

# 7 Functions and Graphs

## 7A General functions

### 7A.1 HKCEE MA 1992 – I – 4

(a) Factorize

- (i)  $x^2 - 2x$ ,
- (ii)  $x^2 - 6x + 8$ .

(b) Simplify  $\frac{1}{x^2 - 2x} + \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 8}$ .

### 7A.2 HKCEE MA 1993 I 2(a)

Let  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x - 1}$ . Find  $f(3)$ .

### 7A.3 HKCEE MA 2006 – I – 10

Let  $f(x) = (x-a)(x-b)(x+1)-3$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive integers with  $a < b$ . It is given that  $f(1) = 1$ .

(a) (i) Prove that  $(a-1)(b-1) = 2$ .

(ii) Write down the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .

(b) Let  $g(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 - 2x + 7$ . Using the results of (a)(ii), find  $f(x) - g(x)$ . Hence find the exact values of all the roots of the equation  $f(x) = g(x)$ .

### 7A.4 HKDSE MA 2016 – I – 3

Simplify  $\frac{2}{4x-5} + \frac{3}{1-6x}$ .

### 7A.5 HKDSE MA 2019 I 2

Simplify  $\frac{3}{7x-6} - \frac{2}{5x-4}$ .

## 7B Quadratic functions and their graphs

### 7B.1 HKCEE MA 1982(1/2/3) I – 11

In the figure,  $O$  is the origin. The curve  $C_1 : y = x^2 - 10x + k$  (where  $k$  is a fixed constant) intersects the  $x$ -axis at the points  $A$  and  $B$ .

(a) By considering the sum and the product of the roots of  $x^2 - 10x + k = 0$ , or otherwise,

- (i) find  $OA + OB$ ,
- (ii) find  $OA \times OB$  in terms of  $k$ .

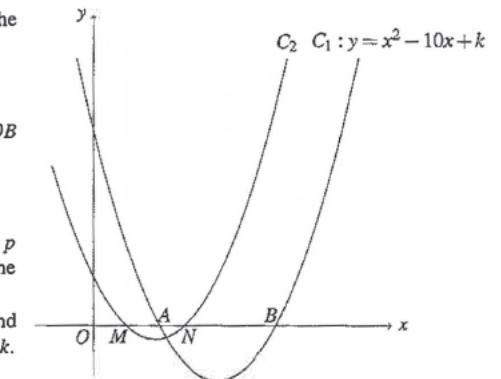
(b)  $M$  and  $N$  are the mid-points of  $OA$  and  $OB$  respectively (see the figure).

- (i) Find  $OM + ON$ .
- (ii) Find  $OM \times ON$  in terms of  $k$ .

(c) Another curve  $C_2 : y = x^2 + px + r$  (where  $p$  and  $r$  are fixed constants) passes through the points  $M$  and  $N$ .

- (i) Using the results in (b) or otherwise, find the value of  $p$  and express  $r$  in terms of  $k$ .

- (ii) If  $OM = 2$ , find  $k$ .



### 7B.2 HKCEE MA 1992 – I – 9

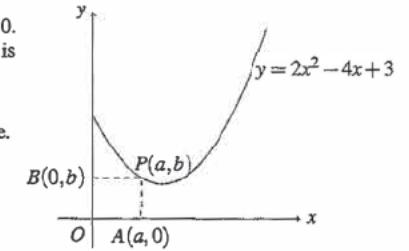
The figure shows the graph of  $y = 2x^2 - 4x + 3$ , where  $x \geq 0$ .  $P(a, b)$  is a variable point on the graph. A rectangle  $OAPB$  is drawn with  $A$  and  $B$  lying on the  $x$  and  $y$  axes respectively.

(a) (i) Find the area of rectangle  $OAPB$  in terms of  $a$ .

(ii) Find the two values of  $a$  for which  $OAPB$  is a square.

(b) Suppose the area of  $OAPB = \frac{3}{2}$ .

- (i) Show that  $4a^3 - 8a^2 + 6a - 3 = 0$ .
- (ii) [Out of syllabus]



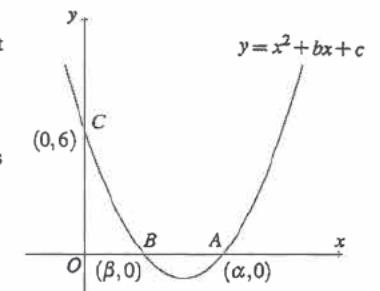
### 7B.3 HKCEE MA 1994 I 8

In the figure, the curve  $y = x^2 + bx + c$  meets the  $y$ -axis at  $C(0, 6)$  and the  $x$  axis at  $A(\alpha, 0)$  and  $B(\beta, 0)$ , where  $\alpha > \beta$ .

(a) Find  $c$  and hence find the value of  $\alpha\beta$ .

(b) Express  $\alpha + \beta$  in terms of  $b$ .

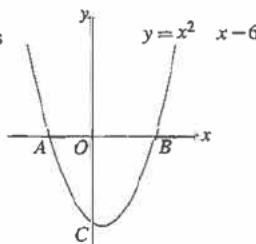
(c) Using the results in (a) and (b), express  $(\alpha - \beta)^2$  in terms of  $b$ . Hence find the area of  $\triangle ABC$  in terms of  $b$ .



## 7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS

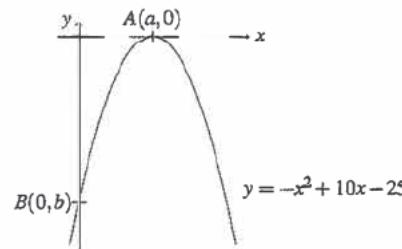
### 7B.4 HKCEE MA 1999 I-7

The graph of  $y = x^2 - x - 6$  cuts the  $x$ -axis at  $A(a, 0)$ ,  $B(b, 0)$  and the  $y$ -axis at  $C(0, c)$  as shown in the figure. Find  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .



### 7B.5 HKCEE MA 2004-I 4

In the figure, the graph of  $y = x^2 + 10x - 25$  touches the  $x$ -axis at  $A(a, 0)$  and cuts the  $y$ -axis at  $B(0, b)$ . Find  $a$  and  $b$ .



### 7B.6 HKCEE MA 2008-I 11

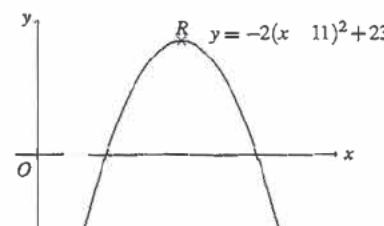
Consider the function  $f(x) = x^2 + bx - 15$ , where  $b$  is a constant. It is given that the graph of  $y = f(x)$  passes through the point  $(4, 9)$ .

- Find  $b$ . Hence, or otherwise, find the two  $x$ -intercepts of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .
- Let  $k$  be a constant. If the equation  $f(x) = k$  has two distinct real roots, find the range of values of  $k$ .
- Write down the equation of a straight line which intersects the graph of  $y = f(x)$  at only one point.

### 7B.7 HKCEE MA 2009-I 12

In the figure,  $R$  is the vertex of the graph of  $y = -2(x - 11)^2 + 23$ .

- Write down
  - the equation of the axis of symmetry of the graph,
  - the coordinates of  $R$ .
- It is given that  $P(p, 5)$  and  $Q(q, 5)$  are two distinct points lying on the graph. Find
  - the distance between  $P$  and  $Q$ ;
  - the area of the quadrilateral  $PQRS$ , where  $S$  is a point lying on the  $x$  axis.



(To continue as 7E.1.)

### 7B.8 HKCEE MA 2010 I-16

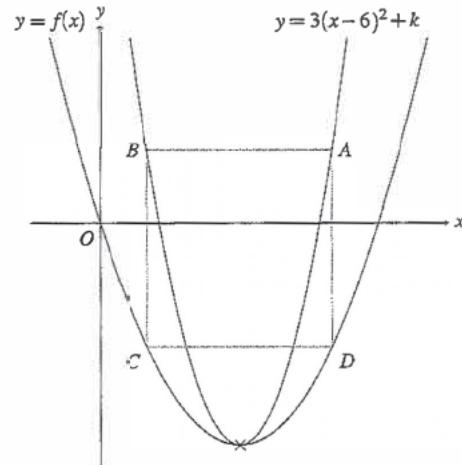
$$\text{Let } f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{144}x^2 - 6.$$

- Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

### 7B.9 HKCEE MA 2011-I-11

It is given that  $f(x)$  is the sum of two parts, one part varies as  $x^2$  and the other part varies as  $x$ . Suppose that  $f(-2) = 28$  and  $f(6) = -36$ .

