

Excellent Notes

Math Exploration 2

If $y + 4 = (x - 2)^2$, $x + 4 = (y - 2)^2$, and $x \neq y$, what is the value of $x^2 + y^2$? (2015 AMC 10A Problem, Question #16)

A. 10 B. 15 C. 20 D. 25 E. 30

$\begin{cases} y+4 = x^2 - 4x + 4 \\ x+4 = y^2 - 4y + 4 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x^2 - 4x + 4 = y+4 \\ y^2 - 4y + 4 = x+4 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x^2 - 4x = y+4 \\ y^2 - 4y = x+4 \end{cases}$

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

Practice 2 $(x-y)(x+y-4) = 3x - 3y = 3(x-y) \Rightarrow x+y = 3$

If a , b , and c are positive real numbers such that $a(b+c) = 152$, $b(c+a) = 162$, and $c(a+b) = 170$, then abc is _____.

A. 672 B. 688 C. 704 D. 720 E. 750

$\begin{aligned} ab+ac &= 152 \\ ab+bc &= 162 \\ ac+bc &= 170 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} ab &= 90 \\ ac &= 80 \\ ab+bc &= 170 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} bc &= 90 \\ abc &= 720 \\ ab &= 12 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow abc = \sqrt{36 \times 10 \times 16} = 720$

Sherry

Concept 2: Solve the System of Multivariable Equations of Higher Degree

If $y + 4 = (x - 2)^2$, $x + 4 = (y - 2)^2$, and $x \neq y$, what is the value of $x^2 + y^2$? (2015 AMC 10A Problem, Question #16)

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$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \text{ Add: } &x^2 - 4x + 4 + y^2 - 4y + 4 = 2(x+y) \Rightarrow 5x + 3y = 15 \\ \textcircled{2} \text{ Subtract: } &x^2 - 4x + 4 - (y^2 - 4y + 4) = 2(x-y) \Rightarrow (x-y)(x+y-4) = y-x \end{aligned}$

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Rachel

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Alison

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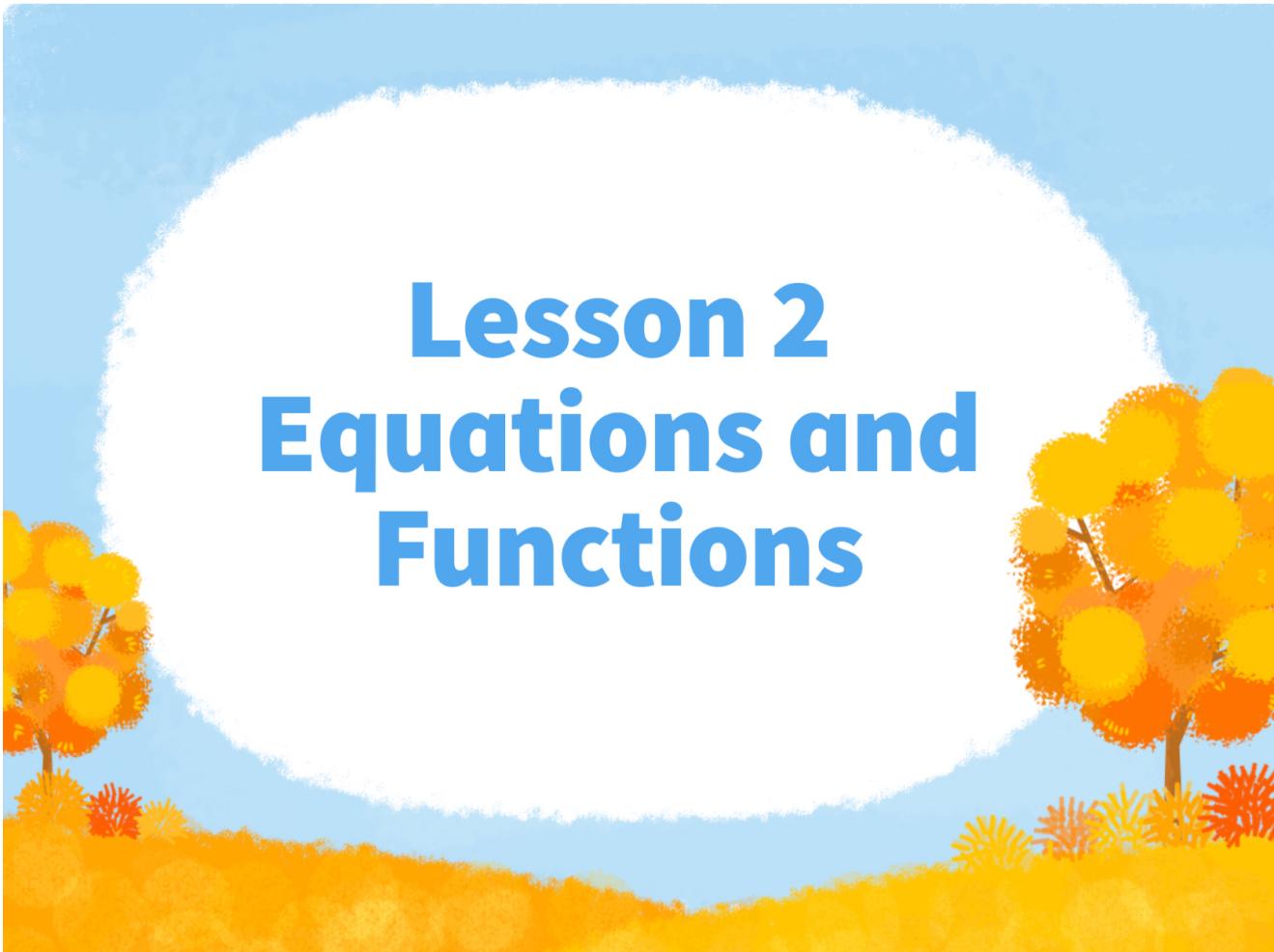
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Lilian



