

1. The roots of the equation  $x^2 + px + q = 0$  are 5 and -2. Find the values of  $p$  and  $q$ .

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

$$x^2 - 3x - 10 = 0$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} p = -3 \\ q = -10 \end{cases}$$

✓

100%

Excellent!!

2. For what values of  $k$  does the equation  $2x^2 + 5x + k = 0$  have two distinct real roots?

$$\Delta = 25 - 8k > 0$$

$$\therefore 8k < 25$$

$$\therefore k < \frac{25}{8}$$

✓

3. If  $z = a + bi$ , find  $\operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{z}{z^*}\right)$ .

$$\frac{z}{z^*}$$

$$= \frac{a+bi}{a-bi}$$

$$= \frac{(a+bi)(a+bi)}{(a-bi)(a+bi)}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 - b^2 + 2abi}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} + \frac{2ab}{a^2 + b^2} \cdot i$$

$$\therefore \operatorname{Re}\left(\frac{z}{z^*}\right) = \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2}$$

✓

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4. Solve  $2\log_7 x - \log_x 7 = 1$ .

let  $\log_7 x = a$

$$2a - \frac{1}{a} = 1$$

$$2a^2 - 1 - a = 0$$

$$2a^2 - a - 1 = 0$$

$$(2a+1)(a-1) = 0$$

$$\therefore a = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } 1$$

①  $a = -\frac{1}{2}$

$$\therefore x = 7^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{7}$$

②  $a = 1$

$$x = 7^1 = 7$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{7} \text{ or } 7$$

5. A committee of 4 students is to be chosen from 5 boys and 4 girls. In how many ways can this be done if at least two girls must be chosen?

The complement of the requirement is 0 or 1 girl is chosen.

$$\frac{4 \cdot {}^5C_3}{1 \text{ girl chosen}} + \frac{{}^5C_4}{0 \text{ girl chosen}} = 4 \cdot 10 + 5 = 45$$

The universal set is to choose 4 people randomly out of  $5+4=9$  people.

$${}^9C_4 = \frac{9 \times 8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5}{5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1} = 126$$

$$\therefore \text{The answer is } 126 - 45 = 81$$

6. Without the calculator solve for the square roots of  $3 - 4i$ .

let  $(a+bi)^2 = 3-4i$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$a^2 - b^2 + 2abi = 3 - 4i$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} a^2 - b^2 = 3 \\ 2ab = -4 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} a^2 - b^2 = 3 \\ ab = -2 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore b = -\frac{2}{a}$$

$$\therefore a^2 - \left(-\frac{2}{a}\right)^2 = 3$$

$$\therefore a^2 - \frac{4}{a^2} = 3$$

$$\therefore a^4 - 3a^2 - 4 = 0$$

$$\therefore (a^2 - 4)(a^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$\therefore a^2 = 4, a = \pm 2$$

$$\therefore b = -\frac{2}{a}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} a_1 = 2 \\ a_2 = -2 \end{cases}$$

$\therefore$  the square roots required is  $2-i$  or  $-2+i$ .

7. Find all values of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  so that  $10, a, b, c, 810$  is a geometric sequence.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{810}{10} = r^4 \\ \frac{a}{10} = r \\ \frac{b}{10} = r^2 \\ \frac{c}{10} = r^3 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} r = \pm 3 \\ a = 10r \\ b = 10r^2 \\ c = 10r^3 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} a_1 = 30 \\ b_1 = 90 \\ c_1 = 270 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} a_2 = -30 \\ b_2 = 90 \\ c_2 = -270 \end{cases}$$



8. The coefficient of  $x^3$  in the expansion of  $\left(1 + \frac{x}{2}\right)^n$  is 70. Find the coefficient of  $x^2$ .

$$1^{n-3} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^3 \cdot \binom{n}{3} = 70x^3$$

$$\frac{x^3}{8} \cdot \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2)}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 70x^3$$

$$\therefore n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) = 3360$$

$\therefore n$  is positive integer

$$\therefore n = 16$$

$$\therefore \left(1 + \frac{x}{2}\right)^{16}$$

$$\therefore 1^{16-2} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 \cdot \binom{16}{2}$$

$$= \frac{x^2}{4} \cdot \frac{16 \cdot 15}{2 \cdot 1}$$

$$= 30x^2$$

$\therefore$  the coefficient is 30.



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9. If  $2^{2018}$  is multiplied out, it has  $n$  digits. Find the value of  $n$ .