- Find  $f(x)$ .
- The figure shows the graph of  $y = 3(x - 6)^2 + k$  and the graph of  $y = f(x)$ , where  $k$  is a constant. The two graphs have the same vertex.
  - Find the value of  $k$ .
  - It is given that  $A$  and  $B$  are points lying on the graph of  $y = 3(x - 6)^2 + k$  while  $C$  and  $D$  are points lying on the graph of  $y = f(x)$ . Also,  $ABCD$  is a rectangle and  $AB$  is parallel to the  $x$ -axis. The  $x$ -coordinate of  $A$  is 10. Find the area of the rectangle  $ABCD$ .



(To continue as 10C.9.)

Let  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2 + 2kx - k^2 + 6$  (where  $k$  is a constant).

- Suppose the graph of  $y = f(x)$  cuts the  $x$ -axis at the points  $P$  and  $Q$ , and the graph of  $y = g(x)$  cuts the  $x$ -axis at the points  $R$  and  $S$ .
  - Find the lengths of  $PQ$  and  $RS$ .
  - Find, in terms of  $k$ , the  $x$ -coordinate of the mid-point of  $RS$ .

If the mid-points of  $PQ$  and  $RS$  coincide with each other, find the value of  $k$ .
- If the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$  intersect at only one point, find the possible values of  $k$ ; and for each value of  $k$ , find the point of intersection.

### 7B.11 HKCEE AM 1991-I-9

(To continue as 10C.11.)

Let  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x - 2$  and  $g(x) = -2x^2 - 12x - 23$ .

- Express  $g(x)$  in the form  $a(x+b)^2+c$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are real constants.  
Hence show that  $g(x) < 0$  for all real values of  $x$ .
- Let  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  ( $k_1 > k_2$ ) be the two values of  $k$  such that the equation  $f(x) + kg(x) = 0$  has equal roots.
  - Find  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ .

### 7B.12 (HKCEE AM 1993 I 10)

$C(k)$  is the curve  $y = \frac{1}{k+1}[2x^2 + (k+7)x + 4]$ , where  $k$  is a real number not equal to  $-1$ .

- If  $C(k)$  cuts the  $x$ -axis at two points  $P$  and  $Q$  and  $PQ = 1$ , find the value(s) of  $k$ .
- Find the range of values of  $k$  such that  $C(k)$  does not cut the  $x$ -axis.
- Find the points of intersection of the curves  $C(1)$  and  $C(-2)$ .
  - Show that  $C(k)$  passes through the two points in (c)(i) for all values of  $k$ .

**7B.13 HKCEE AM 1998 – I – 11**

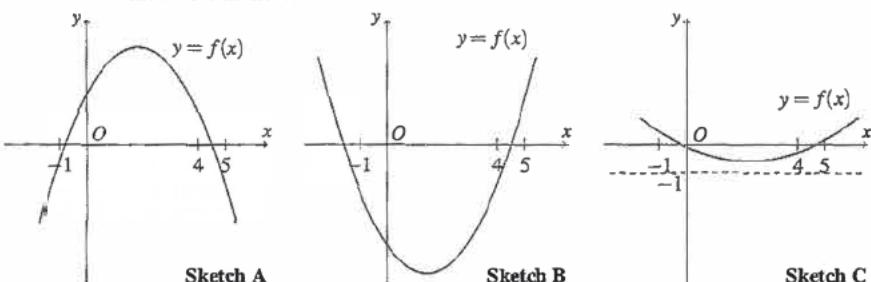
Let  $f(x) = x^2 - kx$ , where  $k$  is a real constant, and  $g(x) = x$ .

- Show that the least value of  $f(x)$  is  $\frac{k^2}{4}$  and find the corresponding value of  $x$ .
- Find the coordinates of the two intersecting points of curves  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$ .
- Suppose  $k = 3$ .
  - In the same diagram, sketch the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$  and label their intersecting points.
  - Find the range of values of  $x$  such that  $f(x) \leq g(x)$ . Hence find the least value of  $f(x)$  within this range of values of  $x$ .
- Suppose  $k = \frac{3}{2}$ . Find the least value of  $f(x)$  within the range of values of  $x$  such that  $f(x) \leq g(x)$ .

**7B.14 HKCEE AM 2000 – I – 12**

Consider the function  $f(x) = x^2 - 4mx - (5m^2 - 6m + 1)$ , where  $m > \frac{1}{3}$ .

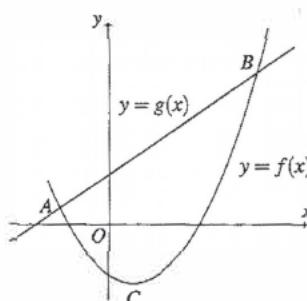
- Show that the equation  $f(x) = 0$  has distinct real roots.
- Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be the roots of the equation  $f(x) = 0$ , where  $\alpha < \beta$ .
  - Express  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in terms of  $m$ .
  - Furthermore, it is known that  $4 < \beta < 5$ .
    - Show that  $1 < m < \frac{6}{5}$ .
    - The following figure shows three sketches of the graph of  $y = f(x)$  drawn by three students. Their teacher points out that the three sketches are all incorrect. Explain why each of the sketches is incorrect.



**7B.15 HKCEE AM 2002 – 11**

Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 6$  and  $g(x) = 2x + 6$ . The graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$  intersect at points  $A$  and  $B$  (see the figure).  $C$  is the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

- Find the coordinates of points  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ .
- Write down the range of values of  $x$  such that  $f(x) \leq g(x)$ . Hence write down the value(s) of  $k$  such that the equation  $f(x) = k$  has only one real root in this range.



**7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS**

**7B.16 HKCEE AM 2003 17**

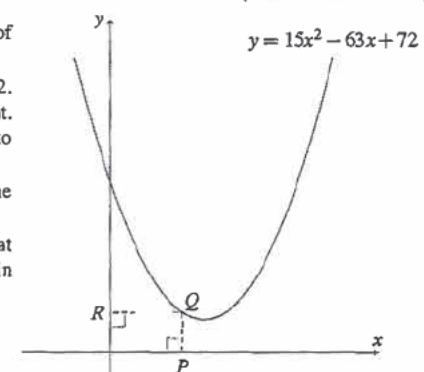
Let  $f(x) = (x - a)^2 + b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real. Point  $P$  is the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

- Write down the coordinates of point  $P$ .
- Let  $g(x)$  be a quadratic function such that the coefficient of  $x^2$  is 1 and the vertex of the graph of  $y = g(x)$  is the point  $Q(b, a)$ . It is given that the graph of  $y = f(x)$  passes through point  $Q$ .
  - Write down  $g(x)$  and show that the graph of  $y = g(x)$  passes through point  $P$ .
  - Furthermore, the graph of  $y = f(x)$  touches the  $x$ -axis. For each of the possible cases, sketch the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and  $y = g(x)$  in the same diagram.

**7B.17 HKDSE MA 2012 – I – 13**

(Continued from 4B.22.)  
Find the value of  $k$  such that  $x - 2$  is a factor of  $kx^3 - 21x^2 + 24x - 4$ .

- The figure shows the graph of  $y = 15x^2 - 63x + 72$ .  $Q$  is a variable point on the graph in the first quadrant.  $P$  and  $R$  are the feet of the perpendiculars from  $Q$  to the  $x$  axis and the  $y$  axis respectively.
  - Let  $(m, 0)$  be the coordinates of  $P$ . Express the area of the rectangle  $OPQR$  in terms of  $m$ .
  - Are there three different positions of  $Q$  such that the area of the rectangle  $OPQR$  is 12? Explain your answer.



(To continue as 7E.2.)

Let  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 4kx + 3k^2 + 5$ , where  $k$  is a real constant.

- Does the graph of  $y = f(x)$  cut the  $x$  axis? Explain your answer.
- Using the method of completing the square, express, in terms of  $k$ , the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

**7B.19 HKDSE MA 2016 – I – 18**

(To continue as 7E.3.)  
Let  $f(x) = \frac{-1}{3}x^2 + 12x - 121$ .

- Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

**7B.20 HKDSE MA 2017 – I – 18**

The equation of the parabola  $\Gamma$  is  $y = 2x^2 - 2kx + 2x - 3k + 8$ , where  $k$  is a real constant. Denote the straight line  $y = 19$  by  $L$ .

- Prove that  $L$  and  $\Gamma$  intersect at two distinct points.
- The points of intersection of  $L$  and  $\Gamma$  are  $A$  and  $B$ .
  - Let  $a$  and  $b$  be the  $x$  coordinates of  $A$  and  $B$  respectively. Prove that  $(a - b)^2 = k^2 + 4k + 23$ .
  - Is it possible that the distance between  $A$  and  $B$  is less than 4? Explain your answer.

**7B.21 HKDSE MA 2018 – I – 18**

(Continued from 8C.29 and to continue as 7E.4)

- It is given that  $f(x)$  partly varies as  $x^2$  and partly varies as  $x$ . Suppose that  $f(2) = 60$  and  $f(3) = 99$ .
- Find  $f(x)$ .
  - Let  $Q$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$  and  $R$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = 27 - f(x)$ .
    - Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of  $Q$ .

**7B.22 HKDSE MA 2020 – I –**

Let  $p(x) = 4x^2 + 12x + c$ , where  $c$  is a constant. The equation  $p(x) = 0$  has equal roots. Find

- $c$ ,
- the  $x$ -intercept(s) of the graph of  $y = p(x) - 169$ .

(5 marks)

**7B.23 HKDSE MA 2020 – I – 17**

Let  $g(x) = x^2 - 2kx + 2k^2 + 4$ , where  $k$  is a real constant.

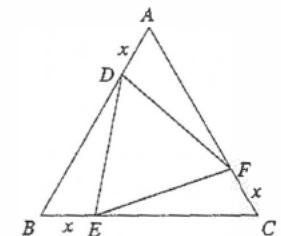
- Using the method of completing the square, express, in terms of  $k$ , the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = g(x)$ . (2 marks)
- On the same rectangular coordinate system, let  $D$  and  $E$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = g(x+2)$  and the vertex of the graph of  $y = -g(x-2)$  respectively. Is there a point  $F$  on this rectangular coordinate system such that the coordinates of the circumcentre of  $\triangle DEF$  are  $(0, 3)$ ? Explain your answer. (4 marks)

**7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS****7C Extreme values of quadratic functions****7C.1 HKCEE MA 1985(A/B) – I – 13**

(Continued from 14A.3 and to continue as 10C.2.)

In the figure,  $ABC$  is an equilateral triangle.  $AB = 2$ .  $D, E, F$  are points on  $AB, BC, CA$  respectively such that  $AD = BE = CF = x$ .

- By using the cosine formula or otherwise, express  $DE^2$  in terms of  $x$ .
- Show that the area of  $\triangle DEF = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}(3x^2 - 6x + 4)$ . Hence, by using the method of completing the square, find the value of  $x$  such that the area of  $\triangle DEF$  is smallest.

**7C.2 HKCEE MA 1982(1/2) – I – 12**

(Continued from 8C.1.)

The price of a certain monthly magazine is  $x$  dollars per copy. The total profit on the sale of the magazine is  $P$  dollars. It is given that  $P = Y + Z$ , where  $Y$  varies directly as  $x$  and  $Z$  varies directly as the square of  $x$ . When  $x$  is 20,  $P$  is 80 000; when  $x$  is 35,  $P$  is 87 500.

- Find  $P$  when  $x = 15$ .
- Using the method of completing the square, express  $P$  in the form  $P = a - b(x - c)^2$  where  $a, b$  and  $c$  are constants. Find the values of  $a, b$  and  $c$ .
- Hence, or otherwise, find the value of  $x$  when  $P$  is a maximum.

**7C.3 HKCEE MA 1988 – I – 10**

(Continued from 8C.5.)

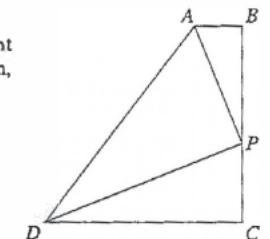
A variable quantity  $y$  is the sum of two parts. The first part varies directly as another variable  $x$ , while the second part varies directly as  $x^2$ . When  $x = 1$ ,  $y = -5$ ; when  $x = 2$ ,  $y = -8$ .

- Express  $y$  in terms of  $x$ . Hence find the value of  $y$  when  $x = 6$ .
- Express  $y$  in the form  $(x - p)^2 - q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are constants. Hence find the least possible value of  $y$  when  $x$  varies.

**7C.4 HKCEE MA 2011 – I – 12**

In the figure,  $ABCD$  is a trapezium, where  $AB$  is parallel to  $CD$ .  $P$  is a point lying on  $BC$  such that  $BP = xc$ m. It is given that  $AB = 3$  cm,  $BC = 11$  cm,  $CD = k$  cm and  $\angle ABP = \angle APD = 90^\circ$ .

- Prove that  $\triangle ABP \sim \triangle PCD$ .
- Prove that  $x^2 - 11x + 3k = 0$ .
- If  $k$  is an integer, find the greatest value of  $k$ .

**7C.5 HKCEE AM 1986 – I – 3**

The maximum value of the function  $f(x) = 4k + 18x - kx^2$  ( $k$  is a positive constant) is 45. Find  $k$ .

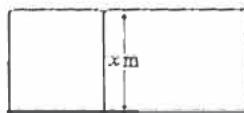
**7C.6 HKCEE AM 1996 – I – 4**

Given  $x^2 - 6x + 11 = (x + a)^2 + b$ , where  $x$  is real.

- Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$ . Hence write down the least value of  $x^2 - 6x + 11$ .
- Using (a), or otherwise, write down the range of possible values of  $\frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 11}$ .

**7C.7 HKDSE MA 2013 – I – 17**

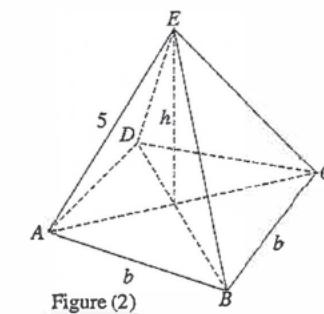
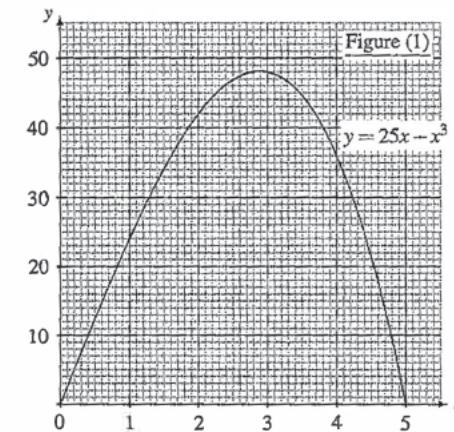
- (a) Let  $f(x) = 36x - x^2$ . Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .
- (b) The length of a piece of string is 108 m. A guard cuts the string into two pieces. One piece is used to enclose a rectangular restricted zone of area  $A$  m $^2$ . The other piece of length  $x$  m is used to divide this restricted zone into two rectangular regions as shown in the figure.
- (i) Express  $A$  in terms of  $x$ .
- (ii) The guard claims that the area of this restricted zone can be greater than 500 m $^2$ . Do you agree? Explain your answer.



**7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS**

**7D Solving equations using graphs of functions**

**7D.1 HKCEE MA 1980(3) I 16**

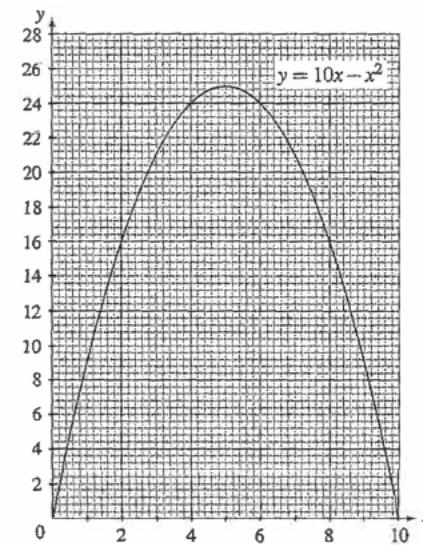


- (a) Figure (1) shows the graph of  $y = 25x - x^3$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 5$ . By adding a suitable straight line to the graph, solve the equation  $30 = 25x - x^3$ , where  $0 \leq x \leq 5$ . Give your answers correct to 2 significant figures.
- (b) Figure (2) shows a right pyramid with a square base  $ABCD$ .  $AB = b$  units and  $AE = 5$  units. The height of the pyramid is  $h$  units and its volume is  $V$  cubic units.
- (i) Express  $b$  in terms of  $h$ . Hence show that  $V = \frac{2}{3}(25h - h^3)$ .
- (ii) Using (a), find the two values of  $h$  such that  $V = 20$ .  
(Your answers should be correct to 2 significant figures.)
- (iii) [Out of syllabus]

**7D.2 HKCEE MA 1981(I) – I – 11**

A piece of wire 20 cm long is bent into a rectangle. Let one side of the rectangle be  $x$  cm long and the area be  $y$  cm $^2$ .

