

Quadratic Polynomials



Vishal Garg (B.Tech, IIT Bombay)

Quadratic Equation

The general form of a quadratic equation in x is, $\underline{ax^2 + bx + c = 0}$, where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ & $a \neq 0$.

\uparrow
Leading coeff.

1. The solution of the quadratic equation, $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ is given by $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

The expression $b^2 - 4ac = D$ is called the discriminant of the quadratic equation.

2. If α & β are the roots of the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, then;

$$(i) \alpha + \beta = -b/a \quad (ii) \alpha \beta = c/a \quad (iii) |\alpha - \beta| = \sqrt{D}/a$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha - \beta)^2 &= (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta \\ &= \frac{b^2}{a^2} - \frac{4c}{a} = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{a^2}. \\ (d - \beta)^2 &= \frac{D}{a^2} \Rightarrow |\alpha - \beta| = \frac{\sqrt{D}}{a} \end{aligned}$$

A quadratic equation whose roots are α & β is $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) = 0$ i.e.

$x^2 - (\alpha + \beta)x + \alpha\beta = 0$ i.e. $x^2 - (\text{sum of roots})x + \text{product of roots} = 0$.

Problems

If α and β are the roots of the equation $x^2 - 2x + 2 = 0$,

then the least value of n for which $\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)^n = 1$ is

- (a) 2
 (c) 4

- (b) 5
 (d) 3

(2019 Main, 8 April I)

$$x^2 - 2x + 2 = 0 \quad \text{a, B}$$

$$\alpha, \beta = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4-8}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm 2i}{2}$$

$$= 1+i, 1-i$$

$$\left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta}\right)^n = \left(\frac{1+i}{1-i}\right)^n = 1$$

$$= i^n = 1$$

$$\frac{1+i}{1-i} \times \frac{(1+i)}{(1+i)} = \frac{1+i^2+2i}{1+i} = 1$$

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NATURE OF ROOTS:

(A) Consider the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ & $a \neq 0$ then ;

i) $D > 0 \Leftrightarrow$ roots are real & distinct (unequal).

ii) $D = 0 \Leftrightarrow$ roots are real & coincident (equal).

iii) $D < 0 \Leftrightarrow$ roots are imaginary .

iv) If $\underline{p+iq}$ is one root of a quadratic equation, then the other must be the conjugate $\underline{p-iq}$ & vice versa. ($p, q \in \mathbb{R}$ & $i = \sqrt{-1}$).

→ imaginary roots occur in conjugate pairs
 $p+iq$ & $p-iq$

$ax^2+bx+c=0$ (exactly two roots)

if $ax^2+bx+c=0$ is an identity then
 $a=b=c=0$

$0=0$ (all values will satisfy)
 (infinite soln)

Remember that a quadratic equation cannot have three different roots & if it has, it becomes an identity.

Problems

The number of integral values of m for which the equation $(1 + m^2)x^2 - 2(1 + 3m)x + (1 + 8m) = 0$, has no real root is
 (2019 Main, 8 April II)

- (a) 3 ~~(b)~~ infinitely many
- (c) 1 (d) 2

$$(1+m^2)x^2 - 2(1+3m)x + 1+8m=0 \quad \text{No real root}$$

$$D < 0$$

$$4(1+3m)^2 - 4(1+8m)(1+m^2) < 0$$

$$1+9m^2+6m - [1+8m+m^2+8m^3] < 0$$

$$8m^2-2m-8m^3 < 0$$

$$-2m(4m^2-4m+1) < 0$$

$$\boxed{m(2m-1)^2 > 0} \Rightarrow m > 0$$

Problems

- If $2 + i\sqrt{3}$ is a root of the equation $x^2 + px + q = 0$, where p and q are real, then $(p, q) = (\dots, \dots)$.
- The coefficient of x^{99} in the polynomial $(x-1)(x-2)\dots(x-100)$ is....

$$(x-1)(x-2)(x-3) = -3x^2 - 2x^2 - 1x^2 \\ = x^2(-3-2-1)$$

1) $x^2 + px + q = 0$

$$\begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{x=2+i\sqrt{3}} \\ \xrightarrow{x=2-i\sqrt{3}} \end{array}$$

$$a+b = 4 = -p$$

$$ab = (2+i\sqrt{3})(2-i\sqrt{3}) = 4+3=7 = q$$

$$\Rightarrow p=-4, q=7$$

2) $(x-1)(x-2)(x-3) \dots (x-100)$

$$x^{99} (-1-2-3-4-\dots-100)$$

$$x^{99} (-1) (1+2+3+\dots+100)$$

$$x^{99} (-1) \frac{(100 \times 101)}{2}$$

-5050 x^{99}

Rational No

(B) Consider the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Q}$ & $a \neq 0$ then;

- (i) If $D > 0$ & is a perfect square, then roots are rational & unequal.
- (ii) If $\alpha = p + \sqrt{q}$ is one root in this case, (where p is rational & \sqrt{q} is a surd)
then the other root must be the conjugate of it i.e. $\beta = p - \sqrt{q}$ & vice versa.

