

Quadratic Equations & Theory of Equations

Single Correct Answer Type

1. Let α and β be the roots of $x^2 - 6x - 2 = 0$ with $\alpha > \beta$ if $a_n = \alpha^n - \beta^n$ for $n \geq 1$ then the value of $\frac{a_{10} - 2a_8}{3a_9} =$

- 1) 1
- 2) 2
- 3) 3
- 4) 4

Key. 2

Sol. $\alpha^2 - 6\alpha - 2 = 0$ $\beta^2 - 6\beta - 2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow \alpha^{10} - 6\alpha^9 - 2\alpha^8 = 0 \dots\dots(1)$

$\Rightarrow \beta^{10} - 6\beta^9 - 2\beta^8 = 0 \dots\dots(2)$

subtract (2) from (1)

2. If a, b, c are positive real numbers such that $a + b + c = 1$ then the least value of $\frac{(1+a)(1+b)(1+c)}{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)}$ is

- 1) 16
- 2) 8
- 3) 4
- 4) 5

Key. 2

Sol. $a = 1 - b - c$
 $\Rightarrow 1 + a = (1 - b) + (1 - c) \geq 2\sqrt{(1 - b)(1 - c)}$

$\therefore (1 + a)(1 + b)(1 + c) \geq 8(1 - a)(1 - b)(1 - c)$

3. The range of values of 'a' for which all the roots of the equation $(a - 1)(1 + x + x^2)^2 = (a + 1)(1 + x^2 + x^4)$ are imaginary is

- 1) $(-\infty, -2]$
- 2) $(2, \infty)$
- 3) $(-2, 2)$
- 4) $[2, \infty)$

Key. 3

Sol. The given equation can be written as $(x^2 + x + 1)(x^2 - ax + 1) = 0$

4. If α, β are the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ and $S_n = \alpha^n + \beta^n$ then $aS_{n+1} + bS_n + cS_{n-1} =$ ($n \geq 2$)

- 1) 0
- 2) $a + b + c$
- 3) $(a + b + c)n$
- 4) $n^2 abc$

Key. 1

Sol. $S_{n+1} = \alpha^{n+1} + \beta^{n+1}$
 $= (\alpha + \beta)(\alpha^n + \beta^n) - \alpha\beta(\alpha^{n-1} + \beta^{n-1})$
 $= -\frac{b}{a}.S_n - \frac{c}{a}.S_{n-1}$

5. A group of students decided to buy a Alarm Clock priced between Rs. 170 to Rs 195. But at the last moment, two students backed out of the decision so that the remaining students had to pay 1 Rupee more than they had planned. If the students paid equal shares, the price of the Alarm Clock is

- 1) 190
- 2) 196
- 3) 180
- 4) 171

Key. 3

Sol. Let cost of clock = x
number of students = n

$$\text{then } \frac{x}{n-2} = \frac{x}{n} + 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{n^2 - 2n}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 170 \leq \frac{n^2 - 2n}{2} \leq 195$$

6. If $\tan A, \tan B$ are the roots of $x^2 - Px + Q = 0$ the value of $\sin^2(A + B) =$

(where $P, Q \in R$)

- 1) $\frac{P^2}{P^2 + (1-Q)^2}$
- 2) $\frac{P^2}{P^2 + Q^2}$
- 3) $\frac{Q^2}{P^2 + (1-Q)^2}$
- 4) $\frac{P^2}{(P+Q)^2}$

Key. 1

Sol. $\tan(A + B) = \frac{P}{1-Q}$ then $\sin^2(A + B) = \frac{\tan^2(A + B)}{1 + \tan^2(A + B)}$

7. The number of solutions of $|\lfloor x \rfloor - 2x| = 4$ where $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the greatest integer $\leq x$ is

- 1) 2
- 2) 4
- 3) 1
- 4) Infinite

Key. 2

Sol. If $x = n \in Z, |n - 2n| = 4 \Rightarrow n = \pm 4$

If $x = n + K$ where $0 < K < 1$ then $|n - 2(n + k)| = 4$, it is possible if $K = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow |-n - 1| = 4$$

$$\therefore n = 3, -5$$

8. Let a, b and c be real numbers such that $a + 2b + c = 4$ then the maximum value of $ab + bc + ca$ is

- 1) 1
- 2) 2
- 3) 3
- 4) 4

Key. 4

Sol. Let $ab + bc + ca = x$

$$\Rightarrow 2b^2 + 2(c - 2)b - 4c + c^2 + x = 0$$

Since $b \in R,$

$$\therefore c^2 - 4c + 2x - 4 \leq 0$$

Since $c \in R$

$\therefore x \leq 4$

9. For the equation $3x^2 + px + 3 = 0$, $p > 0$, if one root is the square of the other then value of P is

- 1) $\frac{1}{3}$ 2) 1
 3) 3 4) $\frac{2}{3}$

Key. 3

Sol. $\alpha + \alpha^2 = -\frac{p}{3}$

$\alpha^3 = 1$

10. If the equations $2x^2 + kx - 5 = 0$ and $x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ have a common root, then the value of k is

- 1) -2 2) -3
 3) $\frac{27}{4}$ 4) $-\frac{1}{4}$

Key. 2

Sol. If ' α ' is the common root then $2\alpha^2 + k\alpha - 5 = 0$, $\alpha^2 - 3\alpha - 4 = 0$ solve the equations.

11. If α and β are the roots of the equation $x^2 - x + 1 = 0$ then $\alpha^{2009} + \beta^{2009} =$

- 1) 1 2) 2
 3) -1 4) -2

Key. 1

Sol. $x = \frac{1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$

$\therefore \alpha = -\omega, \beta = -\omega^2$

12. If $P(Q-r)x^2 + Q(r-P)x + r(P-Q) = 0$ has equal roots then $\frac{2}{Q} =$

(where $P, Q, r \in R$)

- 1) $\frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{r}$ 2) $\frac{1}{P} - \frac{1}{r}$
 3) $P+r$ 4) Pr

Key. 1

Sol. Product of the roots = 1

13. If $(1+K)\tan^2 x - 4\tan x - 1 + K = 0$ has real roots $\tan x_1$ and $\tan x_2$ then

- 1) $k^2 \leq 5$ 2) $k^2 \geq 6$
 3) $k = 3$ 4) $k > 10$

Key. 1

Sol. Discriminate ≥ 0

14. α, β are the roots of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ and γ, δ are the roots of $px^2 + qx + r = 0$ and D_1, D_2 be the respective discriminants of these equations. If α, β, γ and δ are in A.P. then $D_1 : D_2 =$ (where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in R$ & $a, b, c, p, q, r \in R$)

- 1) $a^2 : p^2$ 2) $a^2 : b^2$
 3) $c^2 : r^2$ 4) $a^2 : r^2$

Key. 1

Sol. $\beta = \alpha + d, \gamma = \alpha + 2d, \delta = \alpha + 3d$

$$d^2 = \frac{D_1}{a^2} = \frac{D_2}{p^2}$$

15. If $x^2 + 4y^2 - 8x + 12 = 0$ is satisfied by real values of x and y then ' y ' \in

- 1) $[2, 6]$ 2) $[2, 5]$
 3) $[-1, 1]$ 4) $[-2, -1]$

Key. 3

Sol. $x^2 - 8x + (4y^2 + 12) = 0$ is a quadratic in ' x ', ' x ' is real then discriminate ≥ 0

16. For $x > 0, 0 \leq t \leq 2\pi, K > \frac{3}{2} + \sqrt{2}$, K being a fixed real number the minimum

value of $x^2 + \frac{K^2}{x^2} - 2\left\{(1 + \cos t)x + \frac{K(1 + \sin t)}{x}\right\} + 3 + 2\cos t + 2\sin t$ is

- a) $\left\{\sqrt{K} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right\}^2$ b) $\frac{1}{2}\left\{\sqrt{K} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right\}^2$
 c) $3\left\{\sqrt{K} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right\}^2$ d) $2\left\{\sqrt{K} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right\}^2$

Key. D

Sol. Given expansion = $\left\{x - (1 + \cos t)\right\}^2 + \left\{\frac{K}{x} - (1 + \sin t)\right\}^2$

17. Let $\phi(x) = \frac{(x-b)(x-c)}{(a-b)(a-c)}f(a) + \frac{(x-c)(x-a)}{(b-c)(b-a)}f(b) + \frac{(x-a)(x-b)}{(c-a)(c-b)}f(c) - f(x)$

Where $a < c < b$ and $f^{11}(x)$ exists at all points in (a, b) . Then, there exists a real number $\mu, a < \mu < b$ such that

$$\frac{f(a)}{(a-b)(a-c)} + \frac{f(b)}{(b-c)(b-a)} + \frac{f(c)}{(c-a)(c-b)} =$$

- a) $f^{11}(\mu)$ b) $2f^{11}(\mu)$ c) $\frac{1}{2}f^{11}(\mu)$ d) $\frac{1}{3}f^{11}(\mu)$

Key. C

Sol. Apply RT's, twice

18. If α, β, γ are the roots of the equation $x^3 + px + q = 0$, then the value of the

determinant $\begin{vmatrix} \alpha & \beta & \gamma \\ \beta & \gamma & \alpha \\ \gamma & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix}$ is

- (A) 4 (B) 2 (C) 0 (D) -2

Key. C

Sol. Since α, β, γ are the roots of $x^3 + px + q = 0$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0$$

Applying $C_1 \rightarrow C_1 + C_2 + C_3$, then

$$\begin{vmatrix} \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \beta & \gamma \\ \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \gamma & \alpha \\ \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \beta & \gamma \\ 0 & \gamma & \alpha \\ 0 & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

19. The number of points (p, q) such that $p, q \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and the equation $px^2 + qx + 1 = 0$ has real roots is

- A. 7 B. 8 C. 9 D. None of these

Key. A

Sol. $px^2 + qx + 1 = 0$ has real roots if $q^2 - 4p \geq 0$ or $q^2 \geq 4p$

Since $p, q \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

The required points are $(1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 4), (4, 4)$

So the required number is 7

20. The value of b and c for which the identity $f(x+1) - f(x) = 8x + 3$ is satisfied, where $f(x) = bx^2 + cx + d$ are

- (A) $b = 2, c = 1$ (B) $b = 4, c = -1$
 (C) $b = -1, c = 4$ (D) $b = -1, c = 1$

Key. B

Sol. $\therefore f(x+1) - f(x) = 8x + 3$

$$\Rightarrow \{b(x+1)^2 + c(x+1) + d\} - \{bx^2 + cx + d\} = 8x + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow b\{(x+1)^2 - x^2\} + c = 8x + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow b(2x+1) + c = 8x + 3 \text{ on comparing}$$

$$2b = 8 \text{ and } b + c = 3$$

Then, $b = 4$ and $c = -1$

21. Let $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$, $g(x) = ax^2 + px + q$ where $a, b, c, q, p \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b \neq p$. If their discriminants are equal and $f(x) = g(x)$ has a root α , then

- 1) α will be A.M. of the roots of $f(x) = 0, g(x) = 0$
- 2) α will be G.M of all the roots of $f(x) = 0, g(x) = 0$
- 3) α will be A.M of the roots of $f(x) = 0$ or $g(x) = 0$
- 4) α will be G.M of the roots of $f(x) = 0$ or $g(x) = 0$

Key. 1

Sol. $a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = a\alpha^2 + p\alpha + q \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{q-c}{b-p} \rightarrow (i)$

And $b^2 - 4ac = p^2 - 4aq$

$\Rightarrow b^2 - p^2 = 4a(c - q)$

$\Rightarrow b + p = \frac{4a(c - q)}{b - p} = -4a\alpha \quad (\text{from } (i))$

$\alpha = \frac{-(b+p)}{4a} = \frac{\frac{-b}{a} - \frac{p}{a}}{4}$ which is A.M of all the roots of $f(x) = 0$ and $g(x) = 0$

22. If the equations $x^2 + 2\lambda x + \lambda^2 + 1 = 0$, $\lambda \in R$ and $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ where a, b, c are lengths of sides of triangle have a common root, then the possible range of values of λ is
 1) (0, 2) 2) $(\sqrt{3}, 3)$ 3) $(2\sqrt{2}, 3\sqrt{2})$ 4) $(0, \infty)$

Key. 1

Sol. $(x + \lambda)^2 + 1 = 0$ has clearly imaginary roots

So, both roots of the equations are common

$\therefore \frac{a}{1} = \frac{b}{2\lambda} = \frac{c}{\lambda^2 + 1} = k \text{ (say)}$

Then $a = k$, $b = 2\lambda k$, $c = (\lambda^2 + 1)k$

As a, b, c are sides of triangle

$a + b > c \Rightarrow 2\lambda + 1 > \lambda^2 + 1 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - 2\lambda < 0$

$\Rightarrow \lambda \in (0, 2)$

The other conditions also imply same relation.