- (a) Show that  $y = 10x - x^2$ .
- (b) The figure shows the graph of  $y = 10x - x^2$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 10$ . Using the graph, find
- (i) the value of  $y$ , correct to 1 decimal place, when  $x = 3.4$ ,
  - (ii) the values of  $x$ , correct to 1 decimal place, when the area of the rectangle is 12 cm $^2$ ,
  - (iii) the greatest area of the rectangle,
  - (iv) [Out of syllabus]



## 7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS

### 7D.3 HKCEE MA 1983(A) – I – 14

Equal squares each of side  $k$  cm are cut from the four corners of a square sheet of paper of side 7 cm (see Figure (1)). The remaining part is folded along the dotted lines to form a rectangular box as shown in Figure (2).

- Show that the volume  $V$  of the rectangular box, in  $\text{cm}^3$ , is  $V = 4k^3 - 28k^2 + 49k$ .
- Figure (3) shows the graph of  $y = 4x^3 - 28x^2 + 49x$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 5$ . Draw a suitable straight line in Figure (3) and use it to find all the possible values of  $x$  such that  $4x^3 - 28x^2 + 49x - 20 = 0$ .  
(Give the answers to 1 decimal place.)
- Using the results of (a) and (b), deduce the values of  $k$  such that the volume of the box is  $20 \text{ cm}^3$ .  
(Give the answers to 1 decimal place.)
- [Out of syllabus]

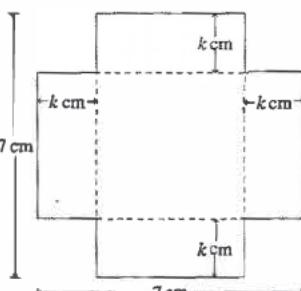


Figure (1)

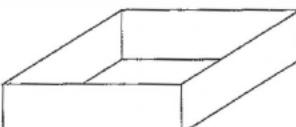


Figure (2)

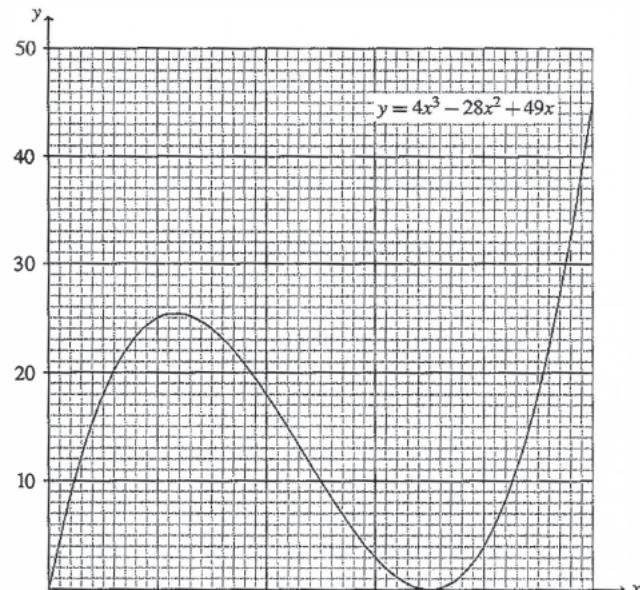
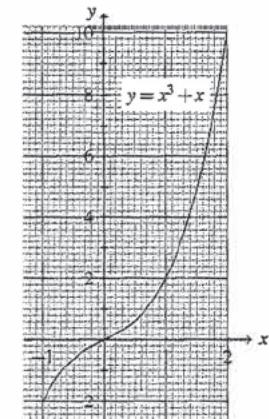


Figure (3)

### 7D.4 HKCEE MA 1985(A) – I – 12

The figure shows the graph of  $y = x^3 + x$  for  $-1 \leq x \leq 2$ .

- (i) Draw a suitable straight line in the figure and hence find, correct to 1 decimal place, the real root of the equation  $x^3 + x - 1 = 0$ .
- (ii) [Out of syllabus. The result  $x = 0.68$  (correct to 2 d.p.) is obtained for the equation in (i).]
- (b) (i) Expand and simplify the expression  $(x+1)^4 - (x-1)^4$ .
- (ii) Using the result in (a)(ii), find, correct to 2 decimal places, the real root of the equation  $(x+1)^4 - (x-1)^4 = 8$ .



### 7D.5 HKCEE MA 1985(B) – I – 12

In Figure (1),  $ABC$  is an isosceles triangle with  $\angle A = 90^\circ$ .  $PQRS$  is a rectangle inscribed in  $\triangle ABC$ .  $BC = 16 \text{ cm}$ ,  $BQ = x \text{ cm}$ .

- Show that the area of  $PQRS = 2(8x - x^2) \text{ cm}^2$ .
- Figure (2) shows the graph of  $y = 8x - x^2$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 8$ . Using the graph,
  - find the value of  $x$  such that the area of  $PQRS$  is greatest;
  - find the two values of  $x$ , correct to 1 decimal place, such that the area of  $PQRS$  is  $28 \text{ cm}^2$ .
- [Out of syllabus]

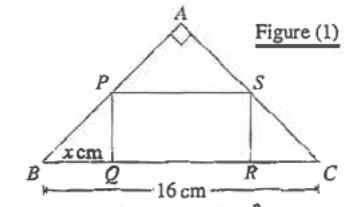


Figure (1)

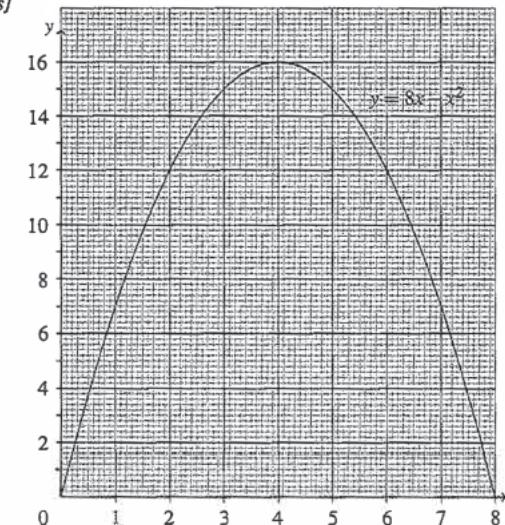


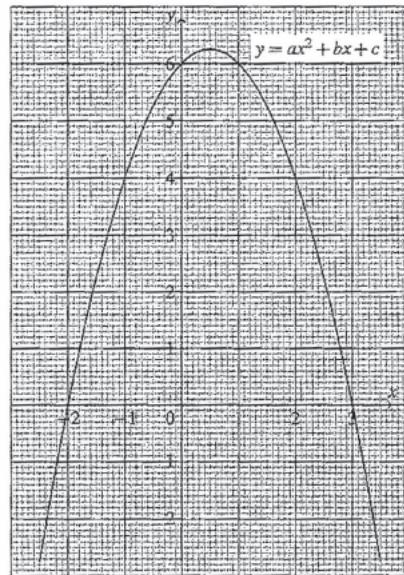
Figure (2)

## 7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS

### 7D.6 HKCEE MA 1986(B) – I – 14

The figure shows the graph of  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

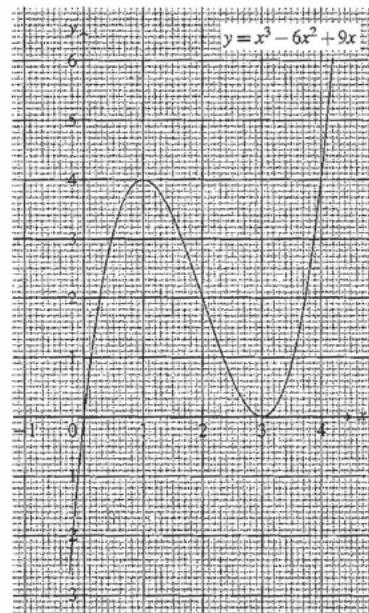
- Find the value of  $c$  and hence the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- Solve the following equations by adding a suitable straight line to the figure for each case. Give your answers correct to 1 decimal place.
  - $(x+2)(x-3) = -1$ ,
  - [Out of syllabus]



### 7D.7 HKCEE MA 1987(A) – I – 14

The figure shows the graph of  $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x$ .