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$$

D is a perfect square \Rightarrow a, b, c are rational
then roots will be rational.

If coeff are rational, then $p+\sqrt{q}$ & $p-\sqrt{q}$ occur in conjugate pairs.

$$2+\sqrt{3}, 2-\sqrt{3}$$

Remember that a quadratic equation cannot have three different roots & if it has, it becomes an identity.

Problems

Q.
 Let $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$. If $2 - \sqrt{3}$ is a root of the quadratic

$$x^2 + px + q = 0, \text{ then}$$

(2019 Main.)

- (a) $q^2 - 4p - 16 = 0$
- (b) $p^2 - 4q - 12 = 0$
- (c) $p^2 - 4q + 12 = 0$
- (d) $q^2 + 4p + 14 = 0$

$$S = (2-\sqrt{3}) + (2+\sqrt{3}) = 4 = -P \Rightarrow P = -4$$

$$P = (2-\sqrt{3})(2+\sqrt{3}) = 1 = q \Rightarrow q = 1$$

$$P^2 - 4q - 12 = 16 - 4 - 12 = 0$$

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Problems

The number of all possible positive integral values of α for which the roots of the quadratic equation, $6x^2 - 11x + \alpha = 0$ are rational numbers is $\rightarrow 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots \infty$

(2019 Main, 9 Jan II)

- (a) 5 D Should be ↓
 perfect square
- (b) 2
- (c) 4
- (d) 3

$$D = 121 - 24\alpha$$

$$D(\alpha=1) = 121 - 24 = 97 \quad X$$

$$D(\alpha=2) = 121 - 48 = 73 \quad X$$

$$D(\alpha=3) = 49 \quad \checkmark$$

$$D(\alpha=4) = 25 \quad \checkmark$$

$$D(\alpha=5) = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$D(\alpha=6) = -16$$

\downarrow
 $-ve$

Consider the quadratic expression , $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, $a \neq 0$ & $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$a > 0$ concave upwards