23. The number of real or complex solutions of $x^2 - 6|x| + 8 = 0$ is

- 1) 6 2) 7 3) 8 4) 9

Key. 1

Sol. If x is real, $x^2 - 6|x| + 8 = 0 \Rightarrow |x|^2 - 6|x| + 8 = 0 \Rightarrow |x| = 2, 4 \Rightarrow x = \pm 2, \pm 4$

If x is non-real, say $x = \alpha + i\beta$, then

$(\alpha + i\beta)^2 - 6\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} + 8 = 0 \quad (|\alpha + i\beta| = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2})$

$(\alpha^2 - \beta^2 + 8 - 6\sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}) + 2i\alpha\beta = 0$

Comparing real and imaginary parts,

$\alpha\beta = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$ (if $\beta = 0$ then x is real.)

& $-\beta^2 + 8 - 6\sqrt{\beta^2} = 0$

$\beta^2 \pm 6\beta - 8 = 0 \Rightarrow \beta = \frac{\mp 6 \pm \sqrt{68}}{2}$

ie., $\beta = \pm(3 - \sqrt{17})$

Hence $\pm(3 - \sqrt{17})i$ are non-real roots.

24. If $x_1, x_2 (x_1 > x_2)$ are abscissae of points P, Q lying on $y = 2x^2 - 4x - 5$ such that the tangents drawn at these points pass through the point (0, -7), then $3x_1 - 2x_2$ equals to
 1) 4 2) 5 3) 6 4) 7

Key. 2

Sol. Let (α, β) be point on the curve such that the tangent drawn at (α, β) passes through (0, 7)

$$y^1 = 4x - 4 \Rightarrow y^1_{(\alpha, \beta)} = 4\alpha - 4$$

Tangent at (α, β) is $y - \beta = (4\alpha - 4)(x - \alpha)$ pass through (0, -

$$7) \Rightarrow -7 - \beta = (4\alpha - 4)(0 - \alpha)$$

But $\beta = 2\alpha^2 - 4\alpha - 5 \therefore$ It follows that $\alpha^2 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \pm 1$$

So, $x_1 = 1, x_2 = -1$

So, $3x_1 - 2x_2 = 5$.

25. Let $f(x) = x^2 + 5x + 6$, then the number of real roots of $(f(x))^2 + 5f(x) + 6 - x = 0$ is
 1) 1 2) 2 3) 3 4) 0

Key. 4

Sol. Use "f(x) = x has non real roots \Rightarrow f(f(x)) = x also has non-real roots"

26. Sum of the roots of the equation is $4^x - 3(2^{x+3}) + 128 = 0$

- 1) 5 2) 6 3) 7 4) 8

Key. 3

Sol. Put $2^x = y$. Equation becomes

$$y^2 - 3(8y) + 128 = 0 \Rightarrow y^2 - 24y + 128 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y - 8)(y - 16) = 0 \Rightarrow y = 16, 8$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^x = 16, 8 \Rightarrow x = 4, 3$$

\therefore Sum of the roots is 7.

27. The number of solutions of $\sqrt{3x^2 + x + 5} = x - 3$ is

- 1) 0 2) 1 3) 2 4) 4

Key. 1

Sol. Note that we must have $3x^2 + x + 5 \geq 0$ and $x - 3 \geq 0$ or $x \geq 3$.

$$\sqrt{3x^2 + x + 5} = x - 3 \dots (1)$$

Squaring both sides of (1), we get

$$3x^2 + x + 5 = x^2 - 6x + 9$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 + 7x - 4 = 0 \Rightarrow (2x - 1)(x + 4) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 1/2, -4$$

None of these satisfy the inequality $x \geq 3$. Thus, (1) has no solution.

28. The value of a for which one root of the quadratic equation.

$(a^2 - 5a + 3)x^2 + (3a - 1)x + 2 = 0$ is twice as large as other, is

- 1) $-2/3$ 2) $1/3$ 3) $-1/3$ 4) $2/3$

Key. 4

Sol. $(a^2 - 5a + 3a)x^2 + (3a - 1)x + 2 = 0 \dots (1)$

Let α and 2α be the roots of (1), then

$$(a^2 - 5a + 3)\alpha^2 + (3a - 1)\alpha + 2 = 0 \quad \dots\dots (2)$$

$$\text{and } (a^2 - 5a + 3)(4\alpha^2) + (3a - 1)(2\alpha) + 2 = 0 \quad \dots\dots (3)$$

Multiplying (2) by 4 and subtracting it from (3) we get $(3a - 1)(2\alpha) + 6 = 0$

Clearly $a \neq 1/3$. Therefore, $\alpha = -3/(3a - 1)$

Putting this value in (2) we get

$$(a^2 - 5a + 3)(9) - (3a - 1)^2(3) + 2(3a - 1)^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 9a^2 - 45a + 27 - (9a^2 - 6a + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow -39a + 26 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 2/3.$$

For $x = 2/3$, the equation becomes $x^2 + 9x + 18 = 0$, whose roots are $-3, -6$.

29. If $f(x) = x^2 + 2bx + 2c^2$ and $g(x) = -x^2 - 2cx + b^2$ are such that $\min f(x) > \max g(x)$, then relation between b and c , is

- 1) no relation 2) $0 < c < b/2$ 3) $|c| < \frac{|b|}{\sqrt{2}}$ 4) $|c| > \sqrt{2}|b|$

Key. 4

Sol. $f(x) = (x + b)^2 + 2c^2 - b^2$
 $\Rightarrow \min f(x) = 2c^2 - b^2$

Also $g(x) = -x^2 - 2cx + b^2 = b^2 + c^2 - (x + c)^2$
 $\Rightarrow \max g(x) = b^2 + c^2$

As $\min f(x) > \max g(x)$, we get $2c^2 - b^2 > b^2 + c^2$
 $\Rightarrow c^2 > 2b^2 \Rightarrow |c| > \sqrt{2}|b|$

30. The equation $(\cos p - 1)x^2 + (\cos p)x + \sin p = 0$ in variable x has real roots, if p belongs to the interval
- 1) $(0, 2\pi)$ 2) $(-\pi, 0)$ 3) $(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ 4) $(0, \pi)$

Key. 4

Sol. $(\cos p - 1)x^2 + (\cos p)x + \sin p = 0 \dots\dots (1)$
 Discriminant of (1) is given by

$$D = \cos^2 p - 4(\cos p - 1)\sin p = \cos^2 p + 4(1 - \cos p)\sin p$$

Note that $\cos^2 p \geq 0, 1 - \cos p \geq 0$. Thus, $D \geq 0$ if $\sin p \geq 0$ i.e. if $p \in (0, \pi)$.

31. If $x^2 + 2ax + 10 - 3a > 0$ for each $x \in R$, then
- 1) $a < -5$ 2) $-5 < a < 2$ 3) $a > 5$ 4) $2 < a < 5$

Key. 2

Sol. $x^2 + 2ax + 10 - 3a > 0 \forall x \in R$
 $\Rightarrow (x + a)^2 - (a^2 + 10 - 3a) > 0 \forall x \in R$
 $\Rightarrow a^2 + 3a - 10 < 0$

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

$$\Rightarrow -5 < a < 2$$

32. Sum of all the values of x satisfying the equation $\log_{17} \log_{11} (\sqrt{x+11} + \sqrt{x}) = 0$ is

- 1) 25 2) 36 3) 171 4) 0

Key. 1

Sol. $\log_{17} \log_{11} (\sqrt{x+11} + \sqrt{x}) = 0 \dots\dots (1)$

Equation (1) is defined if $x \geq 0$.

We can rewrite (1) as $\log_{11} (\sqrt{x+11} + \sqrt{x}) = 17^0 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{x+11} + \sqrt{x} = 11^1 = 11$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{x+11} = 11 - \sqrt{x}$$

Squaring both sides we get $x+11 = 121 - 22\sqrt{x} + x$

$$\Rightarrow 22\sqrt{x} = 110 \Rightarrow \sqrt{x} = 5 \text{ or } x = 25$$

This clearly satisfies (1). Thus, sum of all the values satisfying (1) is 25.

33. The number of solutions of the equations of the equation $x^2 + [x] - 4x + 3 = 0$ is Where $[]$ denotes G.I.F.

- 1) 0 2) 1 3) 2 4) 3

Key. 1

Sol. Given equation can be written as $(x^2 - 3x + 3) - f = 0$ where $f = x - [x]$ and $0 \leq f < 1$

$$\therefore 0 \leq x^2 - 3x + 3 < 1$$

solving $x^2 - 3x + 3 = 0$; roots are Imaginary

$$\therefore x^2 - 3x + 3 \geq 0 \forall x \in R$$

$$\text{solving } x^2 - 3x + 3 < 1 \Rightarrow 1 < x < 2$$

if $1 < x < 2; [x] = 1$.

putting $[x] = 1$ in the given equation and solving we get $x = 2$. But $1 < x < 2 \therefore$ the given equation has no solution.

34. The number of values of 'a' for which the equation $(x-1)^2 = |x-a|$ has exactly three solutions is

- 1) 1 2) 2 3) 3 4) 4

Key. 3

Sol. $|x-a| = (x-1)^2$ iff $a = x \pm (x-1)^2$

No of solutions = no of intersection its between

$y = a; f(x) = x^2 - x + 1$ and $g(x) = -x^2 + 3x - 1$. clearly the graphs of $f(x), g(x)$ are tangents to each other at $A(1,1)$. The line $y = a$ intersects the two graphs at three points

iff it passes through one of the three pts A,B, C. Here $B = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$ vertex of f

and $C = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{4}\right)$ vertex of 'g' i.e if $a \in \left\{\frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, 1\right\}$

35. If a, b, c are positive numbers such that $a > b > c$ and the equation $(a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b) = 0$ has a root in the interval $(-1,0)$, then

- A) b cannot be the G.M. of a, c
 C) b is the G.M. of a, c D) none of these

B) b may be the G.M. of a, c

Key. A

Sol. Let $f(x) = (a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b)$

According to the given condition, we have

$$f(0)f(-1) < 0$$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(2a-b-c) < 0$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(a-b+a-c) < 0$

i.e. $c+a-2b < 0$ $[a > b > c, \text{ given } \Rightarrow a-b > 0, a-c > 0]$

i.e. $b > \frac{a+c}{2}$

\Rightarrow b cannot be the G.M. of a, c, since G.M < A.M. always.

36. Let α, β ($a < b$) be the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow m} \frac{|ax^2 + bx + c|}{ax^2 + bx + c} = 1$, then

- A) $\frac{|a|}{a} = -1, m < \alpha$ B) $a > 0, \alpha < m < \beta$ C) $\frac{|a|}{a} = 1, m > \beta$ D) $a < 0, m > \beta$

Key. C

Sol. According to the given condition, we have

$$|am^2 + bm + c| = am^2 + bm + c$$

i.e. $am^2 + bm + c > 0$

\Rightarrow if $a < 0$, the m lies in (α, β)

and if $a > 0$, then m does not lie in (α, β)

Hence, option (c) is correct, since

$$\frac{|a|}{a} = 1 \Rightarrow a > 0$$

And in that case m does not lie in (α, β) .

37. Let $f(x)$ be a function such that $f(x) = x - [x]$, where $[x]$ is the greatest integer less than or equal to x . Then the number of solutions of the equation $f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 1$ is (are)

- A) 0 B) 1 C) 2 D) infinite

Key. D

Sol. Given, $f(x) = x - [x], x \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

Now $f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 1$ $\therefore x - [x] + \frac{1}{x} - \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] = 1$

$\Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) - \left([x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right]\right) = 1$ $\Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) = [x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] + 1$... (i)

Clearly, R.H.S is an integer

\therefore L. H. S. is also an integer

Let $x + \frac{1}{x} = k$ an integer

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

$$\therefore x = \frac{k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - 4}}{2}$$

For real values of $x, k^2 - 4 \geq 0 \Rightarrow k \geq 2$ or $k \leq -2$

We also observe that $k=2$ and -2 does not satisfy equation (i)

\therefore The equation (i) will have solutions if $k > 2$ or $k < -2$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Hence equation (i) has infinite number of solutions.

