \frac{5}{2} \text{ or } x = -3\end{aligned}$$

$$(i): x \geq -3 \text{ and } x \geq \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow x \geq \frac{5}{2}$$

$$(ii): x \leq -3 \text{ and } x \leq \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow x \leq -3$$

$$\text{Solution Set: } \{x \mid x \leq -3\} \cup \{x \mid x \geq \frac{5}{2}\}$$

Question 5

(25 marks)

(a) Solve the equation $x = \sqrt{x+6}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \sqrt{x+6} \\ \Rightarrow x^2 &= x+6 \\ \Rightarrow x^2 - x - 6 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (x+2)(x-3) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x &= -2, \quad x = 3 \\ x = -2: \quad -2 &\neq \sqrt{-2+6} = \sqrt{4} = 2 \quad \times \\ x = 3: \quad 3 &= \sqrt{3+6} = \sqrt{9} = 3 \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

Question 2

(25 marks)

Solve the equation $x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + 11 = 0$.

Write any irrational solution in the form $a + b\sqrt{c}$, where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$.

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + 11$$

$$f(1) = 1^3 - 3(1)^2 - 9 + 11 = 0$$

$\Rightarrow x = 1$ is a solution.

$(x - 1)$ is a factor

$$\begin{array}{r|l} x-1 & \begin{array}{r} x^2 - 2x - 11 \\ x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + 11 \\ \hline -2x^2 - 9x + 11 \\ -2x^2 + 2x \\ \hline -11x + 11 \\ -11x + 11 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{aligned} (x-1)(x^2 + Ax - 11) &= x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + 11 \\ \Rightarrow x^3 + Ax^2 - x - x^2 - Ax + 11 &= x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + 11 \\ \Rightarrow A - 1 &= -3 \\ \Rightarrow A &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, other factor is $x^2 - 2x - 11$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(-11)}}{2(1)} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{48}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 4\sqrt{3}}{2} = 1 \pm 2\sqrt{3}$$

Solutions: $\{1, 1 + 2\sqrt{3}, 1 - 2\sqrt{3}\}$

(b) Solve the simultaneous equations;

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + z &= 16 \\ \frac{5}{2}x + y + 10z &= 40 \\ 2x + \frac{1}{2}y + 4z &= 21.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + z &= 16 \\ \frac{5}{2}x + y + 10z &= 40 & \Rightarrow & \begin{aligned}2x + 2y + 2z &= 32 \\ 5x + 2y + 20z &= 80 \\ \hline 3x &+ 18z = 48\end{aligned} \\ x + y + z &= 16 \\ 4x + y + 8z &= 42 \\ \hline 3x &+ 7z = 26 \\ 3x + 18z &= 48 \\ \hline 3x + 7z &= 26 \\ 11z &= 22 \Rightarrow z = 2 \\ 3x + 7z = 26 &\Rightarrow 3x + 7(2) = 26 \Rightarrow 3x = 12 \Rightarrow x = 4 \\ x + y + z = 16 &\Rightarrow 4 + y + 2 = 16 \Rightarrow y = 10\end{aligned}$$

(b) Find the set of all real values of x for which $\frac{2x-5}{x-3} \leq \frac{5}{2}$.

Multiply across by $2(x-3)^2$, which is non-negative:

$$\begin{aligned}2(x-3)(2x-5) &\leq 5(x-3)^2 \\ 4x^2 - 22x + 30 &\leq 5x^2 - 30x + 45 \\ 0 &\leq x^2 - 8x + 15 \\ 0 &\leq (x-5)(x-3) \\ x &\geq 5 \text{ or } x < 3.\end{aligned}$$

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Question 1

(25 marks)

(a) Solve the simultaneous equations:

$$\begin{aligned}a^2 - ab + b^2 &= 3 \\ a + 2b + 1 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}a &= -2b - 1 \\ (-2b - 1)^2 + (2b + 1)b + b^2 &= 3 \\ 7b^2 + 5b - 2 &= 0 \\ (7b - 2)(b + 1) &= 0 \\ b = \frac{2}{7} \text{ or } b = -1 \\ a = \frac{-11}{7} \text{ or } a = 1 \\ \text{Solution: } \{b = \frac{2}{7} \text{ and } a = \frac{-11}{7}\} \text{ or } \{b = -1 \text{ and } a = 1\}.\end{aligned}$$

(c) Solve the equation $x^2 - 2\sqrt{3}x - 9 = 0$, giving your answers in the form $a\sqrt{3}$, where $a \in \mathbb{Q}$.

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{2\sqrt{3} \pm \sqrt{(-2\sqrt{3})^2 - 4(1)(-9)}}{2(1)} = \frac{2\sqrt{3} \pm \sqrt{48}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{3} \pm 4\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ &= \sqrt{3} \pm 2\sqrt{3} \\ x &= -\sqrt{3} \text{ or } x = 3\sqrt{3}\end{aligned}$$

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