Concept 1

Geometric Applications of Linear Functions

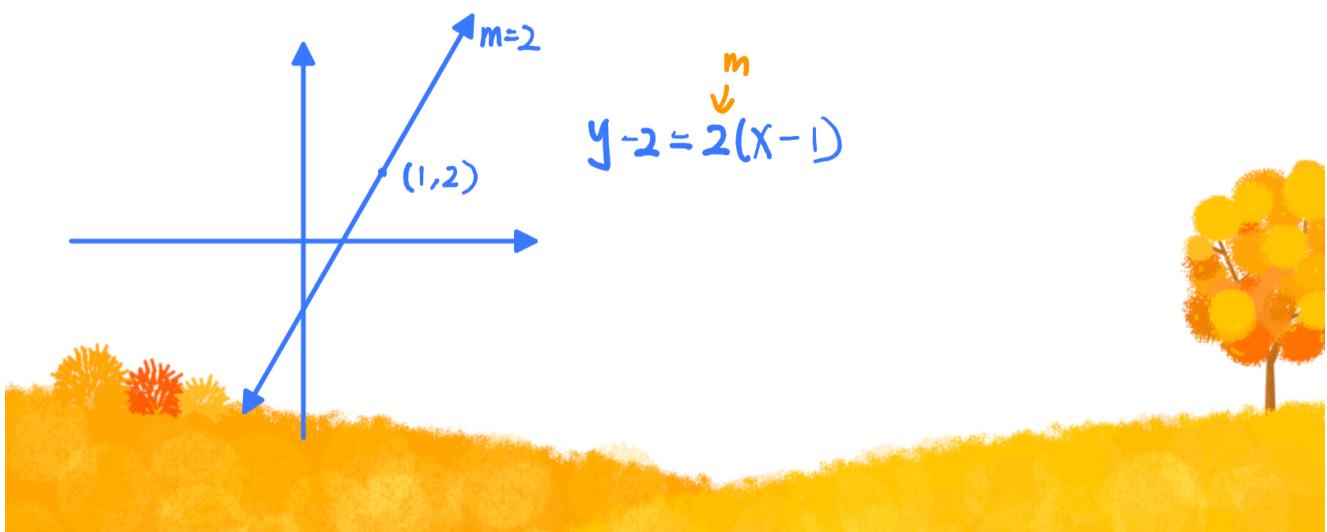


Linear Function Reviews

Slope-intercept form: $y = mx + b$ ($m \neq 0, m, b$ are constant values).

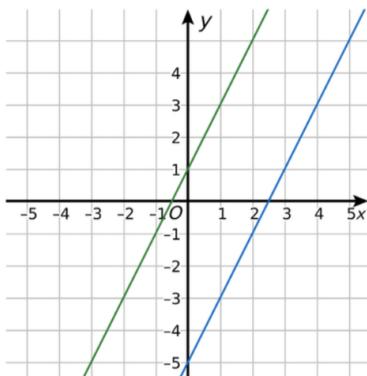
Slope formula: $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$.