38. If both the roots of $(2a-4)9^x - (2a-3)3^x + 1 = 0$ are non-negative, then

- A) $0 < a < 2$ B) $2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$ C) $a < \frac{5}{4}$ D) $a > 3$

Key. B

Sol. Putting $3^x = y$, we have

$$(2a-4)y^2 - (2a-3)y + 1 = 0$$

This equation must have real solution

$$\Rightarrow (2a-3)^2 - 4(2a-4) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a^2 - 20a + 25 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2a-5)^2 \geq 0. \text{ This is true.}$$

$$y = 1 \text{ satisfies the equation}$$

Since 3^x is positive and $3^x \geq 3^0, y \geq 1$

Product of the roots = $1 \times y > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a-4 < 1 \Rightarrow a < \frac{5}{2}$$

$$\text{Sum of the roots} = \frac{2a-3}{2a-4} > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(2a-3) - (2a-4)}{2a-4} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 0 \Rightarrow a > 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$$

39. If the equation $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$ is satisfied for real values of x and y then

A) $x \in [1, 3], y \in [1, 3]$ B) $x \in [1, 3], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right]$

C) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right], y \in [1, 3]$ D) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right]$

Key. B

Sol. Given equation is $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$... (i)

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 9y^2 + 3 = 0$.

Since x is real $\therefore (-4)^2 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $16 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$ or, $4 - 9y^2 - 3 \geq 0$

Or, $9y^2 - 1 \leq 0$ or, $9y^2 \leq 1$ or, $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9}$

Now $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9} \Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{3} \leq y \leq \frac{1}{3}$... (ii)

Equation (i) can also be written as

$9y^2 + 0y + x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$... (iii)

Since y is real $\therefore 0^2 - 4.9(x^2 - 4x + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 3 \leq 0$
 $\Rightarrow x \in [1, 3]$

40. The equation $a_8x^8 + a_7x^7 + a_6x^6 + \dots + a_0 = 0$ has all its roots positive and real (where $a_8 = 1, a_7 = -4, a_0 = 1/2^8$), then

- A) $a_1 = \frac{1}{2^8}$ B) $a_1 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$ C) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^5}$ D) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^8}$

Key. B

Sol. Let the roots be $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_8$

$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8 = 4$

$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8 = \frac{1}{2^8}$

$\Rightarrow (\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8)^{1/8} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8}{8}$

$\Rightarrow \text{AM} = \text{GM} \Rightarrow$ all the roots are equal to $\frac{1}{2}$.

$\Rightarrow a_1 = -{}^8C_7 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$

$a_2 = {}^8C_6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 = -\frac{7}{2^4}$

$a_3 = -{}^8C_5 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$

41. If every root of a polynomial equation (of degree 'n') $f(x) = 0$ with leading coefficient "1" is real and distinct, then the equation $f''(x)f(x) - \{f'(x)\}^2 = 0$ has.

- (A) at least one real root (B) no real root
 (C) at most one real root (D) exactly two real roots

Key. B

Sol. Let $f(x) = (x - a_1)(x - a_2) \dots (x - a_n)$ where $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in R$ take log both sides and differentiate. Then

$$\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} = \frac{1}{x - a_1} + \frac{1}{x - a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{x - a_n}$$

Again diff w.r.t. 'x'

$$\frac{f f'' - (f')^2}{f^2} = - \left[\frac{1}{(x - a_1)^2} + \frac{1}{(x - a_2)^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{(x - a_n)^2} \right]$$

$< 0 \forall x \in R$

$\Rightarrow f f'' - (f')^2 = 0$ has no real root

42. If $f(x)$ is a polynomial of least degree such that $f(r) = \frac{1}{r}, r = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 9$, then $f(10) =$ ____
- A. 1 B. $\frac{1}{2}$ C. $\frac{1}{10}$ D. $\frac{1}{5}$

Key. D

Sol. $x^9 f(x) - 1 = 0$ has roots 1, 2, 3, ..., 9

$$x^9 f(x) - 1 = A(x - 1)(x - 2) \dots (x - 9)$$

Put $x = 0 \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{9!}$

Put $x = 10 \Rightarrow 10^9 f(10) - 1 = 1 \Rightarrow f(10) = \frac{1}{10}$

43. The number of ordered pairs of integers (x, y) satisfying the equation $x^2 + 6x + y^2 = 4$ is
- A. 2 B. 8 C. 6 D. 10

Key. B

Sol. $(x + 3)^2 + y^2 = 13$

$x + 3 = \pm 2, y = \pm 3$ or $x + 3 = \pm 3, y = \pm 2$

44. The number of non-negative integer solutions of $x + y + 2z = 20$ is
- A. 76 B. 84 C. 112 D. 121

Key. D

Sol. $x + y = 20 - 2Z, Z = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 10$

The number of solutions (non -ve) is $\sum_{Z=0}^{10} (20 - 2Z + 1)_{C_1} = 121$

45 If $a + b + c = 0$ for $a, b, c \in R$, then the equation $3ax^2 + 2bx + c = 0$ has

- A. Atleast one root in $[0, 1]$
- B. One root in $[2, 3]$ and another root in $[-2, -1]$
- C. Imaginary roots
- D. Atleast one root in $[1, 2]$

Key. A

Sol. Let $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx$. Then f is continuous and differentiable in $[0, 1]$, $f(0) = f(1) = 0$. Hence by Rolle's theorem there exists $k \in (0, 1)$ such that $3ak^2 + 2bk + c = 0$

46. If a, b, c be the sides of a triangle ABC and if roots of the equation $a(b - c)x^2 + b(c - a)x + c(a - b) = 0$ are equal, then $\sin^2\left(\frac{A}{2}\right), \sin^2\left(\frac{B}{2}\right), \sin^2\left(\frac{C}{2}\right)$ are in

- (A) AP
- (B) GP
- (C) HP
- (D) AGP

Key. C

Sol. $\because a(b - c) + b(c - a) + c(a - b) = 0$
 $\therefore x = 1$ is a root of the equation
 $a(b - c)x^2 + b(c - a)x + c(a - b) = 0$

Then, other root = 1 (\because roots are equal)

$$\therefore \alpha \times \beta = \frac{c(a - b)}{a(b - c)}$$

$$\Rightarrow ab - ac = ca - bc$$

$$\therefore b = \frac{2ac}{a + c}$$

$\therefore a, b, c$ are in HP

Then, $\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{b}, \frac{1}{c}$ are in AP.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{s}{a}, \frac{s}{b}, \frac{s}{c} \text{ are in AP}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{s}{a} - 1, \frac{s}{b} - 1, \frac{s}{c} - 1 \text{ are in AP.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(s - a)}{a}, \frac{(s - b)}{b}, \frac{(s - c)}{c} \text{ are in AP.}$$

Multiplying in each by $\frac{abc}{(s - a)(s - b)(s - c)}$

$$\text{Then } \frac{bc}{(s - b)(s - c)}, \frac{ca}{(s - c)(s - a)}, \frac{ab}{(s - a)(s - b)} \text{ are in AP.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(s - b)(s - c)}{bc}, \frac{(s - c)(s - a)}{ca}, \frac{(s - a)(s - b)}{ab} \text{ are in HP.}$$

Or $\sin^2\left(\frac{A}{2}\right), \sin^2\left(\frac{B}{2}\right), \sin^2\left(\frac{C}{2}\right)$ are in HP

47. If α, β, γ are the roots of the equation $x^3 + px + q = 0$, then the value of the

determinant $\begin{vmatrix} \alpha & \beta & \gamma \\ \beta & \gamma & \alpha \\ \gamma & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix}$ is

- (A) 4 (B) 2 (C) 0 (D) -2

Key. C

Sol. Since α, β, γ are the roots of $x^3 + px + q = 0$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0$$

Applying $C_1 \rightarrow C_1 + C_2 + C_3$, then

$$\begin{vmatrix} \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \beta & \gamma \\ \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \gamma & \alpha \\ \alpha + \beta + \gamma & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \beta & \gamma \\ 0 & \gamma & \alpha \\ 0 & \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

48. The value of b and c for which the identity $f(x+1) - f(x) = 8x + 3$ is satisfied, where $f(x) = bx^2 + cx + d$ are

- (A) $b = 2, c = 1$ (B) $b = 4, c = -1$
 (C) $b = -1, c = 4$ (D) $b = -1, c = 1$

Key. B

Sol. $\therefore f(x+1) - f(x) = 8x + 3$

$$\Rightarrow \{b(x+1)^2 + c(x+1) + d\} - \{bx^2 + cx + d\} = 8x + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow b\{(x+1)^2 - x^2\} + c = 8x + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow b(2x+1) + c = 8x + 3 \text{ on comparing}$$

$$2b = 8 \text{ and } b + c = 3$$

Then, $b = 4$ and $c = -1$

49. If a, b, c are positive numbers such that $a > b > c$ and the equation

$(a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b) = 0$ has a root in the interval $(-1, 0)$, then

- A) b cannot be the G.M. of a, c B) b may be the G.M. of a, c
 C) b is the G.M. of a, c D) none of these

Key. A

Sol. Let $f(x) = (a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b)$

According to the given condition, we have

$$f(0)f(-1) < 0$$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(2a-b-c) < 0$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(a-b+a-c) < 0$

i.e. $c+a-2b < 0$ $[a > b > c, \text{ given } \Rightarrow a-b > 0, a-c > 0]$

i.e. $b > \frac{a+c}{2}$

$\Rightarrow b$ cannot be the G.M. of a, c , since $G.M < A.M.$ always.

50. The values of 'a' for which the quadratic expression $ax^2 + (a-2)x - 2$ is negative for exactly two integral values of x, belongs to

- (A) $[-1,1]$ (B) $[1,2]$
 (C) $[3,4]$ (D) $[-2,-1]$

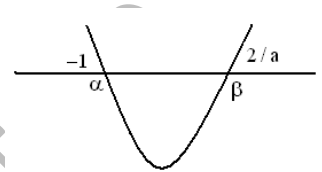
Key. B

Sol. Let $f(x) = ax^2 + (a-2)x - 2$

$f(x)$ is negative for two integral values of x, so graph should be vertically upward parabola i.e., $a > 0$

Let two roots of $f(x) = 0$ are α and β then $\alpha, \beta = \frac{-(a-2) \pm (a+2)}{2a}$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = -1, \beta = \frac{2}{a} \Rightarrow 1 < \beta \leq 2 \Rightarrow 1 < \frac{2}{a} \leq 2 \Rightarrow a \in [1, 2]$$



51. Let $f(x)$ be a function such that $f(x) = x - [x]$, where $[x]$ is the greatest integer less than or equal to x. Then the number of solutions of the equation $f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 1$ is (are)

- A) 0 B) 1 C) 2 D) infinite

Key. D

Sol. Given, $f(x) = x - [x], x \in R - \{0\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) &= 1 & \therefore x - [x] + \frac{1}{x} - \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) - \left([x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right]\right) &= 1 & \Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) &= [x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, R.H.S is an integer

\therefore L. H. S. is also an integer

Let $x + \frac{1}{x} = k$ an integer

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

$$\therefore x = \frac{k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - 4}}{2}$$

For real values of x, $k^2 - 4 \geq 0 \Rightarrow k \geq 2$ or $k \leq -2$

We also observe that $k=2$ and -2 does not satisfy equation (i)

\therefore The equation (i) will have solutions if $k > 2$ or $k < -2$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Hence equation (i) has infinite number of solutions.