$a < 0$ concave downwards

Fig. 1

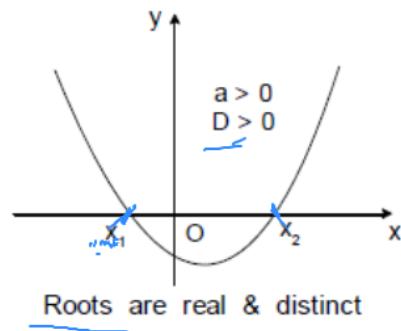


Fig. 2

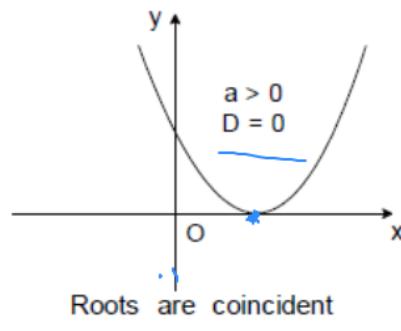


Fig. 3

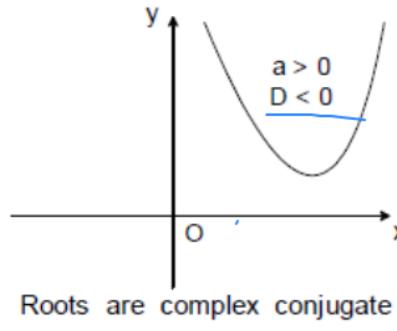


Fig. 4

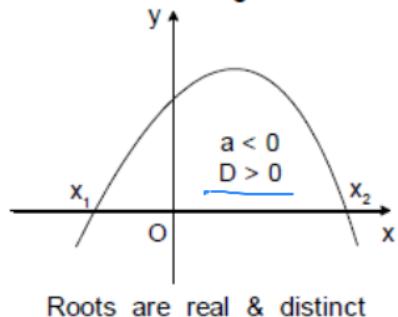


Fig. 5

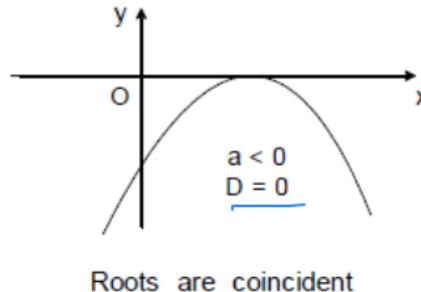
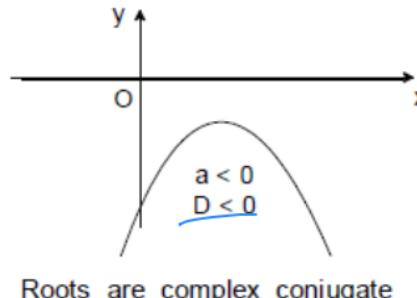


Fig. 6



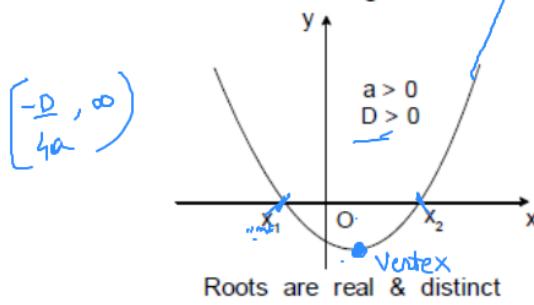
$$y = -x^2 + 3x - 2$$

Consider the quadratic expression, $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, $a \neq 0$ & $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ then

$a > 0$ concave upwards

$a < 0$ concave downwards

Fig. 1

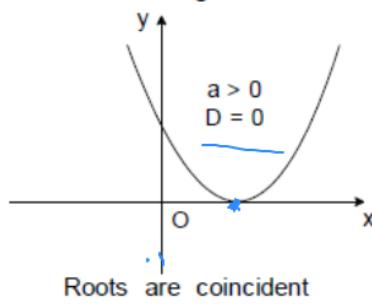


Roots are real & distinct

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

Vertex $\left(\frac{-b}{2a}, \frac{-D}{4a} \right)$

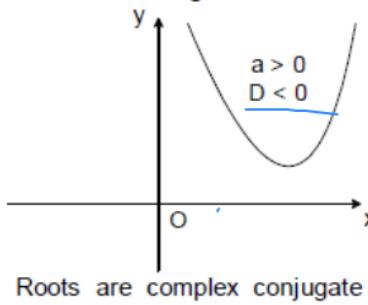
Fig. 2



Roots are coincident

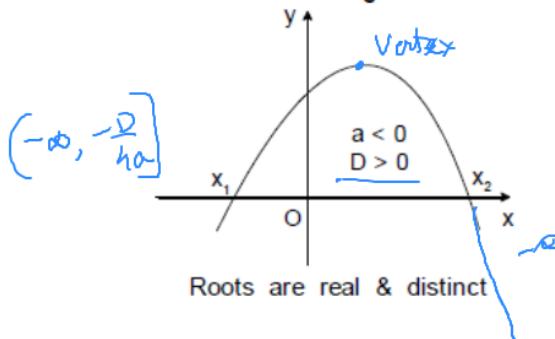
$$y = -x^2 + 3x - 2$$

Fig. 3



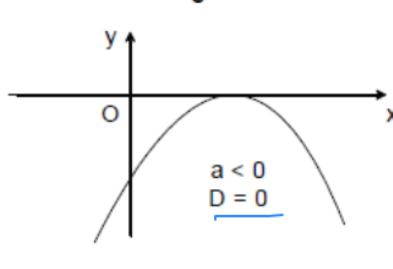
Roots are complex conjugate

Fig. 4



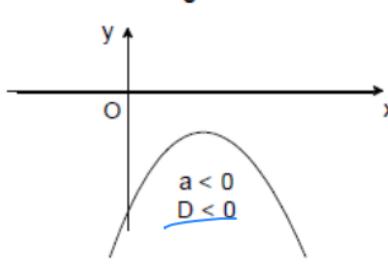
Roots are real & distinct

Fig. 5



Roots are coincident

Fig. 6

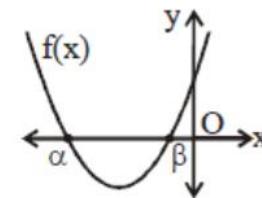


Roots are complex conjugate

Problems

The following figure shows the graph of $f(x) = ax^2 - bx + c$. Then which one of the following is correct?