Point-slope form $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$.



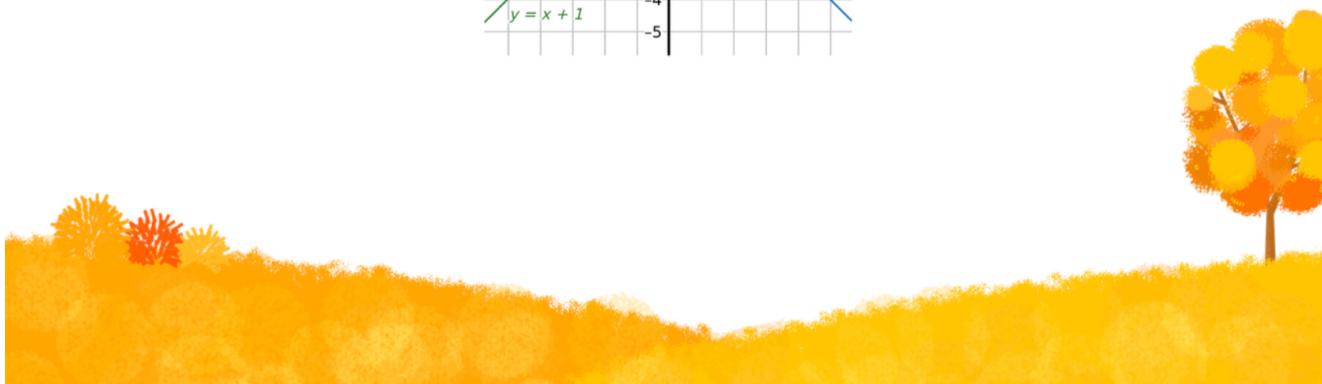
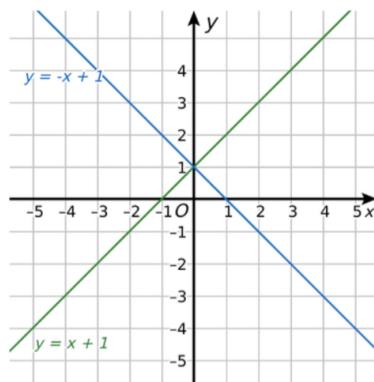
Parallel Lines

If two lines are parallel in a coordinate plane, their slopes are the same.



Perpendicular Lines

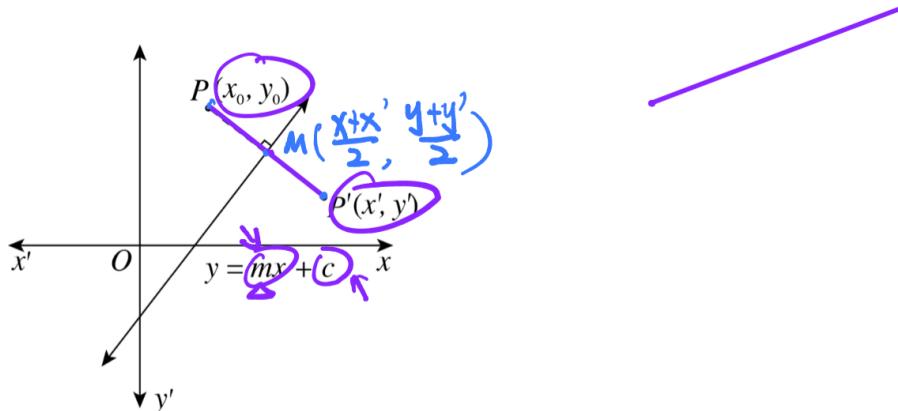
If two nonvertical lines are perpendicular in a coordinate plane, the product of their slopes is -1 .