52. If both the roots of $(2a-4)9^x - (2a-3)3^x + 1 = 0$ are non-negative, then

- A) $0 < a < 2$ B) $2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$ C) $a < \frac{5}{4}$ D) $a > 3$

Key. B

Sol. Putting $3^x = y$, we have

$$(2a-4)y^2 - (2a-3)y + 1 = 0$$

This equation must have real solution

$$\Rightarrow (2a-3)^2 - 4(2a-4) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a^2 - 20a + 25 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2a-5)^2 \geq 0. \text{ This is true.}$$

$y = 1$ satisfies the equation

Since 3^x is positive and $3^x \geq 3^0$, $y \geq 1$

Product of the roots $= 1 \times y > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a-4 < 1 \Rightarrow a < \frac{5}{2}$$

Sum of the roots $= \frac{2a-3}{2a-4} > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(2a-3)-(2a-4)}{2a-4} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 0 \Rightarrow a > 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$$

53. If the equation $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$ is satisfied for real values of x and y then

- A) $x \in [1, 3], y \in [1, 3]$ B) $x \in [1, 3], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right]$
- C) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right], y \in [1, 3]$ D) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right]$

Key. B

Sol. Given equation is $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$... (i)

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 9y^2 + 3 = 0.$

Since x is real $\therefore (-4)^2 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $16 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$ or, $4 - 9y^2 - 3 \geq 0$

Or, $9y^2 - 1 \leq 0$ or, $9y^2 \leq 1$ or, $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9}$

Now $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9} \Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{3} \leq y \leq \frac{1}{3}$... (ii)

Equation (i) can also be written as

$$9y^2 + 0y + x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$$
 ... (iii)

Since y is real $\therefore 0^2 - 4.9(x^2 - 4x + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 3 \leq 0$
 $\Rightarrow x \in [1, 3]$

54. The equation $a_8x^8 + a_7x^7 + a_6x^6 + \dots + a_0 = 0$ has all its roots positive and real (where $a_8 = 1, a_7 = -4, a_0 = 1/2^8$), then

- A) $a_1 = \frac{1}{2^8}$ B) $a_1 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$ C) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^5}$ D) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^8}$

Key. B

Sol. Let the roots be $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_8$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8 = 4$$

$$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8 = \frac{1}{2^8}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8)^{1/8} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{AM} = \text{GM} \Rightarrow \text{all the roots are equal to } \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = -{}^8C_7 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$$

$$a_2 = {}^8C_6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 = -\frac{7}{2^4}$$

$$a_3 = -{}^8C_5 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$$

55. If $f(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{i=3} (x - a_i) + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i - 3x$, where $a_i < a_{i+1}$, then $f(x) = 0$ has

- (A) only one real root (B) three real roots of which two of them are equal
 (C) three distinct real roots (D) three equal roots

KEY : C

SOL : $f(x) = (x - a_1)(x - a_2)(x - a_3) + (a_1 - x) + (a_2 - x) + (a_3 - x)$

Now $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$ as $x \rightarrow -\infty$ and $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$.

Again $f(a_1) = (a_2 - a_1) + (a_3 - a_1) > 0$ [$\because a_1 < a_2 < a_3$]

\Rightarrow One root belongs to $(-\infty, a_1)$

Also, $f(a_3) = (a_1 - a_3) + (a_2 - a_3) < 0$

\Rightarrow One root belongs to (a_1, a_3)

So $f(x) = 0$ has three distinct real roots.

56. If a, b and c are numbers for which the equation $\frac{x^2 + 10x - 36}{x(x-3)^2} = \frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{x-3} + \frac{c}{(x-3)^2}$ is an identity, then a + b + c equals
 (A) 2 (B) 3 (C) 10 (D) 8

Key. A
 Sol. =

hence $x^2 + 10x - 36 = a(x-3)^2 + b(x-3)x + cx$
 put $x = 0$; $-36 = 9a \Rightarrow a = -4$

$x^2 + 10x - 36 = x^2(-4 + b) + x(24 - 3b + c) + (-36)$

comparing coefficients

also, $-4 + b = 1 \Rightarrow b = 5$ $24 - 15 + c = 10 \Rightarrow 9 + c = 10 \Rightarrow c = 1$

$a = -4; b = 5; c = 1$ i.e. $a + b + c = 2$

57. If one root of equation $x^2 - 4ax + a + f(a) = 0$ is three times of the other then minimum value of $f(a)$ is

- A) $\frac{-1}{6}$ B) $\frac{-1}{10}$ C) $\frac{-1}{5}$ D) $\frac{-1}{12}$

Key. D

Sol. Let roots are α and 3α , then $4\alpha = 4a \Rightarrow \alpha = a$ and

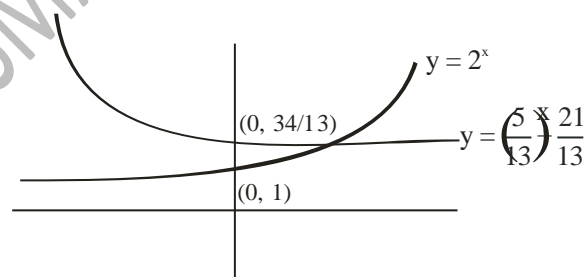
$a^2 - 4a^2 + f(a) = 0 \Rightarrow f(a) = 3a^2 - a$

$f'(a) = 6a - 1, f''(a) = 6$, then minimum value of $f'(a) = 6a - 1, f''(a) = 6$

58. The number of real roots of $\left(\frac{5}{13}\right)^x + \frac{21}{13} = 2^x$ is

- (A) Two (B) Infinitely many
 (C) only one (D) zero

Key. C
 Sol.



Both graphs cut at only one point

59. For a non zero polynomial P, the equation $|P(x)| = e^x$ has

- (A) At least one solution (B) No solution

(C) Exactly 2 solution

(D) Exactly 1 solution

Key. A

Sol. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x} |P(x)| = 0$

and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^{-x} |P(x)| = \infty$

consequently there is an $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $e^{-x_0} |P(x_0)| = 1$

60. A continuous function $y = f(x)$ is defined in a closed interval $[-7, 5]$.

$A(-7, -4), B(-2, 6), C(0, 0), D(1, 6), E(5, -6)$ are consecutive points on the graph of 'f' and AB, BC, CD, DE are line segments. The minimum number of real roots of the equation $f[f(x)] = 6$ is

A) 6

B) 4

C) 2

D) 0

Key. A

Sol. $f[f(x)] = 6 \Rightarrow f(x) = -2$ (or) $f(x) = 1$

$f(x) = -2$, has two roots and $f(x) = 1$ has four roots.

61. If $f(x) = -3x + \prod_{i=1}^3 (x - a_i) + \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i$, where $a_i < a_{i+1}$, then $f(x) = 0$ has

A) Only one real root

B) Three real roots of which two of them are equal

C) Three distinct real roots

D) Three equal roots

Key. C

Sol. $f(x) = (x - a_1)(x - a_2)(x - a_3) + (a_1 - x) + (a_2 - x) + (a_3 - x)$

Now, $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$ as $x \rightarrow -\infty$ and $f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$

Again $f(a_1) = (a_2 - a_1) + (a_3 - a_1) > 0$ [$\because a_1 < a_2 < a_3$]

\Rightarrow One root belongs to $(-\infty, a_1)$

Also, $f(a_3) = (a_1 - a_3) + (a_2 - a_3) < 0$

\Rightarrow One root belongs to (a_1, a_3)

So, $f(x) = 0$ has three distinct real roots.

62. The number of real values of 'm' from for which the equation

$$z^3 + (3+i)z^2 - 3z - (m+i) = 0 \text{ has atleast one real root is}$$

- A) 1 B) 3 C) Infinite D) 2

Key. D

Sol. $z^3 + (3+i)z^2 - 3z - (m+i) = 0$

$$(z^3 + 3z^2 - 3z - m) + i(z^2 - 1) = 0$$

If 'z' is a real root, then $z^3 + 3z^2 - 3z - m = 0$ and $z^2 - 1 = 0$

$$\therefore z = \pm 1$$

$$z = 1 \Rightarrow m = 1$$

$$z = -1 \Rightarrow m = 5$$

63. Number of all integral values of x, so that $x^2 + 19x + 89$ is a perfect square is

- a) 0 b) 1 c) 2 d) 3

Key : C

Sol. Let $x^2 + 19x + 89 = \lambda^2$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 19x + (89 - \lambda^2) = 0 \text{ should have integral roots}$$

$\therefore D$ should be a perfect square.

$$\Rightarrow (19)^2 - 4(89 - \lambda^2) = \text{Perfect square}$$

$$\Rightarrow (19)^2 - 4(89 - \lambda^2) = \text{Perfect square}$$

$$\Rightarrow (m^2 - 4\lambda^2) = 5 \Rightarrow (m - 2\lambda)(m + 2\lambda) = 5$$

$$\therefore (m - 2\lambda = 5, m + 2\lambda = 1)$$

or $(m - 2\lambda = -5, m + 2\lambda = -1)$

$$\Rightarrow (m - 2\lambda = -5, m + 2\lambda = -1)$$

$$\Rightarrow m = 3, -3, \lambda = 1, -1$$

For $\lambda = \pm 1$ equation becomes $x^2 + 19x + 88 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (x + 11)(x + 8) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -8, -11.$$

Thus, required values of x are -8, -11.

64. Let $f(x) = x^2 + bx + c$, b is negative odd integer, $f(x) = 0$ has two distinct prime number as roots, and $b + c = 15$, then least value of $f(x)$ is

(A) $\frac{-233}{4}$

(B) $\frac{233}{4}$

(C) $-\frac{225}{4}$

(D) none of these

Key: C

Hint: $f(x) = (\sin^2\theta)x^3 + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\theta x^2 - 2\sin^2\theta \cdot x - \sin 2\theta$

$f'(x) = (3\sin^2\theta)x^2 + \sin 2\theta x - 2\sin^2\theta$

Then $D > 0$ and product of roots < 0

So $f(x)$ has local maxima at some $x \in \mathbb{R}^-$

and local minima at some $x \in \mathbb{R}^+$

65. Let $f(x) = x^2 + \lambda x + \mu \cos x$, λ being an integer and μ a real number. The number of ordered pairs (λ, μ) for which the equations $f(x) = 0$ and $f(f(x)) = 0$ have the same (non empty) set of real roots is

(A) 4

(B) 6

(C) 8

(D) infinite

Key: A

Hint: Let α be a root of $f(x) = 0$, so we have $f(\alpha) = 0$ and thus $f(f(\alpha)) = 0$,

$\Rightarrow f(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \mu = 0$.

We then have $f(x) = x(x + \lambda)$ and thus $\alpha = 0, -\lambda$.

$f(f(x)) = x(x + \lambda)(x^2 + \lambda x + \lambda)$

We want λ such that $x^2 + \lambda x + \lambda$ has no real roots besides 0 and $-\lambda$. We can easily find that $0 \leq \lambda < 4$.

66. If $ax^2 + bx + c$; $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ has no real zeroes, and if $c < 0$, then

(a) $a < 0$

(b) $a + b + c > 0$

(c) $4a + 2b + c > 0$

(d) $a - b + c > 0$

Key: a

Hint: Let $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$. Since $f(x)$ has no real zeroes, either $f(x) > 0$ or $f(x) < 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. since $f(0) = c < 0$, we get $f(x) < 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Therefore, $a < 0$ as the parabola $y = f(x)$ must open downward. Obviously $f(1), f(-1)$ and $f(2) < 0$.

67. The quadratic equation $(4 + \cos \theta) x^2 - (2\sin \theta) x + (3 - \cos \theta) = 0$ has

(A) Real and distinct roots for all θ

(B) Real or complex roots for depending upon θ

(C) Equal roots for all θ

(D) Complex roots for all θ

Key : D

Sol : Discriminant = $4\sin^2\theta - 4(4 + \cos\theta)(3 - \cos\theta)$

$= 4[\sin^2\theta - (12 - \cos\theta - \cos^2\theta)]$

$= 4[-11 + \cos\theta] < 0 \quad \forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}$.

