

Q1(1):

$$16^x - 4^x - 2 = 0$$

$$4^{2x} - 4^x - 2 = 0$$

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

$$4^x = 2$$

$$x = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

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Q1(2):

$$\sin x + 2 \cos^2 x = 1$$

$$\sin x + 2 - 2 \sin^2 x = 1$$

$$2 \sin^2 x - \sin x - 1 = 0$$

$$(2 \sin x + 1)(\sin x - 1) = 0$$

$$\sin x = -\frac{1}{2}, 1$$

$$x = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{7\pi}{6}, \frac{11\pi}{6}}$$

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Q1(3):

$$x + \frac{1}{x} < \frac{1}{2}(7 - x)$$

$$2x^2 + 2 < 7x - x^2 \text{ or } x < 0$$

$$3x^2 - 7x + 2 < 0 \text{ or } x < 0$$

$$(3x - 1)(x - 2) < 0 \text{ or } x < 0$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{3} < x < 2 \text{ or } x < 0}$$

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Q1(4):

$$\log_2(x + 2) < 2$$

$$x + 2 < 4$$

$$x < 2$$

On the other hand, for  $\log_2(x + 2)$  to be defined, we have  $x > -2$ .

Therefore, the solution is  $\boxed{-2 < x < 2}$ .

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Q1(5):

Suppose  $3(a_{n+1} + k) = 2(a_n + k)$ , then  $k = -1$ .

Therefore,

$$\frac{a_{n+1} - 1}{a_n - 1} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\frac{a_{n+1} - 1}{a_1 - 1} = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$$

$$a_{n+1} = 1 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$$

$$a_n = \boxed{1 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1}}$$


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Q1(6):

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x-2h) - \cos(x+h)}{\sin(x+3h) - \sin(x-h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 \sin(x - \frac{h}{2}) \sin \frac{3h}{2}}{2 \cos(x+h) \sin 2h} \\ &= \left( \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x - \frac{h}{2})}{\cos(x+h)} \right) \left( \frac{3}{2} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \frac{3h}{2}}{\frac{3h}{2}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{2} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2h}{\sin 2h} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right) \left( \frac{3}{2} \right) \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \\ &= \boxed{\frac{3}{4} \tan x} \end{aligned}$$


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Q1(7):

$$\frac{d}{dx} e^{x \sin x} = (x \sin x)' e^{x \sin x} = (\sin x + x \cos x) e^{x \sin x}$$


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Q1(8):

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\frac{1}{e}}^e \ln x dx \\ &= x \ln x \Big|_{\frac{1}{e}}^e - \int_{\frac{1}{e}}^e x d(\ln x) \\ &= e + \frac{1}{e} - [x]_{\frac{1}{e}}^e \\ &= \boxed{\frac{2}{e}} \end{aligned}$$

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Q1(9):

By exhausting, the pairs (the order is omitted) do not satisfy the condition are:

$(1,1),(1,2),\dots,(1,6),(2,2)$

Totally 7 pairs.

Therefore,  $21 - 7 = 14$  pairs satisfy the condition.

The probability is  $\frac{14}{21} = \boxed{\frac{2}{3}}$ .

Note: Without the order omitted, there are 12 pairs do not satisfy the condition.

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Q1(10):

By the binomial expansion,

$$(ax^2 - \frac{1}{ax})^9 = \sum_{i=0}^9 C_i^9 (ax^2)^i (-\frac{1}{ax})^{9-i} = \sum_{i=0}^9 (C_i^9 (-1)^{9-i} a^{2i-9}) x^{3i-9}.$$

The  $x^9$  term is obtained when  $3i - 9 = 9$ , i.e.  $i = 6$ .

By that time, the coefficient  $= C_6^9 (-1)^3 a^3 = -84a^3$ .

Solving  $-84a^3 = \frac{21}{3}$ , we have  $a = \boxed{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

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Q1(11):

The position vector of P is given by

$t < 2, 0, 1 > + (1-t) < 0, 1, 2 > = < 2t, 1-t, 2-t >$  where  $t$  is a real parameter.