Reflecting a Point over a Line

Key Properties:

1. Midpoint
2. Perpendicular



MC(1)

Math Exploration 1.1

A line that passes through the origin intersects both the line $x = 1$ and the line $y = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x$. The three lines create an equilateral triangle. What is the perimeter of the triangle? (2015 AMC 10A Problem, Question#17)

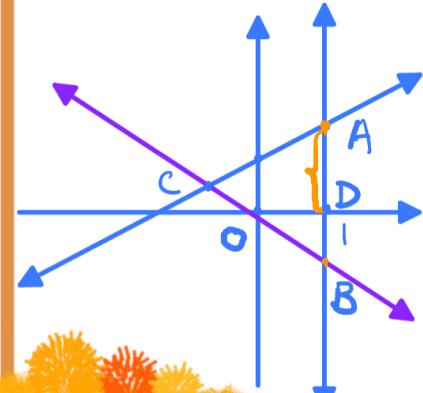
A. $2\sqrt{6}$

B. $2 + 2\sqrt{3}$

C. 6

D. $3 + 2\sqrt{3}$

E. $6 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$



Point A: plug $x=1$, $y=1+\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$

$$\Rightarrow AD = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

In $\triangle BOD$, $m\angle DBO = 60^\circ$, $30-60-90$ Rt \triangle

$$OD = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow BD = \frac{OD}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = (1 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}) + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} = 1 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

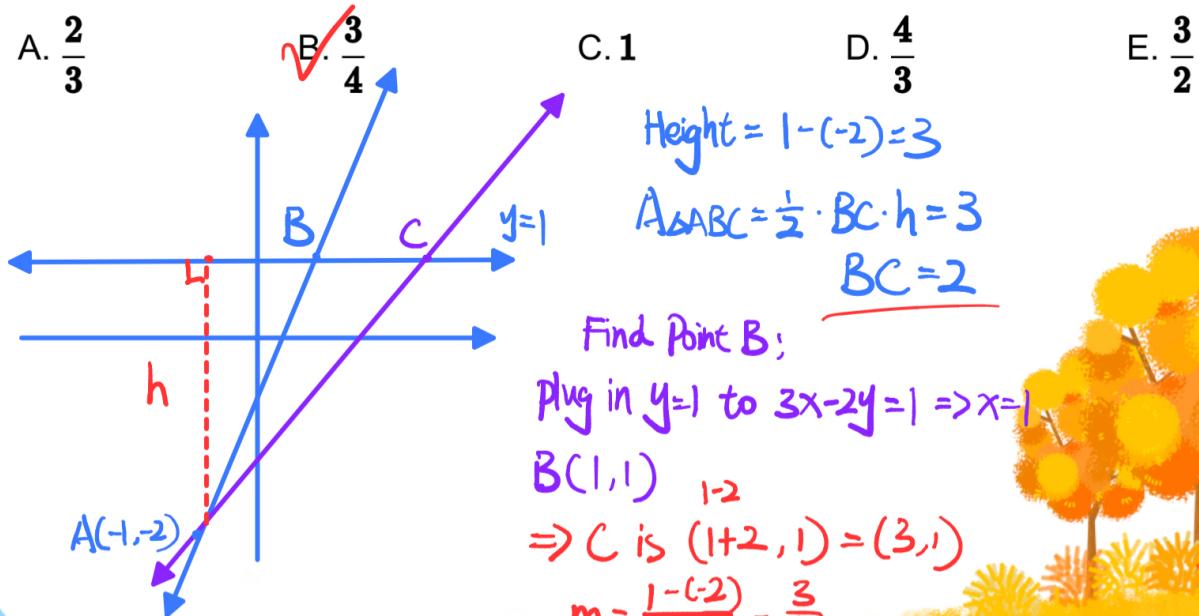
$$P_{\triangle ABC} = 3AB = 3 + 2\sqrt{3}$$



Practice 1.1

Line l_1 has equation $3x - 2y = 1$ and goes through $A(-1, -2)$. Line l_2 has equation $y = 1$ and meets line l_1 at point B . Line l_3 has positive slope, goes through point A , and meets l_2 at point C . The area of $\triangle ABC$ is 3. What is the slope of l_3 ?

A. $\frac{2}{3}$



C. 1

D. $\frac{4}{3}$

E. $\frac{3}{2}$

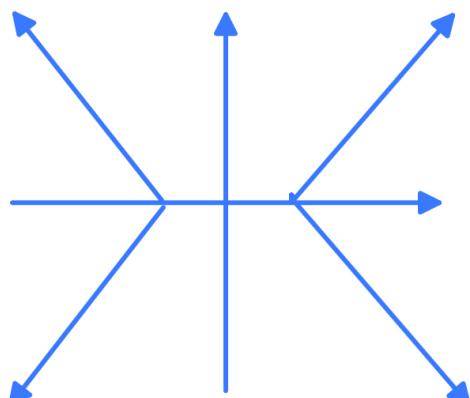
Concept 2

Solve Systems by Function Graphs

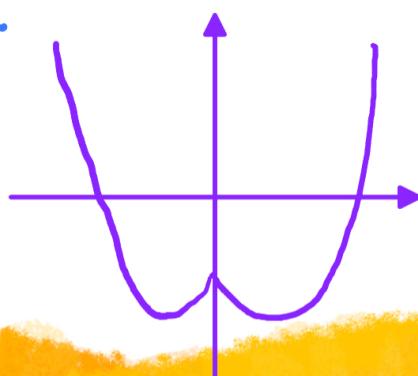
Basic Rules to Graph Functions with Absolute Values