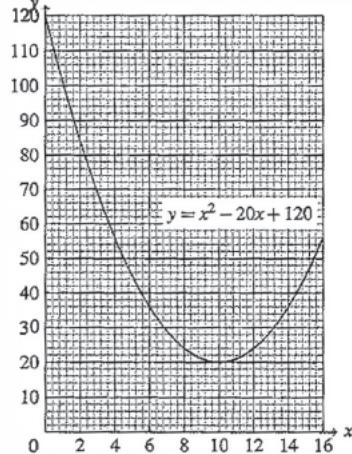
- By adding suitable straight lines to the figure, find, correct to 1 decimal place, the real roots of the following equations:
  - $x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x - 1 = 0$ ,
  - [Out of syllabus]
- [Out of syllabus]
- From the figure, find the range of values of  $k$  such that the equation  $x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x - k = 0$  has three distinct real roots.



### 7D.8 HKCEE MA 1997 – I – 13

Miss Lee makes and sells handmade leather belts and handbags. She finds that if a batch of  $x$  belts is made, where  $1 \leq x \leq 11$ , the cost per belt \$B is given by  $B = x^2 - 20x + 120$ . The figure shows the graph of the function  $y = x^2 - 20x + 120$ .

- Use the given graph to write down the number(s) of belts in a batch that will make the cost per belt
  - a minimum,
  - less than \$90.
- Miss Lee also finds that if a batch of  $x$  handbags is made, where  $1 \leq x \leq 8$ , the cost per handbag \$H is given by  $H = x^2 - 17x + c$  ( $c$  is a constant). When a batch of 3 handbags is made, the cost per handbag is \$144.
  - Find  $c$ .
  - [Out of syllabus] The following result is obtained: When  $H = 120$ ,  $x = 6$ .]
  - Miss Lee made a batch of 10 belts and a batch of 6 handbags. She managed to sell 6 belts at \$100 each and 4 handbags at \$300 each while the remaining belts and handbags sold at half of their respective cost. Find her gain or loss.



(Continued from 8C.11.)

### 7D.9 HKCEE MA 2000 – I – 18

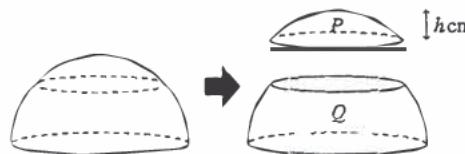


Figure (1)



Figure (2)

Figure (1) shows a solid hemisphere of radius 10 cm. It is cut into two portions,  $P$  and  $Q$ , along a plane parallel to its base. The height and volume of  $P$  are  $h$  cm and  $V$   $\text{cm}^3$  respectively. It is known that  $V$  is the sum of two parts. One part varies directly as  $h^2$  and the other part varies directly as  $h^3$ .  $V = \frac{29}{3}\pi$  when  $h = 1$  and  $V = 81\pi$  when  $h = 3$ .

- Find  $V$  in terms of  $h$  and  $\pi$ .
- A solid congruent to  $P$  is carved away from the top of  $Q$  to form a container as shown in Figure (2).
  - Find the surface area of the container (excluding the base).
  - It is known that the volume of the container is  $\frac{1400}{3}\pi\text{cm}^3$ . Show that  $h^3 - 30h^2 + 300 = 0$ .
  - Using the graph in Figure (3) and a suitable method, find the value of  $h$  correct to 2 decimal places.

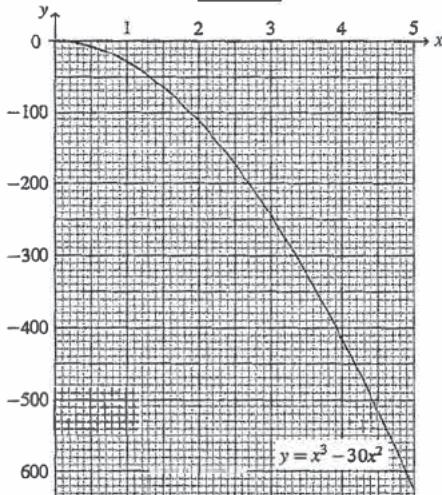


Figure (3)

## 7. FUNCTIONS AND GRAPHS

### 7E Transformation of graphs of functions

#### 7E.1 HKDSE MA 2010 – I – 16

(Continued from 7B.8.)

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{144}x^2 - 6$ .

- (a) (i) Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .  
(ii) If the graph of  $y = g(x)$  is obtained by translating the graph of  $y = f(x)$  leftwards by 4 units and upwards by 5 units, find  $g(x)$ .  
(iii) If the graph of  $y = h(x)$  is obtained by translating the graph of  $y = 2^{f(x)}$  leftwards by 4 units and upwards by 5 units, find  $h(x)$ .  
(b) A researcher performs an experiment to study the relationship between the number of bacteria  $A$  ( $u$  hundred million) and the temperature ( $s^\circ\text{C}$ ) under some controlled conditions. From the data of  $u$  and  $s$  recorded in Table (1), the researcher suggests using the formula  $u = 2^{f(s)}$  to describe the relationship.

| $s$ | $a_1$ | $a_2$ | $a_3$ | $a_4$ | $a_5$ | $a_6$ | $a_7$ |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $u$ | $b_1$ | $b_2$ | $b_3$ | $b_4$ | $b_5$ | $b_6$ | $b_7$ |

Table (1)

- (i) According to the formula suggested by the researcher, find the temperature at which the number of the bacteria is 8 hundred million.  
(ii) The researcher then performs another experiment to study the relationship between the number of bacteria  $B$  ( $v$  hundred million) and the temperature ( $t^\circ\text{C}$ ) under the same controlled conditions and the data of  $v$  and  $t$  are recorded in Table (2).

| $t$ | $a_1 - 4$ | $a_2 - 4$ | $a_3 - 4$ | $a_4 - 4$ | $a_5 - 4$ | $a_6 - 4$ | $a_7 - 4$ |
|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| $v$ | $b_1 + 5$ | $b_2 + 5$ | $b_3 + 5$ | $b_4 + 5$ | $b_5 + 5$ | $b_6 + 5$ | $b_7 + 5$ |

Table (2)

Using the formula suggested by the research, propose a formula to express  $v$  in terms of  $t$ .

#### 7E.2 HKDSE MA 2015 – I – 18

(Continued from 7B.18.)

Let  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 4kx + 3k^2 + 5$ , where  $k$  is a real constant.

- (a) Does the graph of  $y = f(x)$  cut the  $x$  axis? Explain your answer.  
(b) Using the method of completing the square, express, in terms of  $k$ , the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .  
(c) In the same rectangular system, let  $S$  and  $T$  be moving points on the graph of  $y = f(x)$  and the graph of  $y = 2 - f(x)$  respectively. Denote the origin by  $O$ . Someone claims that when  $S$  and  $T$  are nearest to each other, the circumcentre of  $\triangle OST$  lies on the  $x$  axis. Is the claim correct? Explain your answer.

#### 7E.3 HKDSE MA 2016 – I – 18

(Continued from 7B.19.)

Let  $f(x) = \frac{-1}{3}x^2 + 12x - 121$ .

- (a) Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .  
(b) The graph of  $y = g(x)$  is obtained by translating the graph of  $y = f(x)$  vertically. If the graph of  $y = g(x)$  touches the  $x$ -axis, find  $g(x)$ .  
(c) Under a transformation,  $f(x)$  is changed to  $\frac{-1}{3}x^2 - 12x - 121$ . Describe the geometric meaning of the transformation.

#### 7E.4 HKDSE MA 2018 – I – 18

(Continued from 7B.21.)

It is given that  $f(x)$  partly varies as  $x^2$  and partly varies as  $x$ . Suppose that  $f(2) = 60$  and  $f(3) = 99$ .

