

Topical Revision Paper 4

Term 2 Unit 4: Polynomials

Question 1:

It is given that $f(x) = (x+3)(2x-1)g(x) + mx + c$, where $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are polynomials in terms of x , and m and c are constants.

The polynomial $f(x)$ has a remainder of -11 when divided by $(x+3)$, and a remainder of -4 when divided by $(2x-1)$.

- (i) Find the value of m and of c . [4]
(ii) Hence, find the remainder when $f(x)$ is divided by $2x^2 + 5x - 3$. [1]

Solution:

(i)

$$f(-3) = -11 = -3m + c$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -4 = \frac{1}{2}m + c$$

$$7 = 3.5m$$

$$m = 2$$

$$c = -5$$

(ii)

Remainder is $2x - 5$

Question 2:

- (i) Factorise $x^3 - 5x^2 + 3x + 9$ completely. [4]
(ii) Hence, solve the equation $8x^6 = 20x^4 - 6x^2 - 9$. [3]

Solution:

(i)

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 3x + 9$$

$$f(-1) = -1 - 5 - 3 + 9 = 0$$

$$f(x) = (x+1)(x^2 + bx + 9)$$

$$-5 = 1 + b$$

$$b = -6$$

$$f(x) = (x+1)(x^2 - 6x + 9)$$

$$f(x) = (x+1)(x-3)^2$$

(ii)

$$f(x) = (x+1)(x-3)^2$$

$$(x+1)(x-3)^2 = 0$$

$$x = -1 \text{ or } x = 3$$

$$8x^6 = 20x^4 - 6x^2 - 9$$

Let

$$(2x^2)^3 = 5(2x^2)^2 - 3(2x^2) - 9$$

$$y = 2x^2$$

$$y^3 - 5y^2 + 3y + 9 = 0$$

$$y = 1 \text{ or } y = 3$$

$$2x^2 = -1 \text{ (n.a.) or } 2x^2 = 3$$

$$x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \text{ or}$$

$$x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2} \text{ or } x = \pm 1.22$$

Question 3:

The polynomial P is given by $P(x) = 2x^3 + 7x^2 - 6x + 1$.

(i) Verify that $x = \frac{1}{2}$ is a root of the equation $P(x) = 0$. [1]

(ii) Express $P(x)$ in the form $(2x-1)(Ax^2 + Bx + C)$ where A , B and C are constants to be determined. [2]

(iii) Find the remaining roots of $P(x) = 0$ using completing square method, expressing your answer in exact form. [3]

(iii) Hence solve the equation $2 + 7e^x - 6e^{2x} + e^{3x} = 0$. [3]

Solution:

(i)

Substitute $x = \frac{1}{2}$:

$$P(x) = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + 7\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - 6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 1 = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{7}{4} - 3 + 1 = 0.$$

(ii)

$$\text{Let } 2x^3 + 7x^2 - 6x + 1 = (2x-1)(Ax^2 + Bx + C)$$

By comparing coefficients of x^2 and constant terms,

$$A = 1, C = -1.$$

By comparing coefficients of x term,

$$7 = 2B - A \Rightarrow B = 4.$$

(iii)

The remaining roots come from solving $x^2 + 4x - 1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 4x - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x+2)^2 - 4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (x+2)^2 = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -2 - \sqrt{5} \text{ or } x = -2 + \sqrt{5}.$$

(iv)

Replace x by $\frac{1}{e^x}$:

$$2\left(\frac{1}{e^x}\right)^3 + 7\left(\frac{1}{e^x}\right)^2 - 6\left(\frac{1}{e^x}\right) + 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{e^x} = \frac{1}{2}, -2 + \sqrt{5}, -2 - \sqrt{5} \text{ (rej)}$$

$$e^x = 2, \frac{1}{-2 + \sqrt{5}}$$

$$x = \ln 2, 1.44 \text{ or } x = 0.693, 1.44$$

Question 4:

Using **long division**, find the quotient when $12x^3 + 8x^2 + x - 2$ is divided by $(2x+1)^2$.

[3]

Solution:

Using long division,

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x-1 \\ 4x^2+4x+1 \overline{) 12x^3+8x^2+x-2} \\ \underline{-(12x^3+12x^2+3x)} \\ -4x^2-2x-2 \\ \underline{-(-4x^2-4x-1)} \\ 2x-1 \end{array}$$

Quotient = $3x-1$

Question 5:

(i) Find the values of p and q for which $x^2 - x - 6$ is a factor of $2x^3 + px^2 - 17x + q$.
[4]

(ii) Using the values of p and q found in part (i), solve the equation
 $2x^3 + px^2 - 17x + q = 0$.
[3]

(iii) Hence, sketch the graph of $y = 2x^3 + px^2 - 17x + q$.

[3]

Solution:

(i)

$$x^2 - x - 6 = (x - 3)(x + 2)$$

$$f(3) = 54 + 9p - 51 + q = 0 \Leftrightarrow 9p + q = -3$$

$$f(-2) = -16 + 4p + 34 + q = 0 \Leftrightarrow 4p + q = -18$$

$$p = 3 \text{ and } q = -30$$

(ii)

$$2x^3 + 3x^2 - 17x - 30 = 0$$

$$(x - 3)(x + 2)(2x + 5) = 0$$

$$x = 3, -2 \text{ or } -2.5$$

(iii)