68. If $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are roots of the equation $x^n + ax + b = 0$, then $(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_3)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_4) \dots (\alpha_1 - \alpha_n)$ is equal to

(A) n

(B) $n\alpha_1^{n-1}$

(C) $n\alpha_1 + b$

(D) $n\alpha_1^{n-1} + a$

KEY : D

SOL : $x^n + ax + b = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$

differentiate both sides w.r.t. x

$$nx^{n-1} + a = (x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n) + (x - \alpha_1) \left(\frac{d}{dx} (x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n) \right)$$

put $x = \alpha_1$ $n\alpha_1^{n-1} + a = (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_3) \dots (\alpha_1 - \alpha_n)$

69. The equation $|2ax - 3| + |ax + 1| + |5 - ax| = \frac{1}{2}$ possesses

- (A) infinite number of real solution for some $a \in \mathbf{R}$
- (B) finite number of real solutions for some $a \in \mathbf{R}$
- (C) no real solution for some $a \in \mathbf{R}$
- (D) no real solution for all $a \in \mathbf{R}$

Key: D

Hint: The equation $|2ax - 3| + |ax + 1| + |5 - ax| \dots$

$$|2ax - 3| + |ax + 1| + |5 - ax| \geq |2ax - 3 + (-ax - 1) + 5 - ax| \geq 1$$

So no solution for $\frac{1}{2}$

70. Let $P(x)$ be a polynomial with degree 2009 and leading co-efficient unity such that $P(0)=2008, P(1)=2007, P(2)=2006, \dots, P(2008)=0$ then the value of $P(2009) = \binom{n}{a} - a$ where n and a are natural number then value of $\binom{n+a}{a}$

- (A) 2010
- (B) 2009
- (C) 2011
- (D) 2008

Key: A

Hint: $P(x) - 2008 + x = x(x-1)(x-2)(x-3) \dots (x-2008)$

Put $x = 2009$

$$P(2009) + 1 = (2009)!$$

71. (L-2) If $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ has real roots and its coefficients are odd positive integers then

a) $f(x) = 0$ always has irrational roots

b) $\left| f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \right| \geq \frac{1}{q^2}$ where $p, q \in \mathbf{I}$

c) If $a.c = 1$, then equation must have exactly one root α such that $[\alpha] = -1$, where $[.]$ is greatest integer function

d) equation has rational roots

Key ; a, b

Sol : An equation with odd coefficients cannot have rational roots

$\therefore f(x) = 0$ has irrational roots.

$$f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = \frac{ap^2 + bpq + cq^2}{a^2} \geq \frac{1}{a^2} \quad (\because a, b, c \text{ are odd integers } p, q \text{ are integers})$$

72. (L-1) Let a, b, c be real numbers with $a \neq 0$ and let α, β be the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$. Then one of the roots of the equation $a^3x^2 + abcx + c^3 = 0$ in terms of α, β are

a) $\frac{\alpha^2}{\beta}$

b) α^3

c) β^3

d) $\alpha\beta^2$

Key: d

Sol: We have $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a}, \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$

Let γ, δ be the roots of $a^3x^2 + abcx + c^3 = 0$.

$$\text{Then } \gamma, \delta = \frac{-abc \pm \sqrt{(abc)^2 - 4a^3c^3}}{2a^3} = \frac{ac \left\{ -b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} \right\}}{2a^3} = \frac{c}{2a} \left\{ -\frac{b}{a} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 - 4\frac{c}{a}} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta) \left\{ (\alpha + \beta) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha\beta) \left\{ (\alpha + \beta) \pm (\alpha - \beta) \right\} = \alpha^2\beta, \alpha\beta^2$$

Thus, roots of $a^3x^2 + abcx + c^3 = 0$ are $\alpha^2\beta$ and $\alpha\beta^2$

73. (L-2) If α, β are the roots of $x^2 - 3x + \lambda = 0 (\lambda \in \mathbb{R})$ and $\alpha < 1 < \beta$, then the true set of values of λ equals

a) $\lambda \in \left(2, \frac{9}{4}\right]$

b) $\lambda \in \left(-\infty, \frac{9}{4}\right]$

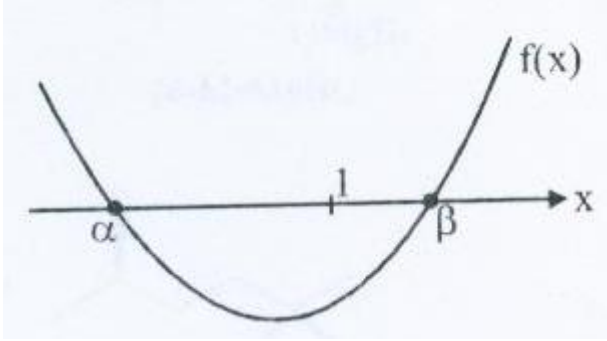
c) $\lambda \in (2, \infty)$

d) $\lambda \in (-\infty, 2)$

Key: d

Sol: Let $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + \lambda$

Clearly $f(1) < 0$



$$\Rightarrow 1 - 3 + \lambda < 0 \Rightarrow \lambda < 2 \Rightarrow \lambda \in (-\infty, 2)$$

74. (L-1) Let $2^{y-x}(x+y) = 1$ and $(x+y)^{x-y} = 2$ then ordered pair (x, y) can be

a) $\left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

b) $\left(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$

c) $\left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$

d) $\left(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

Key : a

Sol : Put $x = 3/2, y = 1/2$ in given equations.

75. (L-1) The equation $|2ax - 3| + |ax + 1| + |5 - ax| = \frac{1}{2}$ possesses

a) infinite number of real solution for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$

b) finite number of real solutions for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$

c) no real solution for some $a \in \mathbb{R}$

d) no real solution for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$

Key : d

Sol : $|2ax - 3| + |ax + 1| + |5 - ax| \geq |2ax - 3 - ax - 1 + 5 - ax|$
 $= 1 \neq \frac{1}{2}$

Hence it has no solution

76. (L-1) If $x^2 + 5 = 2x - 4 \cos(a + bx)$ where $a, b \in (0, 5)$, is satisfied for at least one real x , then

the maximum value of $(a + b)$ is

a) π

b) 2π

c) 3π

d) none of these

Key : c

Sol : $x^2 - 2x + 5 = -4 \cos(a + bx)$

$$\left(a + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2 + \left(b + \frac{1}{c}\right)^2 + \left(c + \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 \text{ is}$$

a) $\frac{75}{2}$

b) $\frac{75}{4}$

c) $\frac{65}{4}$

d) $\frac{65}{2}$

Key: b

Sol: Using the AM \geq HM of $\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{b}, \frac{1}{c}$ we get, $\frac{\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}}{3} \geq \frac{3}{a+b+c} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$

So, $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \geq \frac{3}{2}$

Now,

$$\frac{\left(a + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2 + \left(b + \frac{1}{c}\right)^2 + \left(c + \frac{1}{a}\right)^2}{3} \geq \left(\frac{a + \frac{1}{b} + b + \frac{1}{c} + c + \frac{1}{a}}{3}\right)^2 \geq \left(\frac{6 + \frac{3}{2}}{3}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{25}{4}$$

$$\therefore \left(a + \frac{1}{b}\right)^2 + \left(b + \frac{1}{c}\right)^2 + \left(c + \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 \geq \frac{75}{4}$$

83. (L-2) Given positive real numbers a, b and c such that a + b + c = 1, then maximum value of

$$a^a b^b c^c + a^b b^c c^a + a^c b^a c^b \text{ is}$$

a) 1

b) 2

c) 3

d) 4

Key: a

Sol: Using the weighted AM – GM in equality we get,

$$\frac{c \cdot a + a \cdot b + b \cdot c}{c + a + b} \geq (a^c b^a c^b)^{\frac{1}{a+b+c}}$$

$$\frac{b \cdot a + c \cdot b + a \cdot c}{b + c + a} \geq (a^b \cdot b^c \cdot c^a)^{\frac{1}{a+b+c}}$$

$$\frac{a \cdot a + b \cdot b + c \cdot c}{a + b + c} \geq (a^a b^b c^c)^{\frac{1}{a+b+c}}$$

Adding these inequalities together we get,

$$\frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca)}{a + b + c} \geq (a^a \cdot b^b \cdot c^c) + (a^c \cdot b^a \cdot c^b) + (a^b \cdot b^c \cdot c^a) [\because a + b + c = 1]$$

$$1 = \frac{(a + b + c)^2}{a + b + c} \geq (a^a \cdot b^b \cdot c^c) + (a^c \cdot b^a \cdot c^b) + (a^b \cdot b^c \cdot c^a)$$

84. (L-2) The solution of $\left| \frac{x^2 - 5x + 4}{x^2 - 4} \right| \leq 1$ is

- a) $\left[0, \frac{8}{5} \right] \cup \left[\frac{5}{2}, +\infty \right)$ b) $\left[0, \frac{5}{8} \right] \cup \left[\frac{5}{2}, +\infty \right)$ c) $\left[0, \frac{5}{8} \right] \cup \left[\frac{8}{5}, \infty \right)$ d) None

of these

Key: A

Hint: $-1 \leq \frac{x^2 - 5x + 4}{x^2 - 4} \leq 1$

$$\frac{x^2 - 5x + 4}{x^2 - 4} + 1 \geq 0$$

$$\frac{2x^2 - 5x}{x^2 - 4} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 5x + 4}{x^2 - 4} - 1 \leq 0$$

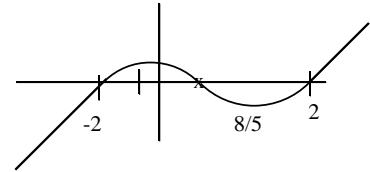
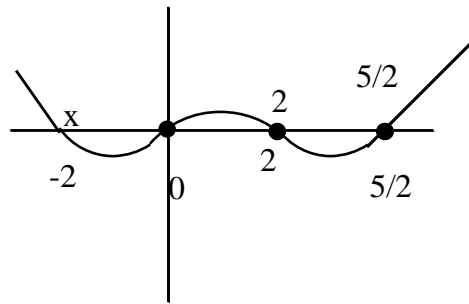
$$x(x - 2)(x - 2)(x + 2) \geq 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 5x + 4 - x^2 + 4}{x^2 - 4} \leq 0$$

$$\frac{8 - 5x}{x^2 - 4} \leq 0$$

$$(8 - 5x)(x^2 - 4) \leq 0$$

$$(x + 2)(5x - 8)(x - 2) \geq 0$$

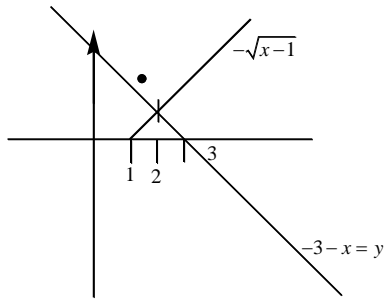


85. (L-2) Complete solution set of the inequation $\sqrt{x-1} \geq 3-x$ is

- a) $2 \leq x \leq 5$ b) $2 \leq x \leq 3$
 c) $1 \leq x \leq 3$ d) $x \leq 2$

Key: B

Hint:



86. (L-2) The least value of k such that the equation $(\ln x) + k = e^{x-k}$ has a solution is

- a) e
- b) $\frac{1}{e}$
- c) 1
- d) none of these

Key : c

Sol : $f(x) = e^{x-k}$ then inverse of $f(x)$; $f^{-1}(x) = (\ln x) + k$

and also both functions are increasing, therefore

$$f(x) = f^{-1}(x) \text{ is equivalent to } f(x) = f^{-1}(x) = x$$

$\Rightarrow \ln x + k = x$ should have a solution

$$\Rightarrow k = x - \ln x$$

Now, let $g(x) = x - \ln x$

has least value 1 as $g'(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x}$ has a minimum at $x = 1$

and $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} g(x), \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$ both approach to ∞ .

87. (L-2) $f(x)$ be a polynomial of degree n and $f(x) = x^n f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ then $f(x) = 0$

- a) a reciprocal equation of second type
- b) not a reciprocal equation
- c) a reciprocal equation of first type
- d) nothing can be say.

Key : c

Sol : Let $f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$

$$\text{Then } x^n f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = x^n \left(\frac{a_0}{x^n} + \frac{a_1}{x^{n-1}} + \dots + a_n \right)$$

$$= a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$$

Since, $f(x) = x^n f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$,

$$\therefore a_0 = a_n, a_1 = a_{n-1}, \dots, a_n = a_0$$

$\therefore f(x) = 0$ is a reciprocal equation of first type.

88. (L-2) Reduced the equation $3x^6 + x^5 - 27x^4 + 27x^2 - x - 3 = 0$ in standard reciprocal form is

a) $3x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + x + 3 = 0$

b) $3x^4 + x^3 + 24x^2 + x + 3 = 0$

c) $3x^4 - x^3 + 24x^2 - x + 3 = 0$

d) none of these

Key ; a

Sol : $\therefore 3x^6 + x^5 - 27x^4 + 27x^2 - x - 3 = 0$

This can be written as,

$$3(x^6 - 1) + x(x^4 - 1) - 27x^2(x^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (x^2 - 1)\{3(x^4 + x^2 + 1) + x(x^2 + 1) - 27x^2\} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (x^2 - 1)\{3x^4 - 24x^2 + x^3 + x + 3\} = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (x^2 - 1)\{3x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + x + 3\} = 0$$

So, $3x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + x + 3 = 0$ is a reciprocal equation of even degree (i.e. 4) and first type

Hence it is standard form of reciprocal equation.