- (a) Find  $f(x)$ .  
(b) Let  $Q$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$  and  $R$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = 27 - f(x)$ .  
(i) Using the method of completing the square, find the coordinates of  $Q$ .  
(ii) Write down the coordinates of  $R$ .  
(iii) The coordinates of the point  $S$  are  $(56, 0)$ . Let  $P$  be the circumcentre of  $\triangle QRS$ . Describe the geometric relationship between  $P$ ,  $Q$  and  $R$ . Explain your answer.

#### 7E.5 HKDSE MA 2019 – I – 19

(To continue as 16C.56.)

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+k}(x^2 + (6k - 2)x + (9k + 25))$ , where  $k$  is a positive constant. Denote the point  $(4, 33)$  by  $F$ .

- (a) Prove that the graph of  $y = f(x)$  passes through  $F$ .  
(b) The graph of  $y = g(x)$  is obtained by reflecting the graph of  $y = f(x)$  with respect to the  $y$ -axis and then translating the resulting graph upwards by 4 units. Let  $U$  be the vertex of the graph of  $y = g(x)$ . Denote the origin by  $O$ .  
(i) Using the method of completing the square, express the coordinates of  $U$  in terms of  $k$ .

## 7 Functions and Graphs

### 7A General functions

#### 7A.1 HKCEE MA 1992-I-4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i)} \quad & x^2 - 2x = x(x-2) \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & x^2 - 6x + 8 = (x-2)(x-4) \\ \text{(b)} \quad & \frac{1}{x^2-2x} + \frac{1}{x^2-6x+8} = \frac{1}{x(x-2)} + \frac{1}{(x-2)(x-4)} \\ &= \frac{(x-4)+(x)}{2x-4} \\ &= \frac{x(x-2)(x-4)}{2(x-2)(x-4)} \\ &= \frac{2(x-2)}{x(x-2)(x-4)} = \frac{2}{x(x-4)} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7A.2 HKCEE MA 1993-I-2(a)

$$f(3) = \frac{(3)^2 + 1}{(3) - 1} = 5$$

#### 7A.3 HKCEE MA 2006-I-10

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i)} \quad & 1 = f(1) = (1-a)(1-b)(2)-3 \\ & \Rightarrow (a-1)(b-1) = 2 \\ \text{(ii) Since } a-1 \text{ and } b-1 \text{ are both integers and} \\ & b-1 > a-1, \\ & \begin{cases} a-1=1 \\ b-1=2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a=2 \\ b=3 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b) } f(x) - g(x) \\ &= (x-2)(x-3)(x+1) - 3 - (x^3 - 6x^2 - 2x + 7) \\ &= 2x^2 + 3x - 4 \\ \therefore f(x) &= g(x) \\ \Rightarrow 2x^2 + 3x - 4 &= 0 \\ x &= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9+32}}{4} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{41}}{4} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7A.4 HKDSE MA 2016-I-3

$$\frac{2}{4x-5} + \frac{3}{1-6x} = \frac{2(1-6x) + 3(4x-5)}{(4x-5)(1-6x)} = \frac{-13}{(4x-5)(1-6x)}$$

#### 7A.5 HKDSE MA 2019-I-2

$$\frac{3}{7x-6} - \frac{2}{5x-4} = \frac{3(5x-4) - 2(7x-6)}{(7x-6)(5x-4)} = \frac{x}{(7x-6)(5x-4)}$$

### 7B Quadratic functions

#### 7B.1 HKCEE MA 1982(I/2/3)-I-11

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) Since } OA \text{ and } OB \text{ are the roots of the equation,} \\ \text{(i) } OA + OB = 10 \\ \text{(ii) } OA \times OB = k \\ \text{(b) (i) } OM + ON = \frac{OA}{2} + \frac{OB}{2} = \frac{OA+OB}{2} = 5 \\ \text{(ii) } OM \times ON = \left(\frac{OA}{2}\right)\left(\frac{OB}{2}\right) = \frac{OA \times OB}{4} = \frac{k}{4} \\ \text{(c) (i) } -p = OM + ON = 5 \Rightarrow p = 5 \\ r = OM \times ON = \frac{k}{4} \\ \text{(ii) } OM + ON = 5 \Rightarrow ON = 5 - 2 = 3 \\ \therefore \frac{k}{4} = OM \times ON \Rightarrow k = 4 \times 2 \times 3 = 24 \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.2 HKCEE MA 1992-I-9

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i)} \quad & b = 2a^2 - 4a + 3 \\ & \therefore \text{Area of } OAPB = a(2a^2 - 3a + 3) = 2a^3 - 4a^2 + 3a \\ \text{(ii) When } a = 2a^2 - 4a + 3, \\ & 2a^2 - 5a + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow a = 1 \text{ or } \frac{3}{2} \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad & 2a^3 - 4a^2 + 3a = \frac{3}{2} \\ & 4a^3 - 8a^2 + 6a = 3 \\ & 4a^3 - 8a^2 + 6a - 3 = 0 \\ \text{(ii) } & \text{[Out of syllabus]} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.3 HKCEE MA 1994-I-8

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) } c &= y\text{-intercept} = 6 \\ & \therefore \alpha\beta = \text{product of roots} = 6 \\ \text{(b) } \alpha + \beta &= \text{sum of roots} = -b \\ \text{(c) } (\alpha - \beta)^2 &= (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta = (-b)^2 - 4(6) \\ &= b^2 - 24 \\ \therefore \text{Area of } \triangle ABC &= \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)(6) \\ &= 3(\alpha - \beta) = 3\sqrt{b^2 - 24} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.4 HKCEE MA 1999-I-7

$$\begin{aligned} c &= y\text{-intercept} = -6 \\ \text{When } y=0, x^2 - x - 6 &= 0 \Rightarrow x = -2 \text{ or } 3 \\ \therefore a &= -2, b = 3 \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.5 HKCEE MA 2004-I-4

$$\begin{aligned} b &= y\text{-intercept} = -25 \\ \text{Put } (a, 0): 0 &= -a^2 + 10a - 25 \Rightarrow a = 5 \text{ (repeated)} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.6 HKCEE MA 2008-I-11

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) Put } (4, 9): 9 &= (4)^2 + b(4) - 15 \Rightarrow b = 2 \\ \text{Hence, } 0 &= x^2 + 2x - 15 = (x+5)(x-3) \\ &\Rightarrow x\text{-intercept} = -5 \text{ and } 3 \\ \text{(b) } x^2 + 2x - 15 &= k \Rightarrow x^2 + 2x - (15+k) = 0 \\ &\therefore 2 \text{ distinct roots} \\ &\therefore \Delta > 0 \\ &4 + 4(15+k) > 0 \Rightarrow k > -16 \\ \text{(c) When } \Delta = 0, \text{ there is only 1 intersection. i.e. } k &= -16. \\ \therefore \text{Required line is } y &= -16. \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.7 HKCEE MA 2009-I-12

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i) } x &= 11 \\ & \text{(ii) } (11, 23) \\ \text{(b) (i) Put } y = 5: 5 &= -2(x-11)^2 + 23 \\ & (x-11)^2 = 9 \Rightarrow x = 11 \pm 3 = 8 \text{ or } 14 \\ & \therefore \text{Distance between } P \text{ and } Q = 14 - 8 = 6 \\ \text{(ii) Regardless of the position of } S, \text{ for } \Delta PQS, \\ & PQ = 6, \text{ Corresponding height} = 5 \\ & \therefore \text{Area of } \triangle PQS \\ &= \text{Area of } \triangle PQR + \text{Area of } \triangle PQS \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(6)(23-5) + \frac{1}{2}(6)(5) = 69 \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.8 HKCEE MA 2010-I-16

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i) } f(x) &= \frac{-1}{144}(x^2 - 72x - 6) \\ &= \frac{-1}{144}(x^2 - 72x + 36^2 - 36^2) - 6 \\ &= \frac{-1}{144}(x - 36)^2 + 3 \Rightarrow \text{Vertex} = (36, 3) \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.9 HKCEE MA 2011-I-11

