

Ext 2 Mathematics Test on Polynomials Term 1 Week 4 2011

1. Resolve into partial fractions: $\frac{2x^2 + x + 6}{x^2 - 4}$ [4]
2. The polynomial $P(x) = x^4 + ax^3 + bx + 21$ has a double root at $x = 1$. Find the values of a and b . [4]
3. The roots of $x^3 + 5x^2 + 11 = 0$ are α, β, λ
 - (i) Find the equation whose roots are $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \lambda^2$ [3]
 - (ii) Find the value of $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \lambda^2$ [1]
4. You may assume that $\cos 3\theta = 4\cos^3\theta - 3\cos\theta$
 - (i) Using the above identity find the roots of $8x^3 - 6x - 1 = 0$ in the form $x = \cos\theta$ [2]
 - (ii) Hence evaluate $\cos \frac{\pi}{9} \cos \frac{2\pi}{9} \cos \frac{4\pi}{9}$ (explain your work) [3]
5.
 - (i) Find the three cube roots of unity by solving $z^3 = 1$ [2]
 - (ii) Show that the three cube roots of unity can be expressed as $1, \omega$ and ω^2 where ω is one of the complex roots found in (i). [2]
 - (iii) With ω defined as above, and a, b, c real numbers,
 - (i) prove that $(b\omega + c\omega^2)(b\omega^2 + c\omega) = b^2 - bc + c^2$ [2]
 - (ii) show that $(b+c)^3 - 3bc(b+c) - (b^3 + c^3) = 0$ [2]
 - (iii) hence prove that $(b+c)$ is a root of the equation $x^3 - 3bcx - (b^3 + c^3) = 0$ and deduce the other two roots of this equation. [2]

End of Test

27 marks

Polynomials

20/21 !!!

$$1. \frac{2x^2 + x + 6}{x^2 - 4} = \frac{A}{x+2} + \frac{B}{x-2}$$

$$2x^2 + x + 6 = A(x-2) + B(x+2)$$

Let $x = 2 \quad 16 = 4B$
 $B = 4$
 $x = -2 \quad 12 = -4A$
 $A = -3$

$$\therefore \frac{2x^2 + x + 6}{x^2 - 4} = \frac{-3}{x+2} + \frac{4}{x-2}$$

1/4

$$2. P(x) = x^4 + ax^3 + bx + 21$$

$$P'(x) = 4x^3 + 3ax^2 + b$$

$P(1) = 0 \quad P'(1) = 0$

$$4 + 3a + b = 0$$

$$3a + b = -4 \quad (1)$$

$$1 + 3a + b = -21$$

$$1 + a + b = -22 \quad (2)$$

$(1) - (2) \quad 2a = 18$
 $\therefore a = 9 \rightarrow (1)$ ✓
 $27 + b = -4$
 $\therefore b = -31$ ✓

4/4

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 4 \overline{) 2x^2 + x + 6} \\ \underline{2x^2 + 0x - 8} \\ x + 14 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2x^2 + x + 6}{x^2 - 4} = 2 + \frac{x+14}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$= 2 + \frac{A}{x+2} + \frac{B}{x-2}$$

$$2x^2 + x + 6 = A(x-2) + B(x+2)$$

Let $x = 2 \quad 8 + 2 + 6 = 4B$
 $16 = 4B$
 $B = 4$
 $x = -2 \quad 8 - 2 + 6 = -4A$
 $12 = -4A$
 $A = -3$

1/5

3. $x^3 + 5x^2 + 11 = 0$

Roots α, β, γ

a) $\alpha^2, \beta^2, \gamma^2$ Let $x \rightarrow x^{1/2}$

$(x^{1/2})^3 + 5(x^{1/2})^2 + 11 = 0$

$(x^{1/2})^3 + 5x + 11 = 0$

$(x^{3/2})^2 = (-5x - 11)^2 \cdot x$

$x^3 = 25x^2 - 110x + 121$

$\therefore x^3 - 25x^2 + 110x - 121 = 0$

b) $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 = \frac{-b}{a}$

$= 25$

4. $\cos 3\theta = 4\cos^3\theta - 3\cos\theta$

1) $8x^3 - 6x - 1 = 0$

When $\cos 3\theta = 0, \cos \theta = 0 \cdot 2\cos 3\theta = 8\cos^3\theta - 6\cos\theta$