89. (L-2) The polynomial $x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + c$ can be written in the form $(x - \alpha)^2(x - \beta)$ if value of c is

a) 5

b) -7

c) 25

d) 27

Key: d

Sol: The polynomial $x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + c$ can be written in the form of $(x - \alpha)^2(x - \beta)$ if the equation $x^3 - 3x^2 - 9x + c = 0$ has two equal roots. Let these be α, α, β .

$$\text{We have } \alpha + \alpha + \beta = 3 \text{ or } 2\alpha + \beta = 3 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\alpha\alpha + \alpha\beta + \alpha\beta = -9 \text{ or } 2\alpha\beta + \alpha^2 = -9 \quad \dots (2)$$

Putting value of β in (2) we get

$$2\alpha(3 - 2\alpha) + \alpha^2 = -9$$

$$\text{or } 6\alpha - 3\alpha^2 = -9$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha^2 - 2\alpha - 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\alpha - 3)(\alpha + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = -1, 3$$

When $\alpha = -1, \beta = 5$ and when $\alpha = 3, \beta = -3$. We also have $\alpha^2\beta = -c$

When $\alpha = -1, \beta = 5, c = -5$ when $\alpha = 3, \beta = -3, c = 27$

90. (L-1) The smallest positive value of p for which the equation $\cos(p \sin \alpha) = (p \cos \alpha)$ has a solution $\forall \alpha \in [0, 2\pi]$ is

- a) $\frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}}$ b) $\pi\sqrt{2}$ c) $\frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{4}$ d) $\frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$

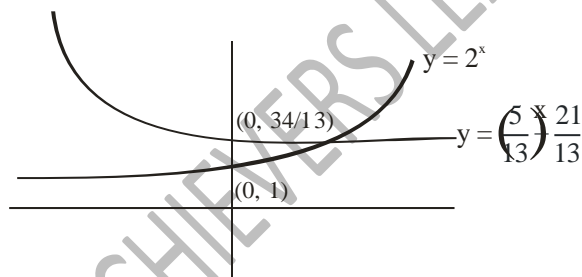
Key: c

Sol: $\sin\left(\pi + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1 \Rightarrow P$ is minimum

$$\Rightarrow P = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

91. The number of real roots of $\left(\frac{5}{13}\right)^x + \frac{21}{13} = 2^x$ is
 (A) Two (B) Infinitely many
 (C) only one (D) zero

Key: C



Sol. Both graphs cut at only one point

92. For a non zero polynomial P , the equation $|P(x)| = e^x$ has
 (A) At least one solution (B) No solution
 (C) Exactly 2 solution (D) Exactly 1 solution

Key: A

Sol. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} e^{-x} |P(x)| = 0$

and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} e^{-x} |P(x)| = \infty$

consequently there is an $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $e^{-x_0} |P(x_0)| = 1$

93. Number of rational roots of the equation $|x^2 - 2x - 3| + 4x = 0$ is

- a) 0 b) 1 c) 2 d) 4

Key: B

$$x^2 - 2x - 3 \geq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -3$$

Sol.

$$x^2 - 2x - 3 < 0 \Rightarrow x^2 - 6x - 3 = 0 \text{ no rational root}$$

94. If the equations $2x^2 - 7x + 1 = 0$ and $ax^2 + bx + 2 = 0$ have a common root, then
 a) $a=2, b=-7$ b) $a = \frac{-7}{2}, b=1$ c) $a = 4, b = -14$ d) $a = -4, b = 1$

Key. C
 Sol. First equation has irrational roots.∴ both roots common

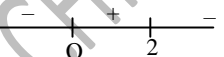
95. If $p, q, r \in \mathbb{R}$ and the quadratic equation $px^2 + qx + r = 0$ has no real root, then
 a) $p(p+q+r) > 0$ b) $p(p+q+r) < 0$
 c) $q(p+q+r) > 0$ d) $q(p+q+r) < 0$

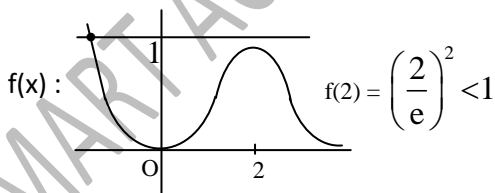
Key. A
 Sol. $p(px^2 + qx + r) > 0$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Take $x=1$

96. For $x^2 - (\alpha + 2)|x| + 9 = 0$ to have real solutions, the range of ' α ' is
 (A) $(-\infty, 4]$ (B) $[4, \infty)$
 (C) $(-\infty, 7] \cup [11, \infty)$ (D) $[-4, \infty)$

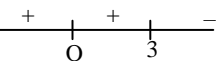
Key. B
 Sol. $\alpha = \frac{x^2 + 9}{|x|} - 2 = |x| + \frac{9}{|x|} - 2$
 $\alpha \geq 4$.

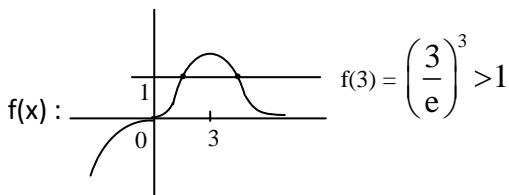
97. The number of solution(s) of the equations $e^x = x^2$ and $e^x = x^3$ are respectively
 (A) 1 and 2 (B) 1 and 0
 (C) 3 and 2 (D) 2 and 1

Key. A
 Sol. Let $f(x) = e^{-x} x^k, f'(x) = e^{-x} x^{k-1} (k - x)$
 For $k = 2, f'(x) :$ 



So, one solution.

For $k = 3, f'(x) :$ 



So, two solutions.

98. If a, b, c, d are four positive numbers in G.P. then the minimum value of $\frac{c+d}{b}$ is

(A) $\frac{3b^{\frac{1}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{3}} + a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}}$

(B) $\frac{3(bc)^{\frac{1}{3}} - 2a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}}$

(C) $\frac{3(bc)^{\frac{1}{3}} + 3a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}}$

(D) $\frac{3b^{\frac{1}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{3}} - a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}}$

Key. D

Sol. Let $b = ar, c = ar^2, d = ar^3$

$$\frac{c+d}{b} = r + r^2$$

$$\frac{3b^{\frac{1}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{3}} - a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}} = 3r - 1$$

$$\text{Since } (r-1)^2 \geq r^2 - 2r + 1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow r^2 + r \geq 3r - 1 \Rightarrow \frac{c+d}{b} \geq \frac{3b^{\frac{1}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{3}} - a^{2/3}}{a^{2/3}}$$

99. Three distinct positive real numbers a, b, c are in H.P. then for the quadratic equation $x^2 - kx + 2b^{101} - a^{101} - c^{101} = 0, k \in \mathbb{R}$ has

(a) roots of same sign

(b) roots of opposite sign

(c) roots of imaginary

(d) roots are real and equal

Key. B

SOL. IF α, β ARE ROOTS

$$\text{THEN } \alpha\beta = 2B^{101} - A^{101} - C^{101}$$

$$\text{NOW } \frac{a^{101} + c^{101}}{2} \geq (\sqrt{ac})^{101} \geq b^{101}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2B^{101} - A^{101} - C^{101} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha\beta < 0$$

\Rightarrow roots are opposite in sign.

100. If α and β, α and γ, α and δ are the roots of the equations

$$ax^2 + 2bx + c = 0, 2bx^2 + cx + a = 0 \text{ and } cx^2 + ax + 2b = 0 \text{ respectively where } a, b, c \text{ are}$$

positive real numbers, then $\alpha + \alpha^2 =$

a) -1

b) 1

c) 0

d) abc

Key. A

Sol. $a\alpha^2 + 2b\alpha + c = 0$

$$a + 2b\alpha^2 + c\alpha = 0$$

$$a\alpha + 2b + c\alpha^2 = 0 \text{ then } (a + 2b + c)(1 + \alpha + \alpha^2) = 0$$

$$\because a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ then } \alpha + \alpha^2 = -1$$

101. If a, b, c are in geometric progression and the roots of the equations $ax^2 + 2bx + c = 0$ are α and β and those of $cx^2 + 2bx + a = 0$ are γ and δ then

a) $\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \neq \delta$

b) $\alpha \neq \beta$ and $\gamma \neq \delta$

c) $a\alpha = a\beta = c\gamma = c\delta$

d) $\alpha = \beta; \gamma \neq \delta$

Key. C

Sol. $\because b^2 = ac$; the roots of both the equations are equal.

(C) (-4, -6)

(C) (2, 3)

Key. B

Sol. Let the roots of the equation be x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 then $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 4$
and $x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 = 1$

As A.M \geq G.M and equality sign holds only when numbers are equal.

$$\text{We have } 1 = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4}{4} \geq (x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4)^{\frac{1}{4}} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^4 - 4x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 1 = (x - 1)^4 \Rightarrow a = 6, b = -4.$$

107. If roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$; $a, b, c \in R^+$ be non-real numbers, lying inside the unit circle, centered at origin, then

(A) $b > 0$

(B) $b < a$

(C) $c < a$

(D) none of these

Key. C

Sol. Let z_1 be one of the root, then the other root is \bar{z}_1

$$|z_1|^2 = \frac{c}{a} \Rightarrow \frac{c}{a} < 1 \Rightarrow c < a$$

108. If both the roots of the equation $x^2 + 2bx + \log_3(b^2 - 4b + 4) = 0$ are of opposite sign then 'b' belongs to

(A) (1, 3)

(B) $(-\infty, 1) \cup (3, \infty)$

(C) [1, 3]

(D) $(1, 2) \cup (2, 3)$

Key. D

Sol. Let $f(x) = x^2 + 2bx + \log_3(b^2 - 4b + 4)$

For both roots to be of opposite sign

$$f(0) < 0 \Rightarrow \log_3(b^2 - 4b + 4) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 - 4b + 4 < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 - 4b + 3 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (b - 1)(b - 3) < 0 \Rightarrow 1 < b < 3$$

But $b \neq 2$

$$\therefore b \in (1, 2) \cup (2, 3).$$

109. Let $f(x) = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c$ and x_1, x_2 be the roots of $f'(x) = 0$, if $x_1 < x_2$ then

$f(x) = 0$ will have

a) No real root if $f(x_1) < 0$ or $f(x_2) > 0$

b) Only one real root if $f(x_1) < 0$ or $f(x_2) > 0$

c) Three real roots if $f(x_1) < 0$ or $f(x_2) > 0$

d) cannot say any thing

Key. B

Sol. Since coefficient of x^3 is Positive .

\therefore local maximum is at x_1 and local minimum is at x_2 . case (i) : If $f(x_1) < 0$ then

$f(x_2) < f(x_1) < 0$ then the only real root will be in (x_2, ∞) case (ii) : If $f(x_2) > 0$ then

$f(x_1) > f(x_2) > 0$ then equation will have only one real root in the interval $(-\infty, x)$.