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) Let } f(x) &= hx^2 + kx. \\ \begin{cases} 28 = f(-2) = 4h - 2k \\ -36 = f(6) = 36h + 6k \end{cases} & \Rightarrow \begin{cases} h = 1 \\ k = -12 \end{cases} \\ \therefore f(x) &= x^2 - 12x \\ \text{(b) (i) } f(x) &= x^2 - 12x = (x-6)^2 - 36 \Rightarrow k = -36 \\ \text{(ii) Put } x = 10, \\ y &= (10-6)^2 - 36 = 2 \Rightarrow A = (10, 2) \\ y &= (10)^2 - 12(10) = -20 \Rightarrow D = (10, -20) \\ \text{Since the graphs are symmetric about the common} \\ \text{axis of symmetry } x = 6, \\ B &= (6 - (10-6), 2) = (2, 2) \\ C &= (10 - (10-6), -20) = (2, -20) \\ \therefore \text{Area of } ABCD &= (2 - (-20))(10 - 2) = 176 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.10 HKCEE AM 1988-I-10

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i) For } f(x), \begin{cases} \text{Sum of rts} = -2 \\ \text{Prod of rts} = -1 \end{cases} \\ \text{For } g(x), \begin{cases} \text{Sum of rts} = 2k \\ \text{Prod of rts} = k^2 - 6 \end{cases} \\ PQ = \text{Difference of rts of } f(x) \\ = \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(-1)} - \sqrt{8} \\ RS = \text{Difference of rts of } g(x) \\ = \sqrt{(2k)^2 - 4(k^2 - 6)} = \sqrt{24} \\ \text{(ii) Mid-pt of RS} = \left(\frac{\text{Sum of rts}}{2}, 0\right) = (k, 0) \end{aligned}$$

If this is also the mid-point of  $PQ$ ,  $k = \frac{-2}{2} = -1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b) } \begin{cases} y = f(x) \\ y = g(x) \end{cases} & \Rightarrow x^2 + 2x - 1 = -x^2 + 2kx - k^2 + 6 \\ 2x^2 + 2(1-k)x + k^2 - 7 = 0 & \dots (*) \\ \Delta = 4(1-k)^2 - 8(k^2 - 7) = 0 \\ k^2 + 2k - 15 = 0 \Rightarrow k = -5 \text{ or } 3 \\ \text{For } k = -5, (*) \text{ becomes } & 2x^2 + 12x + 18 = 0 \\ 2(x+3)^2 = 0 & x = -3 \\ \Rightarrow \text{Intersection} &= (-3, (-3)^2 + 2(-3) - 1) = (-3, 2) \\ \text{For } k = 3, (*) \text{ becomes } & 2x^2 + 4x + 2 = 0 \\ 2(x+1)^2 = 0 & x = -1 \\ \Rightarrow \text{Intersection} &= (1, 1^2 + 2(1) - 1) = (1, 2) \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.11 HKCEE AM 1991-I-9

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) } g(x) &= -2x^2 - 12x - 23 = -2(x^2 + 6x + 9 - 9) - 25 \\ &= -2(x+3)^2 - 5 \\ &\leq -5 < 0 \\ \text{(b) (i) } & f(x) + kg(x) = 0 \\ (x^2 + 2x - 2) + k(-2x^2 - 12x - 23) &= 0 \\ (1-2k)x^2 + 2(1-6k)x - (2+23k) &= 0 \\ \text{Eq vanishes} \Rightarrow \Delta &= 0 \\ 4(1-6k)^2 + 4(1-2k)(2+23k) &= 0 \\ 10k^2 - 7k - 3 &= 0 \\ k = 1 \text{ or } & \frac{-3}{10} \\ \therefore k_1 = 1, k_2 &= \frac{-3}{10} \end{aligned}$$

#### 7B.12 (HKCEE AM 1993-I-10)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) Put } y = 0: \frac{1}{k+1}[2x^2 + (k+7)x + 4] &= 0 \\ 2x^2 + (k+7)x + 4 &= 0 \\ \therefore \text{Sum of rts} &= -\frac{k+7}{2}, \text{ Product of rts} = \frac{4}{2} \\ \therefore PQ = \frac{\text{Difference of rts}}{2} &= \frac{(k+7)^2}{2} \\ 1 &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{k+7}{2}\right)^2 - 4(2)} \\ 1 &= \frac{(k+7)^2}{4} - 8 \\ (k+7)^2 &= 36 \\ k = \pm 6 - 7 &= -13 \text{ or } -1 \text{ (rejected)} \end{aligned}$$

#### (b) Method 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{From (a), } PQ \text{ does not exist when} \\ \left(\frac{k+7}{2}\right)^2 - 8 &< 0 \\ \left(\frac{k+7}{2}\right)^2 &< 32 \\ -7 - \sqrt{32} &< k < -7 + \sqrt{32} \end{aligned}$$

#### Method 2

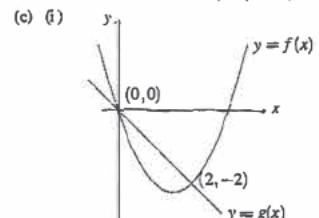
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &< 0 \\ \left(\frac{k+7}{k+1}\right)^2 - 4\left(\frac{2}{k+1}\right)\left(\frac{4}{k+1}\right) &< 0 \\ (k+7)^2 - 32 &< 0 \\ (k+7)^2 &< 32 \\ -7 - \sqrt{32} &< k < -7 + \sqrt{32} \\ \text{(c) (i) } \begin{cases} C(1): y = \frac{1}{2}(2x^2 + 8x + 4) = x^2 + 4x + 2 \\ C(-2): y = -(2x^2 + 5x + 4) = -2x^2 - 5x - 4 \end{cases} \\ \Rightarrow 3x^2 + 9x + 6 &= 0 \\ x = -2 \text{ or } -1 \Rightarrow y &= -2 \text{ or } -1 \\ \therefore \text{pts of intersection are } (-2, -2) \text{ and } (-1, -1). \\ \text{(ii) Put } x = -2 \text{ into } C(k): \\ \text{RHS} &= \frac{1}{k+1}[2(-2)^2 + (k+7)(-2) + 4] \\ &= \frac{1}{k+1}(-2k - 2) = -2 \\ \therefore (-2, -2) & \text{ is on } C(k) \text{ for any } k. \\ \text{Put } x = -1 \text{ into } C(k): \\ \text{RHS} &= \frac{1}{k+1}[2(-1)^2 + (k+7)(-1) + 4] \\ &= \frac{1}{k+1}(-k - 1) = -1 \\ \therefore (-1, -1) & \text{ is on } C(k) \text{ for any } k. \end{aligned}$$

### 7B.13 HKCEE AM 1998-I-11

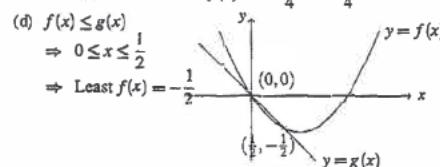
$$(a) f(x) = x^2 - kx = x^2 - kx + \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^2 \\ = \left(x - \frac{k}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{k^2}{4}$$

∴ Least value =  $\frac{k^2}{4}$ . Corresponding  $x = \frac{k}{2}$

$$(b) \begin{cases} y = x^2 - kx \\ y = -x \end{cases} \Rightarrow x^2 - kx = -x \\ x(x - k + 1) = 0 \\ x = 0 \text{ or } k - 1 \Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } 1 - k \\ \therefore \text{The intersections are } (0, 0) \text{ and } (k - 1, 1 - k).$$



$$(i) f(x) \leq g(x) \Rightarrow 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ \therefore \text{Least value of } f(x) = \frac{(3)^2}{4} = -\frac{9}{4}$$



### 7B.14 HKCEE AM 2000-I-12

$$(a) \Delta \text{ of } f(x) = (-4m)^2 + 4(5m^2 - 6m + 1) \\ = 36m^2 - 24m + 4 \\ = 4(3m - 1)^2 \geq 0$$

Since  $m \neq \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\Delta \neq 0$ .

Thus,  $\Delta > 0$ , and  $f(x)$  has 2 distinct real roots.

$$(b) (i) x = \frac{4m \pm \sqrt{\Delta}}{2} = \frac{4m \pm 2(3m - 1)}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{4m + 2(3m - 1)}{2} = 5m - 1 \\ \alpha = \frac{4m - 2(3m - 1)}{2} = -m + 1$$

$$(ii) (1) 4 < \beta = 5m - 1 < 5 \Rightarrow 5 < 5m < 6 \\ \Rightarrow 1 < m < \frac{6}{5}$$

(2) Sketch A:

The parabola should open upwards as the leading coefficient is positive.