- (A) $\frac{b}{c} > 0$
 (B) a and b are of same sign
 (C) a and c are of opposite sign
 (D) None



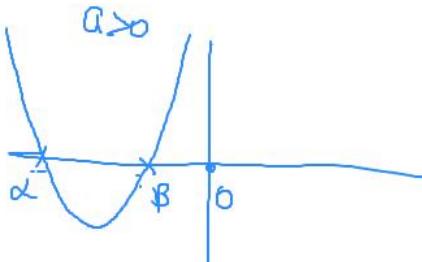
$$f(x) = ax^2 - bx + c \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow a \\ \searrow b \end{matrix}$$

$$\alpha + \beta = \frac{b}{a}, \quad \alpha \beta = \frac{c}{a}$$

α & β are -ve. Hence $\alpha + \beta = -ve$
 $\alpha \beta = +ve.$

$$\boxed{\frac{b}{a} < 0 \quad \text{&} \quad \frac{c}{a} > 0}$$

$$a > 0, b < 0, c > 0$$



Problems

For all 'x', $x^2 + 2ax + (10 - 3a) > 0$, then the interval in which 'a' lies is

- (a) $a < -5$ (b) $-5 < a < 2$ (c) $a > 5$ (d) $2 < a < 5$

$$x^2 + 2ax + (10 - 3a) > 0$$

leading coeff = 1 > 0

$$D < 0$$

$$4a^2 - 4(10 - 3a) < 0$$

$$a^2 - 10 + 3a < 0$$

$$a^2 + 3a - 10 < 0$$

$$(a+5)(a-2) < 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} + \quad - \quad + \\ \hline -5 \quad 2 \end{array}$$

MAXIMUM & MINIMUM VALUE of $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ occurs at $x = -(b/2a)$ according as ;

$$a < 0 \text{ or } a > 0 . \quad y \in \left[\frac{4ac - b^2}{4a}, \infty \right) \text{ if } \underline{a > 0} \quad \& \quad y \in \left(-\infty, \frac{4ac - b^2}{4a} \right] \text{ if } \underline{a < 0} .$$

$$\left[\frac{-D}{4a}, \infty \right)$$

$$\left(-\infty, \frac{-D}{4a} \right]$$

Problems

The value of λ such that sum of the squares of the roots of the quadratic equation, $x^2 + (3 - \lambda)x + 2 = \lambda$ has the least value is
 (2019 Main, 10 Jan II)

- (a) $\frac{4}{9}$ (b) 1 (c) $\frac{15}{8}$ (d) 2

$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 \rightarrow \text{least}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha + \beta &= \lambda - 3 \\ \alpha \beta &= 2 - \lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta$$

$$= (\lambda - 3)^2 - 2(2 - \lambda)$$

$$= \lambda^2 + 9 - 6\lambda - 4 + 2\lambda$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 5$$

$$\text{least value} \rightarrow -\frac{D}{4a} \text{ at } \lambda = -\frac{b}{2a} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

→ **COMMON ROOTS OF 2 QUADRATIC EQUATIONS [ONLY ONE COMMON ROOT] :**

Let α be the common root of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ & $a'x^2 + b'x + c' = 0$. Therefore

$$a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0 ; a'\alpha^2 + b'\alpha + c' = 0. \text{ By Cramer's Rule } \frac{\alpha^2}{bc' - b'c} = \frac{\alpha}{a'c - ac'} = \frac{1}{ab' - a'b}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \alpha = \frac{ca' - c'a}{ab' - a'b} = \frac{bc' - b'c}{a'c - ac'}$$

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{bc' - b'c}{ab' - a'b}, \quad \alpha = \frac{a'c - ac'}{ab' - a'b}$$

$$\text{So the condition for a common root is } (ca' - c'a)^2 = (ab' - a'b)(bc' - b'c).$$

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 + bx + c = 0 & \quad \alpha, \beta \\ a'x^2 + b'x + c' = 0 & \quad \alpha, \gamma \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha x^2 + bx + c = 0 \\ a'x^2 + b'x + c' = 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

→ **Condition for both the common roots :**

If both roots of the given equations are common then

$$\frac{a_1}{a_2} = \frac{b_1}{b_2} = \frac{c_1}{c_2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_1x^2 + b_1x + c_1 = 0 & \quad \alpha, \beta \\ a_2x^2 + b_2x + c_2 = 0 & \quad \alpha, \beta \end{aligned}$$