∴ if we want to write  $\overline{abcd}$  in scientific form,

we have  $\overline{a.bcd} \times 10^3$ , which can also be written in  $\overline{a.bcd} \times 10^{\lfloor \log \overline{abcd} \rfloor}$

∴ we find out that  $\log_{10} x$  function can help write the scientific form of a number, thus lead to the number of digits in that number

$$\therefore \lfloor \log \overline{abcd} \rfloor = 3,$$

$$\therefore \text{number of digits} = \lfloor \log \overline{abcd} \rfloor + 1$$

$$\therefore n = \lfloor \log 2^{2018} \rfloor + 1$$

$$= \lfloor 2018 \cdot \log 2 \rfloor + 1$$

$$= \lfloor 607.48 \rfloor + 1$$

$$= 608$$

10. The roots of  $x^2 + cx + d = 0$  are  $a$  and  $b$  and the roots of  $x^2 + ax + b = 0$  are  $c$  and  $d$ . If  $a, b, c$  and  $d$  are nonzero, find the value of  $a + b + c + d$ .

we can get Vieta's Theorem from the quadratic equation.

Vieta theorem: in  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  ( $a \neq 0$ ), the root  $x_1$  &  $x_2$  have the following relationship with the coefficient:

$$x_1 + x_2 = -\frac{b}{a} \quad x_1 \cdot x_2 = \frac{c}{a}.$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} -c = a + b & \text{①} \\ d = a \cdot b & \text{②} \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} -a = c + d & \text{③} \\ b = c \cdot d & \text{④} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{①} - \text{③}:$$

$$a + b + c - a - c - d = 0$$

$$\therefore b - d = 0$$

$$\therefore b = d$$

$$\text{②} \& \text{④}:$$

$$\therefore d = a \cdot b$$

$$b = c \cdot b$$

$$b = d$$

$$\therefore a = c = 1$$

$$\text{①} + \text{③}:$$

$$a + b + c + d = -a - c$$

$$= -1 - 1$$

$$= -2$$

# Solutions to HL1 Assignment #7

1. The sum of the roots is 3, so  $p = -3$ . The product of the roots is  $-10$ , so  $q = -10$ .
2. Here  $\Delta = 25 - 8k$ . We want  $\Delta > 0$ , so  $k < 25/8$ .
3. Now  $\frac{z}{z^*} = \frac{(a+bi)(a+bi)}{a^2+b^2} = \frac{a^2-b^2+2abi}{a^2+b^2}$ . So the real part is  $\frac{a^2-b^2}{a^2+b^2}$ .
4. Letting  $t = \log_7 x$ , gives  $2t - 1/t = 1 \Leftrightarrow 2t^2 - t - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow t = -0.5$  or  $t = 1$ . So  $x = 1/\sqrt{7}$  or  $x = 7$ .
5. This is  $\binom{4}{2} \times \binom{5}{2} + \binom{4}{3} \times \binom{5}{1} + \binom{4}{4} \times \binom{5}{0} = 81$ .
6. Suppose  $(a+bi)^2 = 3-4i$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $a^2-b^2 = 3$  and  $ab = -2$ . Solving simultaneously gives  $a = 2$  and  $b = -1$ , or  $a = -2$  and  $b = 1$ . So the square roots of  $3-4i$  are  $\pm(2-i)$ .
7. Let the ratio be  $r$ . Then the sequence is  $10, 10r, 10r^2, 10r^3, 810$ . We conclude  $10r^4 = 810 \Leftrightarrow r = \pm 3$ . So  $a = \pm 30, b = 90, c = \pm 270$ . (This solution only considers real values of  $r$  but we could also consider  $r$  to be complex in which case we would also have  $r = \pm 3i$  and the associated values of  $a, b$  and  $c$ .)
8. We are given  $\binom{n}{3}(\frac{x}{2})^3 = 70$ . Solving we have  $n = 16$ . So the  $x^2$  term is  $\binom{16}{2}(\frac{x}{2})^2$ . Hence the required coefficient is 30.
9. We have  $2^{2018} = 10^{\log 2^{2018}} = 10^{2018 \log 2} = 10^{607.5}$ . So  $2^{2018}$  has 608 digits when multiplied out.
10. By the sum of roots formula we have  $a+b = -c$  and  $c+d = -a$ . So  $c+d = b+c \Leftrightarrow b = d$ . By the product of the roots formula we have  $ab = d$  and  $cd = b$ . It follows that  $a = c = 1$ . So  $a+b+c+d = -2$ .