Key. A

$$\text{Sol. } \frac{p+1}{p-1} = \frac{x^2+x+1}{x^2-x+1} \Rightarrow \frac{2p}{2} = \frac{2(x^2+1)}{2x} \Rightarrow p = x + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\text{As } f(x) = \frac{1-x}{1+x} \Rightarrow f(f(x)) + f\left(f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right) = x + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(f(x)) + f\left(f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)\right) = p$$

114. If $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ are roots of the equation $x^n + ax + b = 0$, then $(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_3)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_4) \dots (\alpha_1 - \alpha_n)$ is equal to

- (A) n (B) $n\alpha_1^{n-1}$
 (C) $n\alpha_1 + b$ (D) $n\alpha_1^{n-1} + a$

Key. D

$$\text{Sol. } x^n + ax + b = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$$

differentiate both sides w.r.t. x

$$nx^{n-1} + a = (x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n) + (x - \alpha_1) \left(\frac{d}{dx}(x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n)\right)$$

$$\text{put } x = \alpha_1$$

$$n\alpha_1^{n-1} + a = (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_3) \dots (\alpha_1 - \alpha_n)$$

115. ω is a non real complex cube root of unity and $a, b \in R$. If ω, ω^2 are roots of

$$\frac{1}{a+x} + \frac{1}{b+x} = \frac{3}{x} \text{ then } a, b \text{ are roots of}$$

- a) $3x^2 - 6x + 2 = 0$ (b) $6x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0$
 c) $2x^2 - 3x + 6 = 0$ (d) $6x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$

Key. B

Sol. The given equation simplifies $x^2 + 2x(a+b) + 3ab = 0$, whose roots are given table ω, ω^2

$$\text{Hence } a+b = \frac{1}{2}, ab = \frac{1}{3}. \text{ So } a, b \text{ are roots of } x^2 - x\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{3} = 0$$

116. If the function $f(x) = x^3 + 3(a-7)x^2 + 3(a^2-9)x - 1$ has a point of maximum at positive values of x then

- (a) $a \in \left(-\infty, \frac{29}{7}\right)$ (b) $a \in (-\infty, 7)$
 (c) $a \in (-\infty, -3) \cup \left(3, \frac{29}{7}\right)$ (d) $a \in (3, \infty) \cup (-\infty, -3)$

Key. C

$$\text{Sol. } f(x) = x^3 + 3(a-7)x^2 + 3(a^2-9)x - 1$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 + 6(a-7)x + 3(a^2-9)$$

The roots of $f'(x) = 0$ positive and distinct which is possible if

$$(i) b^2 - 4ac > 0 \Rightarrow 6(a-7)^2 - 4(3)(3)(a^2-9) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a < \frac{29}{7}$$

(ii) Product of Roots > 0 $a^2 - 9 > 0$

(iii) Sum of Roots > 0 $a - 7 < 0$
 $a < 7$

$$\Rightarrow \text{From i, ii, iii } a \in (-\infty, -3) \cup (3, \frac{29}{7})$$

117. If α, β are the roots of $x^2 - px + q = 0$ then value of $\frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{\alpha^{-2} + \beta^{-2}} =$

(A) p

(B) q

(C) p^2

(D) q^2

Key. D

Sol. $\alpha^2 \beta^2 = q^2$

118. For $p > 0$ and $3x^2 + px + 3 = 0$ one root of above equation is square of the other then p is

(A) -6

(B) 10

(C) 2

(D) 3

Key. D

Sol. $\alpha + \alpha^2 = \frac{-1}{3}; \alpha^3 = 1$

$$\alpha = 1, \omega, \omega^2$$

If $\alpha = 1$

$P = -6$ as $P > 0$ neglected

if $\alpha = \omega; P = 3$

119. If one root of the equation $x^2 - 2x + k = 0$ is $1 + 2i$ and $k \in R$ then the value of k is

(A) -3

(B) -5

(C) 5

(D) 3

Key. C

$$b^2 = 4ac \Rightarrow 4m^2 = 4(8m - 15)$$

Sol.

$$m^2 - 8m + 15 = 0; m = +3, +5$$

120. If $\left| \frac{12x}{4x^2 + 9} \right| \leq 1$ then

(A) $x \in R$

(B) $x \in \phi$

(C) $x \in \{1\}$

(D) $x \in C$ where C is set of complex numbers

Key. A

Sol. $12|x| \leq 4x^2 + 9$

$$(2x - 3)^2 \geq 0; x \in R$$

121. If α, β are roots of $3x^2 + 2bx + c = 0$ whose discriminant is $\Delta_1; \alpha + \delta, \beta + \delta$ are roots of

$$9x^2 + 2Bx + C = 0 \text{ whose discriminant is } \Delta_2 \text{ then } \frac{\Delta_1}{\Delta_2} \text{ is}$$

(A) $\frac{1}{9}$

(B) 9

(C) 3

(D) $\frac{1}{3}$

Key. A

Sol. $\alpha - \beta = \frac{\sqrt{\Delta_1}}{3}$

$$(\alpha + \delta) - (\beta + \delta) = \frac{\sqrt{\Delta_2}}{9}$$

$$\frac{\Delta_1}{9} = \frac{\Delta_2}{81}; \frac{\Delta_1}{\Delta_2} = \frac{1}{9}$$

122. If the sum of the roots of the equation $5x^2 - 4x + 2 + k(4x^2 - 2x - 1) = 0$ is 6, then k =

- (A) 13/17 (B) 17/13 (C) -17/13 (D) -13/11

Key. D

Sol. sum of the roots = 6

$$\frac{2k + 4}{5 + 4k} = 6 \Rightarrow k = \frac{-13}{11}$$

123. If $\tan \alpha, \tan \beta, \tan \gamma$ are the roots of the equation $x^3 - px^2 - r = 0$ then the value of $(1 + \tan^2 \alpha)(1 + \tan^2 \beta)(1 + \tan^2 \gamma)$ is equal to

- a) $(p - r)^2$ b) $1 + (p - r)^2$ c) $1 - (p - r)^2$ d) none

Key. B

Sol. $(1 + \tan^2 \alpha)(1 + \tan^2 \beta)(1 + \tan^2 \gamma)$

$$= 1 + (\tan^2 \alpha + \tan^2 \beta + \tan^2 \gamma) + (\tan^2 \alpha \tan^2 \beta + \tan^2 \beta \tan^2 \gamma + \tan^2 \gamma \tan^2 \alpha) + \tan^2 \alpha \tan^2 \beta \tan^2 \gamma$$

$$= 1 - (p - r)^2 \qquad \qquad \qquad \because x^2 y^2 + y^2 z^2 + z^2 x^2$$

$$= (xy + yz + zx)^2 - 2xyz(x + y + z)$$

124. If the equation $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$ is satisfied for real values of x and y then

- A) $x \in [1, 3], y \in [1, 3]$ B) $x \in [1, 3], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right]$
 C) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right], y \in [1, 3]$ D) $x \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right], y \in \left[\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right]$

Key. B

Sol. (B) Given equation is $x^2 + 9y^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$... (i)

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 9y^2 + 3 = 0.$

Since x is real $\therefore (-4)^2 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $16 - 4(9y^2 + 3) \geq 0$ or, $4 - 9y^2 - 3 \geq 0$

Or, $9y^2 - 1 \leq 0$ or, $9y^2 \leq 1$ or, $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9}$

Now $y^2 \leq \frac{1}{9} \Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{3} \leq y \leq \frac{1}{3}$... (ii)

Equation (i) can also be written as

$$9y^2 + 0y + x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0 \quad \dots(\text{iii})$$

Since y is real $\therefore 0^2 - 4.9(x^2 - 4x + 3) \geq 0$

Or, $x^2 - 4x + 3 \leq 0$
 $\Rightarrow x \in [1, 3]$

125. The equation $a_8x^8 + a_7x^7 + a_6x^6 + \dots + a_0 = 0$ has all its roots positive and real (where $a_8 = 1, a_7 = -4, a_0 = 1/2^8$), then

- A) $a_1 = \frac{1}{2^8}$ B) $a_1 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$ C) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^5}$ D) $a_2 = \frac{7}{2^8}$

Key. B

Sol. (B) Let the roots be $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_8$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8 = 4$$

$$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8 = \frac{1}{2^8}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_8)^{1/8} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_8}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{AM} = \text{GM} \Rightarrow \text{all the roots are equal to } \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = -{}^8C_7 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7 = -\frac{1}{2^4}$$

$$a_2 = {}^8C_6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 = \frac{7}{2^4}$$

$$a_3 = -{}^8C_5 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$$

126. If a, b, c are positive numbers such that $a > b > c$ and the equation

$$(a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b) = 0$$
 has a root in the interval $(-1, 0)$, then

- A) b cannot be the G.M. of a, c B) b may be the G.M. of a, c
 C) b is the G.M. of a, c D) none of these

Key. A

Sol. Let $f(x) = (a+b-2c)x^2 + (b+c-2a)x + (c+a-2b)$

According to the given condition, we have

$$f(0)f(-1) < 0$$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(2a-b-c) < 0$

i.e. $(c+a-2b)(a-b+a-c) < 0$

i.e. $c+a-2b < 0$ $[a > b > c, \text{ given } \Rightarrow a-b > 0, a-c > 0]$

i.e. $b > \frac{a+c}{2}$

$\Rightarrow b$ cannot be the G.M. of a, c , since $\text{G.M} < \text{A.M}$. always.

127. Let α, β ($a < b$) be the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$. If $\lim_{x \rightarrow m} \frac{|ax^2 + bx + c|}{ax^2 + bx + c} = 1$, then
- A) $\frac{|a|}{a} = -1, m < \alpha$ B) $a > 0, \alpha < m < \beta$ C) $\frac{|a|}{a} = 1, m > \beta$ D) $a < 0, m > \beta$

Key. C

Sol. According to the given condition, we have

$$|am^2 + bm + c| = am^2 + bm + c$$

i.e. $am^2 + bm + c > 0$

\Rightarrow if $a < 0$, the m lies in (α, β)

and if $a > 0$, then m does not lie in (α, β)

Hence, option (c) is correct, since

$$\frac{|a|}{a} = 1 \Rightarrow a > 0$$

And in that case m does not lie in (α, β) .

128. Let $f(x)$ be a function such that $f(x) = x - [x]$, where $[x]$ is the greatest integer less than or equal to x . Then the number of solutions of the equation $f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 1$ is (are)
- A) 0 B) 1 C) 2 D) infinite

Key. D

Sol. Given, $f(x) = x - [x], x \in R - \{0\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } f(x) + f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) &= 1 & \therefore x - [x] + \frac{1}{x} - \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) - \left([x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right]\right) &= 1 & \Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) &= [x] + \left[\frac{1}{x}\right] + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, R.H.S is an integer

\therefore L. H. S. is also an integer

Let $x + \frac{1}{x} = k$ an integer

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

$$\therefore x = \frac{k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - 4}}{2}$$

For real values of $x, k^2 - 4 \geq 0 \Rightarrow k \geq 2$ or $k \leq -2$

We also observe that $k=2$ and -2 does not satisfy equation (i)

\therefore The equation (i) will have solutions if $k > 2$ or $k < -2$, where $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Hence equation (i) has infinite number of solutions.

129. If both the roots of $(2a - 4)9^x - (2a - 3)3^x + 1 = 0$ are non-negative, then
- A) $0 < a < 2$ B) $2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$ C) $a < \frac{5}{4}$ D) $a > 3$

Key. B

Sol. Putting $3^x = y$, we have

$$(2a - 4)y^2 - (2a - 3)y + 1 = 0$$

This equation must have real solution

$$\Rightarrow (2a-3)^2 - 4(2a-4) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a^2 - 20a + 25 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2a-5)^2 \geq 0. \text{ This is true.}$$

$y = 1$ satisfies the equation

Since 3^x is positive and $3^x \geq 3^0$, $y \geq 1$

Product of the roots = $1 \times y > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a-4 < 1 \Rightarrow a < \frac{5}{2}$$

Sum of the roots = $\frac{2a-3}{2a-4} > 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(2a-3)-(2a-4)}{2a-4} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2a-4} > 0 \Rightarrow a > 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 < a < \frac{5}{2}$$

130. Let α and β be the roots of $x^2 - 6x - 2 = 0$ with $\alpha > \beta$ if $a_n = \alpha^n - \beta^n$ for $n \geq 1$ then the value of $\frac{a_{10} - 2a_8}{3a_9} =$

- 1) 1 2) 2 3) 3 4) 4

Key. 2

Sol. $\alpha^2 - 6\alpha - 2 = 0$ $\beta^2 - 6\beta - 2 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha^{10} - 6\alpha^9 - 2\alpha^8 = 0 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta^{10} - 6\beta^9 - 2\beta^8 = 0 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

subtract (2) from (1)

131. If a, b, c are positive real numbers such that $a+b+c=1$ then the least value of $\frac{(1+a)(1+b)(1+c)}{(1-a)(1-b)(1-c)}$ is

- 1) 16 2) 8 3) 4 4) 5

Key. 2

Sol. $a = 1 - b - c$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + a = (1 - b) + (1 - c) \geq 2\sqrt{(1 - b)(1 - c)}$$

$$\therefore (1 + a)(1 + b)(1 + c) \geq 8(1 - a)(1 - b)(1 - c)$$

132. The range of values of 'a' for which all the roots of the equation $(a-1)(1+x+x^2)^2 = (a+1)(1+x^2+x^4)$ are imaginary is

- 1) $(-\infty, -2]$ 2) $(2, \infty)$
 3) $(-2, 2)$ 4) $[2, \infty)$

Key. 3

Sol. The given equation can be written as $(x^2 + x + 1)(x^2 - ax + 1) = 0$

133. If α, β are the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ and $S_n = \alpha^n + \beta^n$ then

$$aS_{n+1} + bS_n + cS_{n-1} = (n \geq 2)$$

- 1) 0 2) $a + b + c$
 3) $(a + b + c)n$ 4) $n^2 abc$

Key. 1

Sol. $S_{n+1} = \alpha^{n+1} + \beta^{n+1}$
 $= (\alpha + \beta)(\alpha^n + \beta^n) - \alpha\beta(\alpha^{n-1} + \beta^{n-1})$
 $= -\frac{b}{a}S_n - \frac{c}{a}S_{n-1}$