On the other hand,  $\vec{AB} = \langle -2, 1, 1 \rangle$ .

When  $\vec{OP} \perp \vec{AB}$ , we have

$$\vec{OP} \cdot \vec{AB} = 0$$

$$-4t + 1 - t + 2 - t = 0$$

$$t = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore, P is  $\boxed{(1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})}$ .

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Q1(12):

$$x^3 = 8 \iff (x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4) = 0$$

Therefore,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the roots of  $x^2 + 2x + 4 = 0$ .

Sum of roots =  $\alpha + \beta = -2$  and product of roots =  $\alpha\beta = 4$ .

$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta = 4 - 8 = \boxed{-4}.$$

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Q2:

$$1): AX = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,  $a = \boxed{2}$ .

$$2): AY = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,  $b = \boxed{5}$ .

$$3): cX + dY = \begin{bmatrix} c + d \\ -c + 2d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solving, we have  $c = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$  and  $d = \boxed{\frac{8}{3}}$ .

$$4): A^n Z$$

$$= A^n \left( \frac{1}{3}X + \frac{8}{3}Y \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}A^n X + \frac{8}{3}A^n Y$$

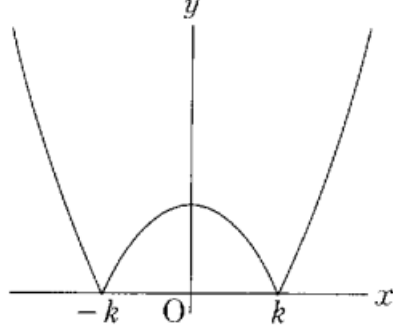
$$= \frac{1}{3} \cdot 2^n X + \frac{8}{3} \cdot 5^n Y$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2^n + 8 \cdot 5^n}{3} \\ \frac{-2^n + 16 \cdot 5^n}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Q3:

(Note: The conditions in parts 2) and 3) should be  $|k| < 1$  and  $|k| > 1$  respectively.)

1): We sketch the graph of  $y = x^2 - k^2$  and reflect the negative region along the x-axis:



2): As  $|k| < 1$ ,  $f(x) = k^2 - x^2$  for  $x \in (-k, k)$  and  $f(x) = x^2 - k^2$  for  $x \in (-1, k) \cup (k, 1)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } I(k) &= \int_{-k}^k (k^2 - x^2) dx + \int_{-1}^k (x^2 - k^2) dx + \int_k^1 (x^2 - k^2) dx \\ &= 2[k^2 x - \frac{1}{3} x^3]_0^k + 2[\frac{1}{3} x^3 - k^2 x]_k^1 \\ &= \boxed{\frac{8}{3} k^3 - 2k^2 + \frac{2}{3}}. \end{aligned}$$

3): As  $|k| > 1$ ,  $f(x) = k^2 - x^2$  for  $x \in (-1, 1)$ .

$$\text{Therefore, } I(k) = \int_{-1}^1 (k^2 - x^2) dx = 2[k^2 x - \frac{1}{3} x^3]_0^1 = \boxed{2k^2 - \frac{2}{3}}.$$

4): Combine the results of 2) and 3), we have:

$$I(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{8}{3} k^3 - 2k^2 + \frac{2}{3}, & |k| < 1 \\ 2k^2 - \frac{2}{3}, & |k| > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$I'(k) = \begin{cases} 8k^2 - 4k, & |k| < 1 \\ 4k, & |k| > 1 \end{cases}$$

To find the extremum, we set  $I'(k) = 0$ , then  $k = 0, \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$I''(k) = \begin{cases} 16k - 4, & |k| < 1 \\ 4, & |k| > 1 \end{cases}$$

Therefore,  $I''(0) < 0$  and  $I''(\frac{1}{2}) > 0$ .

Moreover, test the boundaries:

$$I(1) = I(-1) = \frac{4}{3}.$$

Given the above, the minimum is obtained when  $k = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$  and the value of it is

$$I(\frac{1}{2}) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}.$$