Casework! $|x| - |y| = 1$

- ① $x \geq 0$ and $y \geq 0$: $x - y = 1$
- ② $x \geq 0$ and $y < 0$: $x + y = 1$



Symmetry $y = x^2 - |x| - 3$
 $y = |x|^2 - |x| - 3$
 $f(x) = f(-x)$



MC(1)

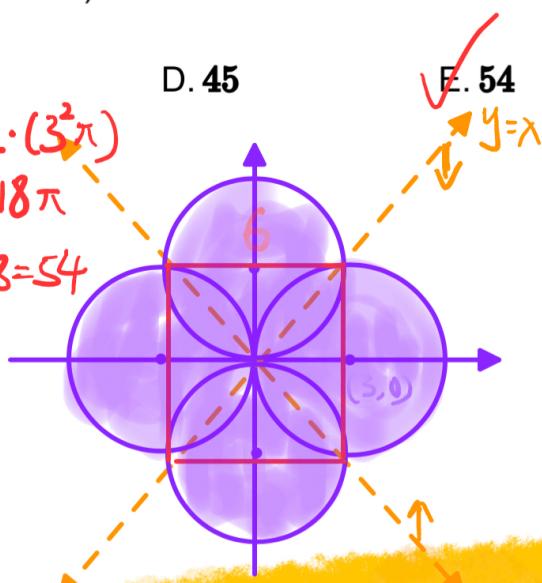
Math Exploration 2.1

The area of the region bounded by the graph of

$x^2 + y^2 = 3|x - y| + 3|x + y|$ is $m + n\pi$, where m and n are integers. What is $m + n$? (2021 AMC Spring 10A, Question #19)

A. 18 B. 27
 ① $x - y \geq 0$, $x + y \geq 0$
 $x^2 + y^2 = 3(x - y) + 3(x + y)$
 $x^2 + y^2 = 6x$
 $x^2 - 6x + 9 + y^2 = 9$
 $(x - 3)^2 + y^2 = 3^2$

C. 36 D. 45 E. 54
 $\text{Area} = 6^2 + 2 \cdot (3^2\pi)$
 $= 36 + 18\pi$
 $\text{Ans} = 36 + 18 = 54$



Practice 2.1

How many ordered pairs of real numbers (x, y) satisfy the following system of equations? $x + 3y = 3$, $|x| - |y| = 1$. (From 2018 AMC 10A, Question #12)

A. 1

Draw graphs!

$$|x| - |y| = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow |x| - |y| = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad |x| - |y| = -1$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

$$x - y = 1$$

B. 2

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0$$

$$x - y = -1$$

C. 3

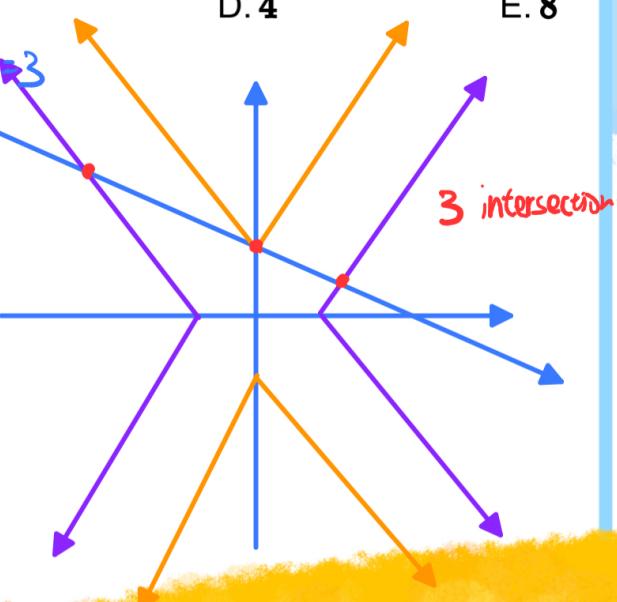
$$x + 3y = 3$$

D. 4

$$x + 3y = 3$$

E. 8

3 intersections



Practice 2.2

0 0 : 0 2 ×

How many ordered pairs (x, y) of real numbers satisfy the following system of equations?