134. A group of students decided to buy a Alarm Clock priced between Rs. 170 to Rs 195. But at the last moment, two students backed out of the decision so that the remaining students had to pay 1 Rupee more than they had planned. If the students paid equal shares, the price of the Alarm Clock is

- 1) 190 2) 196
 3) 180 4) 171

Key. 3

Sol. Let cost of clock = x
 number of students = n

$$\text{then } \frac{x}{n-2} = \frac{x}{n} + 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{n^2 - 2n}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 170 \leq \frac{n^2 - 2n}{2} \leq 195$$

135. If $\tan A, \tan B$ are the roots of $x^2 - Px + Q = 0$ the value of $\sin^2(A + B) =$

(where $P, Q \in R$)

- 1) $\frac{P^2}{P^2 + (1 - Q)^2}$ 2) $\frac{P^2}{P^2 + Q^2}$
 3) $\frac{Q^2}{P^2 + (1 - Q)^2}$ 4) $\frac{P^2}{(P + Q)^2}$

Key. 1

Sol. $\tan(A + B) = \frac{P}{1 - Q}$ then $\sin^2(A + B) = \frac{\tan^2(A + B)}{1 + \tan^2(A + B)}$

136. The number of solutions of $[[x] - 2x] = 4$ where $[x]$ is the greatest integer $\leq x$ is

- 1) 2 2) 4
 3) 1 4) Infinite

Key. 2

Sol. If $x = n \in Z$, $|n - 2n| = 4 \Rightarrow n = \pm 4$

If $x = n + K$ where $0 < K < 1$ then $|n - 2(n + k)| = 4$, it is possible if $K = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow |-n - 1| = 4$$

$$\therefore n = 3, -5$$

137. Let a, b and c be real numbers such that $a + 2b + c = 4$ then the maximum value of $ab + bc + ca$ is

1) 1

2) 2

3) 3

4) 4

Key. 4

Sol. Let $ab + bc + ca = x$

$$\Rightarrow 2b^2 + 2(c - 2)b - 4c + c^2 + x = 0$$

Since $b \in R$,

$$\therefore c^2 - 4c + 2x - 4 \leq 0$$

Since $c \in R$

$$\therefore x \leq 4$$

138. For the equation $3x^2 + px + 3 = 0$, $p > 0$, if one root is the square of the other then value of P is

1) $\frac{1}{3}$

2) 1

3) 3

4)

$\frac{2}{3}$

Key. 3

Sol. $\alpha + \alpha^2 = -\frac{p}{3}$

$$\alpha^3 = 1$$

139. If the equations $2x^2 + kx - 5 = 0$ and $x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ have a common root, then the value of k is

1) -2

2) -3

3) $\frac{27}{4}$

4) $-\frac{1}{4}$

Key. 2

Sol. If ' α ' is the common root then $2\alpha^2 + k\alpha - 5 = 0$, $\alpha^2 - 3\alpha - 4 = 0$ solve the equations.

140. If α and β are the roots of the equation $x^2 - x + 1 = 0$ then $\alpha^{2009} + \beta^{2009} =$

1) 1

2) 2

3) -1

4) -2

Key. 1

Sol. $x = \frac{1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$

$\therefore \alpha = -\omega, \beta = -\omega^2$

141. If $P(Q-r)x^2 + Q(r-P)x + r(P-Q) = 0$ has equal roots then $\frac{2}{Q} =$

(where $P, Q, r \in R$)

1) $\frac{1}{P} + \frac{1}{r}$

2) $\frac{1}{P} - \frac{1}{r}$

3) $P+r$

4) Pr

Key. 1

Sol. Product of the roots = 1

142. The solution of the differential equation $y_1 y_3 = 3y_2^2$ is

1) $x = A_1 y^2 + A_2 y + A_3$

2) $x = A_1 y + A_2$

3) $x = A_1 y^2 + A_2 y$

4) none of these

Key. 1

Sol. $y_1 y_3 = 3y_2^2$

$\frac{y_3}{y_2} = 3 \frac{y_2}{y_1} \Rightarrow \ln y_2 = 3 \ln y_1 + \ln c$

$y_2 = c y_1^3$

$\frac{y_2}{y_1^2} = c y_1$

$-\frac{1}{y_1} = c y + c_2$

$\frac{dx}{dy} = -c y - c_2$

$x = -\frac{c y^2}{2} - c_2 y + c_3$

$\therefore x = A_1 y^2 + A_2 y + A_3$

143. If $(1+K)\tan^2 x - 4\tan x - 1 + K = 0$ has real roots $\tan x_1$ and $\tan x_2$ then

1) $k^2 \leq 5$

2) $k^2 \geq 6$

3) $k = 3$

4) $k > 10$

Key. 1

Sol. Discriminate ≥ 0

144. Let $f(x)$ be a real valued function satisfying $a.f(x) + b.f(-x) = px^2 + qx + r, \forall x \in R$.

Where $p, q, r \in R - \{0\}$ and $a, b \in R$ such that $|a| \neq |b|$. Then the condition that

$f(x) = 0$ will have real roots is

A) $\left(\frac{a+b}{a-b}\right)^2 \leq \frac{q^2}{4pr}$

B) $\left(\frac{a+b}{a-b}\right)^2 \leq \frac{4pr}{q^2}$

C) $\left(\frac{a+b}{a-b}\right)^2 \geq \frac{q^2}{4pr}$

D) $\left(\frac{a+b}{a-b}\right)^2 \geq \frac{4pr}{q^2}$

Key. D

Sol. Using hypothesis we get $f(x) - f(-x) = \frac{2qx}{a-b}$

145. The number of solutions of the equations $n^{-|x|} \cdot |m - |x|| = 1$ (where $m, n > 1$ & $n > m$) is

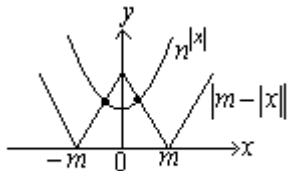
A) 0

B) 1

C) 2

D) 4

Key. C



Sol.

•• = two solutions

146. The values of 'a' for which the equation $x^3 + ax + 1 = 0$ and $x^4 + ax^2 + 1 = 0$ have a common root

A) 2

B) -2

C) 0

D) 1

Key. B

Sol. Let α be a common root

Then $\alpha^3 + a\alpha + 1 = 0$ --- (1)

And $\alpha^4 + a\alpha^2 + 1 = 0$ --- (2)

$\alpha \times (1) - (2) \Rightarrow \alpha - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 1$

So, from $x^3 + ax + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow 1 + a + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow a = -2$

147. If the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are of the form $\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}$ and $\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}$, then

value of $(a+b+c)^2$ is

A) $2b^2 - ac$

B) $b^2 - 2ac$

C) $b^2 - 4ac$

D) $4b^2 - 2ac$

Key. C

Sol. By hypothesis $\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1} + \frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha} = -\frac{b}{a}$ and $\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1} \cdot \frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha} = \frac{c}{a}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{2\alpha^2 - 1}{\alpha^2 - \alpha} = -\frac{b}{a}$ and $\alpha = \frac{c+a}{c-a}$

$\Rightarrow (c+a)^2 + 2b(c+a) + b^2 = b^2 - 4ac \Rightarrow (a+b+c)^2 = b^2 - 4ac$

148. The value of a, for which one root of the equation $(a-5)x^2 - 2ax + (a-4) = 0$ is smaller than 1 and the other greater than 2 is _____

A) $a \in (5, 24)$

B) $a \in \left(\frac{20}{3}, \infty\right)$

C) $a \in (5, \infty)$

D) $a \in (-\infty, \infty)$

Key. A

Sol. (i) $D > 0$

$4a^2 - 4(a-5)(a-4) > 0$

$$9a - 20 > 0 \Rightarrow a > \frac{20}{9} \Rightarrow a \in \left(\frac{20}{9}, \infty \right) \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$(ii) (a-5)f(1) < 0; (a-5)f(2) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (a-5)(a-5-2a+a-4) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a > 5 \Rightarrow a \in (5, \infty) \text{ --- (2)}$$

$$\text{and } (a-5)\{(a-5).4-4a+a-4\} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (a-5)(a-24) < 0 \Rightarrow 5 < a < 24$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in (5, 24) \text{ --- (3)}$$

Using (1), (2) & (3)

The common condition is $a \in (5, 24)$

149. If the equations $ax^2 - 2bx + c = 0$, $bx^2 - 2cx + a = 0$ and $cx^2 - 2ax + b = 0$ have only positive roots then

A) $a > b > c$

B) $a < b < c$

C) $a = b = c$

D) $a > b; b < c$

Key. C

Sol. Roots of equation $ax^2 - 2bx + c = 0$ are +ve then discriminant $\geq 0 \Rightarrow b^2 \geq ac$

$$\text{Sum of roots} = \frac{b}{a} > 0, \text{ product of roots} = \frac{c}{a} > 0$$

Similarly for other two equations, we get $c^2 \geq ab \Rightarrow \frac{c}{b} > 0, \frac{a}{b} > 0$ and

$$a^2 \geq bc \Rightarrow \frac{a}{c} > 0 \& \frac{b}{c} > 0$$

Using above conditions a, b, c are all +ve (or) all are -ve.

Multiplying we get $c^2 a^2 \geq ab^2 c$

$$\Rightarrow ac(b^2 - ac) \leq 0 \Rightarrow b^2 - ac \leq 0 (\because ac > 0)$$

$$\text{Also } a^2 - bc \leq 0 \& c^2 - ab \leq 0$$

And all, we get $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca \leq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} [(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2] = 0$$

$$3x^2 + px + 3 = 0, p > 0, \text{ (or) } \underline{\underline{P}} \text{ (or) } \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

$$\alpha + \alpha^2 = -\frac{p}{3}$$

150. If α is a root of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$; β is a root fo $-ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ and γ is a root of $ax^2 + 2bx + 2c = 0$ then

A) $\gamma < \alpha < \beta$

B) $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$

C) $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$

D) $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} < \gamma < \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$

Key. C

Sol. Let $f(x) = ax^2 + 2bx + 2c$

$$\text{Then, we have } f(\alpha) = a\alpha^2 + 2b\alpha + 2c = -a\alpha^2 + 2(a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c)$$

$$= -a\alpha^2 [\because \alpha \text{ is a root of } ax^2 + bx + c = 0. \therefore a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0]$$

$$\text{Also we have, } f(\beta) = a\beta^2 + 2b\beta + 2c = 3a\beta^2 + 2(-a\beta^2 + b\beta + c)$$

$$= 3a\beta^2 [\because \beta \text{ is a root of } -ax^2 + bx + c = 0. \therefore a^2\beta - b\beta - c = 0]$$

Now, $f(\alpha)f(\beta) = -3a^2\alpha^2\beta^2 < 0$ which implies that $f(\alpha), f(\beta)$ are of opposite signs and hence, proves that the curve represented by $y = f(x)$ cuts the X-axis somewhere between α and β .

In other words $f(x) = 0$ has a root lying between α and β .

151. If for any real x , we have $-1 \leq \frac{x^2 + nx - 2}{x^2 - 3x + 4} \leq 2$ then the value of n is

- A) $n \in [-1, \sqrt{40} - 6]$ B) $n \in [-1, 3]$ C) $n \in [-\sqrt{40} - 6, -1]$ D) $n \in [1, \sqrt{40} + 6]$

Key. A

Sol. $\frac{x^2 + nx - 2}{x^2 - 3x + 4} - 2 \leq 0$

$\Rightarrow x^2 - (n+6)x + 10 \geq 0$, true $\forall x \in R$ then

$D \leq 0 \Rightarrow (n+6)^2 - 40 \leq 0 \Rightarrow -\sqrt{40} - 6 \leq n \leq \sqrt{40} - 6 \dots (1)$

Similarly $\frac{x^2 + nx - 2}{x^2 - 3x + 4} + 1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow 2x^2 + (x-3)x + 2 \geq 0$

$\Rightarrow D \leq 0 \Rightarrow (n-3)^2 - 16 \leq 0 \Rightarrow -1 \leq n \leq 7 \dots (2)$

Combined (1) & (2) we get $n \in [-1, \sqrt{40} - 6]$

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