Let $x = \cos \theta \therefore 2\cos 3\theta = 1$ when $8x^3 - 6x - 1 = 0$

$\cos^3\theta - 6\cos\theta = \frac{1}{2}$ ($x = \cos \theta$)

$\cos 3\theta = \frac{1}{2}$

$3\theta = \frac{\pi}{3} + 2k\pi, k=0, \pm 1$

$\theta = \frac{\pi}{9} + \frac{2k\pi}{3}$

$= \frac{\pi}{9}, \frac{3\pi}{9}, \frac{5\pi}{9}$

$= \frac{\pi}{9}, \frac{2\pi}{9}, \frac{5\pi}{9}$

\therefore Solutions $x = \cos(\frac{\pi}{9}), \cos(\frac{2\pi}{9}), \cos(\frac{5\pi}{9})$
 $= \cos(\frac{\pi}{9}), \cos(\frac{2\pi}{9}), \cos(\frac{4\pi}{9}) = \cos(\frac{4\pi}{9})$

ii) $\cos^4 \frac{\pi}{9} \cos^4 \frac{2\pi}{9} \cos^4 \frac{4\pi}{9}$ is the product of roots of

$8x^3 - 6x - 1$

so $\cos^4 \frac{\pi}{9} \cos^4 \frac{2\pi}{9} \cos^4 \frac{4\pi}{9} = -\frac{1}{8}$

$= \frac{1}{8}$

needs to be clearer why.

5. i) $z^n = 1$

Let $\text{cis}(\theta) = 1$

$z^3 = \text{cis } 0$

$z^3 = 1^3 \text{cis } 0$

$z = \text{cis } 0 + \frac{2k\pi}{3}$, where $k=0, \pm 1$

$z = \text{cis } 0$

cas

$\text{cis } 0 = 1$

$k=0 \quad z = \text{cis } 0 = 1$

$\text{cis } 0 = 1$

$= 1 \quad z = \text{cis } \frac{2\pi}{3} = \cos \frac{2\pi}{3} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{3}$

$= -\frac{1}{2} + i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

$= -1 \quad z = \text{cis } \frac{4\pi}{3} = -\frac{1}{2} - i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

$\therefore z = 1, -\frac{1}{2} + i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} - i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

ii) $\text{cis } 0 = 1$

Let $w = \text{cis } \frac{2\pi}{3}$

Careful.

$\therefore w = \text{cis } \frac{2\pi}{3}$ is a root

$w^2 = \text{cis } \frac{4\pi}{3}$

$= \text{cis } \frac{-2\pi}{3}$ which is a root

$\therefore 1, w$ and w^2 are roots of unity.

(5) (iii) Using $1+w+w^2=0 \neq w^3=1$

(i) LHS = $(bw+cw^2)(bw^2+cw)$

$= b^2w^3 + bcw^2 + bcw^4 + c^2w^3$

$= b^2 + c^2 + bc(w^2+w)$

since $w^3=1$

$= b^2 + c^2 - bc$

since $w^2+w=-1$

$= \text{RHS}$

(ii) LHS = $(b+c)[(b+c)^2 - 3bc - (b^2 - bc + c^2)]$

$= (b+c)[b^2 + c^2 + 2bc - 3bc - b^2 + bc - c^2]$

$= (b+c)(0) = 0 = \text{RHS}$

(iii) Sub $x = b+c$

LHS = $(b+c)^3 - 3bc(b+c) - (b^2+c^2)$

$= 0$ (using (ii)) = RHS

Let the other two roots be α, β

Using product of roots

$\alpha\beta(b+c) = b^2+c^2$

$= (b+c)(b^2 - bc + c^2)$

$\therefore \alpha\beta = b^2 - bc + c^2 = (bw+cw^2)(bw^2+cw)$

$\therefore \alpha = (bw+cw^2); \beta = bw^2+cw$