$$x^2 + 3y = 9 \Rightarrow y = -\frac{1}{3}x^2 + 3$$

$$(|x| + |y| - 4)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow |x| + |y| - 4 = 1 \text{ or } -1 \Rightarrow |x| + |y| = 5 \text{ or } |x| + |y| = 3$$

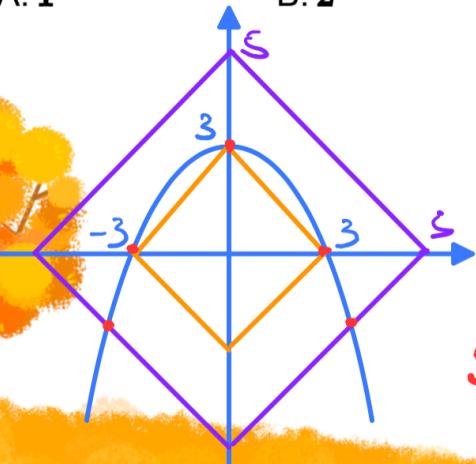
A. 1

B. 2

C. 3

D. 5

E. 7



5 intersections

$$\textcircled{1} \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 : x + y = 5$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x \geq 0, y \geq 0 : x + y = 3$$

Concept 3

Vieta's Formulas of Quadratic Equations



A **quadratic function** is a function that the greatest degree of any term is 2.

The **standard form of a quadratic function** is $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ or

$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$, where a , b and c are real numbers and $a \neq 0$.

For any quadratic equations of the form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$,

the **sum of roots** is $-\frac{b}{a}$,

the **product of roots** is $\frac{c}{a}$.



Math Exploration 3.1

Given that α and β are two distinct real roots of the quadratic equation

$x^2 + (2m+3)x + m^2 = 0$, and $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = -1$, the value of m is 3.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha+\beta}{\alpha\beta} = -1$$

$$\alpha+\beta = -\alpha\beta$$

$$-\frac{2m+3}{1} = -\frac{m^2}{1}$$

$$m^2 - 2m - 3 = 0$$

$$(m-3)(m+1) = 0$$

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

Check discriminant:

$$\textcircled{1} m=3, x^2 + 9x + 9 = 0$$

$$\Delta = 9^2 - 4 \cdot 9 \cdot 1 > 0$$

$$\textcircled{2} m=-1, x^2 + x + 1 = 0$$

$$\Delta = 1^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = -3 < 0$$

$$\boxed{m=3}$$

Math Exploration 3.2

$$\textcircled{-2}(x_2-2)$$

The zeroes of the function $f(x) = x^2 - ax + 2a$ are integers. What is the sum of the possible values of a ? (2015 AMC 10A Problems, Question #23)

$$9+8+(-1)+0=16$$

A. 7

B. 8

C. 16

D. 17

E. 18

Let x_1, x_2 be zeros:

$$\begin{cases} x_1+x_2=a \\ x_1x_2=2a \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1x_2 = 2(x_1+x_2)$$

$$\underline{x_1x_2 - 2x_1 - 2x_2 = 0}$$

$$x_1(x_2-2) - 2x_2 - (-2) \cdot 2 = 4$$

$$x_1(x_2-2) - 2(x_2-2) = 4$$

$$(x_1-2)(x_2-2) = 4$$

Because x_1 and x_2 are integers:

(x_1-2) and (x_2-2) are factors of 4.

$$\textcircled{1} x_1-2=4, x_2-2=1$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1=6, x_2=3 \Rightarrow a=9$$

$$\textcircled{2} x_1-2=x_2-2=2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1=4, x_2=4 \Rightarrow a=8$$

$$\textcircled{3} x_1-2=-4, x_2-2=-1$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1=-2, x_2=1 \Rightarrow a=-1$$

$$\textcircled{4} x_1-2=x_2-2=-2$$

$$x_1=x_2=0 \Rightarrow a=0$$

Practice 3.1

Let a and b be the roots of the equation $x^2 - mx + \boxed{2} = 0$. Suppose that

$a + (\frac{1}{b})$ and $b + (\frac{1}{a})$ are the roots of the equation $x^2 - px + q = 0$. What is

q ? (2006 AMC 10B Problem, Question#14)