Problems

If the equations $x^2 + 2x + 3 = 0$ and $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$,
 $a, b, c \in R$ have a common root, then $a : b : c$ is

- (a) $1 : 2 : 3$ *both roots common*
 (b) $3 : 2 : 1$ (2013 Main)
 (c) $1 : 3 : 2$ *both roots common*
 (d) $3 : 1 : 2$

$$x^2 + 2x + 3 = 0 \rightarrow D = 4 - 12 = -8 \quad D < 0 \quad p+iq, p-iq$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad p+iq, p-iq$$

$$\frac{a}{1} = \frac{b}{2} = \frac{c}{3}$$

$$a:b:c = 1:2:3$$

THEORY OF EQUATIONS : (Relation b/w roots & coefficients of a polynomial eqn)

If $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$ are the roots of the equation;

$f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1}x + a_n = 0$ where a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are all real & $a_0 \neq 0$ then,

$$\sum \alpha_i = -\frac{a_1}{a_0}, \quad \sum \alpha_i \alpha_j = +\frac{a_2}{a_0}, \quad \sum \alpha_i \alpha_j \alpha_k = -\frac{a_3}{a_0}, \dots, \quad \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \dots \alpha_n = (-1)^n \frac{a_n}{a_0}$$

$\alpha x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0 \rightarrow \alpha, B, Y$
 $\alpha + B + Y = -b/a$
 $\alpha B + BY + CY = c/a$
 $\alpha BY = -d/a$

$\alpha B Y + \alpha Y + BY + BYW + BYW + CW = c/a$
 $\alpha B Y W = c/a$

If a, b, c are the roots of cubic $x^3 - x^2 + 1 = 0$ then find the value of $a^2 + b^2 + c^2$.

$$a+b+c = 1 \quad ab+bc+ca = 0 \quad \frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} = \frac{b^2c^2 + a^2c^2 + a^2b^2}{a^2b^2c^2} = \frac{(ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2}{(-1)^2} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

$$abc = -1 \quad (ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2 = ?$$

$$(a+b+c+abc)^2 = (ab)^2 + (bc)^2 + (ca)^2 + 2(ab^2c + bc^2a + ca^2b)$$

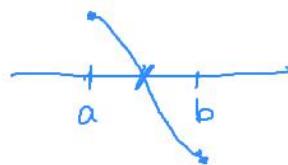
$$0 = E + 2abc(a+b+c) \Rightarrow 0 = E + (-2) \Rightarrow E = 2$$

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

$$f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 = (x+1)^3 \text{ (quadratic factor)}$$

$x=1$ $(x-1)$ $x=-1$ one factor = $x+1$

- Note :**
- (i) If α is a root of the equation $f(x) = 0$, then the polynomial $f(x)$ is exactly divisible by $(x - \alpha)$ or $(x - \alpha)$ is a factor of $f(x)$ and conversely.
 - (ii) Every equation of nth degree ($n \geq 1$) has exactly n roots & if the equation has more than n roots, it is an identity.
 - (iii) If the coefficients of the equation $f(x) = 0$ are all real and $\alpha + i\beta$ is its root, then $\alpha - i\beta$ is also a root. i.e. **imaginary roots occur in conjugate pairs**.
 - (iv) If the coefficients in the equation are all rational & $\alpha + \sqrt{\beta}$ is one of its roots, then $\alpha - \sqrt{\beta}$ is also a root where $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Q}$ & β is not a perfect square.
 - (v) If there be any two real numbers 'a' & 'b' such that $f(a) & f(b)$ are of opposite signs, then $f(x) = 0$ must have atleast one real root between 'a' and 'b'.



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

$x=1$ $(x-1)$

$$f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 = (x+1)(\text{quadr.})$$

$x=-1$ $\rightarrow \text{one factor} = x+1$

- Note :**
- (i) If α is a root of the equation $f(x) = 0$, then the polynomial $f(x)$ is exactly divisible by $(x - \alpha)$ or $(x - \alpha)$ is a factor of $f(x)$ and conversely.
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 - (iv) If the coefficients in the equation are all rational & $\alpha + \sqrt{\beta}$ is one of its roots, then $\alpha - \sqrt{\beta}$ is also a root where $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Q}$ & β is not a perfect square.
 - (v) If there be any two real numbers 'a' & 'b' such that $f(a) & f(b)$ are of opposite signs, then $f(x) = 0$ must have atleast one real root between 'a' and 'b'.