A. $\frac{5}{2}$

B. $\frac{7}{2}$

C. 4

D. $\frac{9}{2}$

E. 8

$$\begin{aligned} q &= (a + \frac{1}{b})(b + \frac{1}{a}) \\ &= ab + 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{ab} \\ &= 2 + 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{9}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$ab = 2$

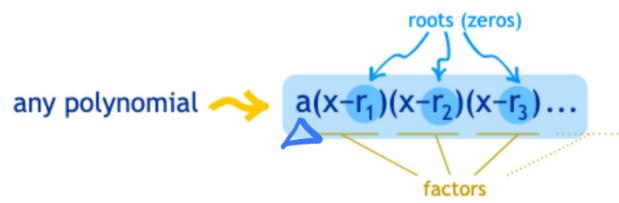


Concept 4

Vieta's Formulas on Higher Degree Equations



Fundamental Theorem of Algebra



$$2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 5 = 2(x-r_1)(x-r_2)(x-r_3)$$



Cubic Equation

Vieta's Formulas can also be applied to higher degree equations.

For a cubic equation $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0 (a \neq 0)$, suppose that the three roots are x_1 , x_2 , and x_3 , respectively. Then we have:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = -\frac{b}{a} \\ x_1x_2 + x_1x_3 + x_2x_3 = \frac{c}{a} \\ x_1x_2x_3 = -\frac{d}{a}. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d &= a(x-r_1)(x-r_2)(x-r_3) \\ &= ax^3 - a(r_1+r_2+r_3)x^2 + a(r_1r_2+r_1r_3+r_2r_3)x - ar_1r_2r_3 \end{aligned}$$



Higher Degree Equation

Similar conclusions also apply for quartic (fourth-degree) or even higher degree equations:

For the equation $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0 = 0$, we have

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{n-1} + x_n = -\frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} \\ (x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + \cdots + x_1 x_n) + (x_2 x_3 + x_2 x_4 + \cdots + x_2 x_n) + \cdots + x_{n-1} x_n = \frac{a_{n-2}}{a_n} \\ \vdots \\ x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n = (-1)^n \frac{a_0}{a_n}. \end{array} \right.$$

degree



MC(1)

Math Exploration 4.1

The polynomial $x^3 - ax^2 + bx - 2010$ has three positive integer roots. What is the smallest possible value of a ? (2010 AMC 10A Problems, Question #21)

- A. 78 B. 88 C. 98 D. 108 E. 118

$$-(-a) = \text{Sum} = r_1 + r_2 + r_3$$

$$a = r_1 + r_2 + r_3$$

$$\text{Product} = -(-2010)$$

$$r_1 \cdot r_2 \cdot r_3 = 2010 = 2 \times 3 \times 5 \times 67$$

$$a = 67 + 5 + 3 = 75$$

↑
close to each other



Practice 4.1

All the roots of the polynomial $z^6 - 10z^5 + Az^4 + Bz^3 + Cz^2 + Dz + 16$ are positive integers, possibly repeated. What is the value of B ? (2021 AMC Spring 10A, Question #14)

A. -88

B. -80

C. -64

D. -41

E. -40

Degree = 6:

$$\begin{cases} r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + r_4 + r_5 + r_6 = 10 \\ r_1 \cdot r_2 \cdot r_3 \cdot r_4 \cdot r_5 \cdot r_6 = 16 = 2^4 \end{cases}$$

All integers

\Rightarrow 4 roots are 2

2 roots are 1.

$$\Rightarrow \text{polynomial} = (z-2)^4(z-1)^2 \\ = \dots + (-88)z^3 + \dots$$

Practice 4.2

The roots of the polynomial $10x^3 - 39x^2 + 29x - 6$ are the height, length, and width of a rectangular box (right rectangular prism). A new rectangular box is formed by lengthening each edge of the original box by 2 units. What is the volume of the new box? (2022 AMC 10A Problems, Question #16)

A. $\frac{24}{5}$

B. $\frac{42}{5}$

C. $\frac{81}{5}$

D. 30

E. 48

$$V = (a+2)(b+2)(c+2)$$

$$= abc + 2(ab + ac + bc) + 4(a + b + c) + 8$$

$$= -\left(\frac{-6}{10}\right) + 2 \cdot \frac{29}{10} + 4 \cdot \frac{39}{10} + 8$$

$$\approx 30$$