Sketch B:

$$1 < m < \frac{6}{5} \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{3} < \alpha = m + 1 < 0$$

The root should be larger than -1.

Sketch C:

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4mx = (5m^2 - 6m + 1) \\ = x^2 - 4mx + 4m^2 - 9m^2 + 6m - 1 \\ = (x - 2m)^2 - (3m - 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Min value of } f(x) = -(3m - 1)^2$$

$$1 < m < \frac{6}{5} \Rightarrow -4.225 < -(3m - 1)^2 < -4$$

Thus the min value should be smaller than -1.

### 7B.15 HKCEE AM 2002-11

$$(a) f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 6 = (x - 1)^2 - 7 \Rightarrow C = (1, -7)$$

$$\begin{cases} y = x^2 - 2x - 6 \\ y = 2x + 6 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 6 = 2x + 6 \\ x^2 - 4x - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 6 \text{ or } -2$$

$$\therefore A = (-2, 2(-2) + 6) = (-2, 2) \\ B = (6, 2(6) + 6) = (6, 18)$$

(b)  $f(x) \leq g(x)$  when  $-2 \leq x \leq 6$   
In this range, the horizontal line  $y = k$  intersects the parabola  $y = f(x)$  at one point, and thus  $f(x) = k$  has only one root.  
 $\therefore 2 < k \leq 6$  or  $k = -7$

### 7B.16 HKCEE AM 2003-17

Let  $f(x) = -(x - a)^2 + b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real. Point  $P$  is the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

$$(a) P = (a, b)$$

$$(b) (i) g(x) = (x - b)^2 + a$$

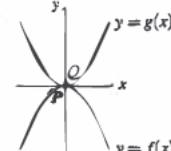
$$\text{Since } Q(b, a) \text{ is on the graph of } y = f(x), \\ a = (b - a)^2 + b \Rightarrow (b - a)^2 = b - a \\ \therefore g(a) = (a - b)^2 + a \\ = (b - a) + a = b$$

∴  $(a, b) = P$  lies on  $y = g(x)$ .

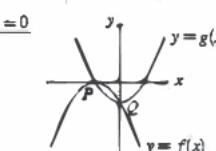
$$(ii) y = f(x) \text{ touches the } x\text{-axis} \Rightarrow b = 0 \\ \text{From (b)(i), } (b - a)^2 - (b - a) = 0 \\ (b - a)(b - a - 1) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow a = b \text{ or } a = b - 1$$

Thus, there are two cases:

Case 1:  $a = b = 0$



Case 2:  $a = 1, b = 0$



### 7B.17 HKDSE MA 2012-I-13

$$(a) 0 = k(2)^3 - 21(2)^2 + 24(2) - 4 \Rightarrow k = 5$$

$$(b) P = (m, 0) \Rightarrow Q = (m, 15m^2 - 63m + 72)$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } OPQR = m(15m^2 - 63m + 72) \\ = 15m^3 - 63m^2 + 72m$$

$$(c) 15m^3 - 63m^2 + 72m = 12 \\ 3(5m^2 - 21m^2 + 24m - 4) = 0 \\ (m - 2)(5m^2 - 11m + 2) = 0 \quad (\text{by (a)}) \\ (m - 2)(5m - 1)(m - 2) = 0$$

$$m = 2, \frac{1}{5} \text{ or } -2 \quad (\text{reject } m = 2 \text{ as } P \text{ is in Quad I})$$

### 7B.18 HKDSE MA 2015-I-18

$$(a) \Delta = (-4k)^2 - 4(2)(3k^2 + 5) = -8k^2 - 40 \leq -40 < 0$$

∴ It does not cut the  $x$ -axis.

$$(b) f(x) = 2x^2 - 4kx + 3k^2 + 5 \\ = 2(x^2 - 2kx + k^2) + 3k^2 + 5 \\ = 2(x - k)^2 + k^2 + 5$$

∴ Ver tex =  $(k, k^2 + 5)$

### 7B.19 HKDSE MA 2016-I-18

$$(a) f(x) = -\frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 36x) - 121 \\ = -\frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 36x + 18^2) - 121 \\ = \frac{1}{3}(x - 18)^2 - 13$$

∴ Vertex =  $(18, -13)$

### 7B.20 HKDSE MA 2017-I-18

$$(a) \begin{cases} y = 2x^2 - 2kx + 2x - 3k + 8 \\ y = 19 \end{cases} \\ \Rightarrow 2x^2 + 2(1 - k)x - (3k + 11) = 0 \\ \Delta = 4(1 - k)^2 + 8(3k + 11) \\ = 4(k^2 - 2k + 1 + 6k + 22) \\ = 4(k^2 + 4k + 23) \\ = 4(k + 2)^2 + 76 \geq 76 > 0 \\ \therefore \text{There are 2 distinct intersections.}$$

$$(b) (i) \begin{cases} a + b = -\frac{2(1 - k)}{2} = k - 1 \\ ab = -(3k + 11) \end{cases}$$

$$(a - b)^2 = (a + b)^2 - 4ab \\ = (k - 1)^2 + 2(3k + 11) = k^2 + 4k + 23$$

$$(ii) (a - b)^2 = (k + 2)^2 + 19 \\ \text{Minim value of } (a - b)^2 = 19 \\ \Rightarrow \text{Min distance of } AB = \sqrt{19} > 4 \\ \therefore \text{NO}$$

### 7B.21 HKDSE MA 2018-I-18

$$(a) \text{Let } f(x) = hx^2 + kx. \\ \begin{cases} 60 = f(2) = 4h + 2k \\ 99 = f(3) = 9h + 3k \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} h = 3 \\ k = 24 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore f(x) = 3x^2 + 24x$$

$$(b) (i) f(x) = 3(x^2 + 8x) = 3(x^2 + 8x + 16 - 16) \\ = 3(x + 4)^2 - 48 \\ \therefore Q = (-4, -48)$$

### 7B.22 HKDSE MA 2020-I-7

7a Since the equation  $p(x) = 0$ , i.e.  $4x^2 + 12x + c = 0$ , has equal roots,

$$\Delta = 0 \\ 12^2 - 4(4)c = 0 \\ c = 9$$

Put  $y = 0$ ,

$$0 = p(x) - 169 \\ 4x^2 + 12x + 9 - 169 = 0 \\ x^2 + 3x - 40 = 0 \\ (x + 8)(x - 5) = 0 \\ x = -8 \text{ or } 5$$

Therefore, the  $x$ -intercepts of the graph of  $y = p(x) - 169$  are -8 and 5

### 7C Extreme values of quadratic functions

#### 7C.1 HKCEE MA 1985(A/B)-I-13

$$(a) DE^2 = BD^2 + BE^2 - 2 \cdot BD \cdot BE \cos \angle B \\ = (2 - x)^2 + x^2 - 2(2 - x)(x) \cos 60^\circ \\ = 3x^2 - 6x + 4$$

$$(b) \text{Area of } \triangle DEF = \frac{1}{2} DE \cdot DF \sin 60^\circ$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 6x + 4) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}(3x^2 - 6x + 4) \\ = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4}(x^2 - 2x + \frac{4}{3}) \\ = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4}(x - 1)^2 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$$

∴ Minimum area is attained when  $x = 1$ .

#### 7C.2 HKCEE MA 1982(1/2)-I-12

$$(a) \text{Let } P = ax + bx^2. \\ \begin{cases} 80000 = 20a + 400b \\ 87500 = 35a + 1225b \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = 6000 \\ b = -100 \end{cases} \Rightarrow P = 6000x - 100x^2$$

Hence, when  $x = 15$ ,  $P = 5000(15) - 100(15)^2 = 67500$ .

$$(b) P = 100(x^2 - 60x) = -100(x^2 - 60x + 30^2 - 30^2) \\ = 90000(x - 30)^2$$

i.e.  $a = 90000$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $c = 30$

(c) When  $P$  is maximum,  $x = 30$ .

#### 7C.3 HKCEE MA 1988-I-10

$$(a) \text{Let } y = ax + bx^2 \\ \begin{cases} -5 = a + b \\ -8 = 2a + 4b \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = -6 \\ b = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow y = x^2 - 6x$$

Hence, when  $x = 6$ ,  $y = (6)^2 - 6(6) = 0$

$$(b) y = x^2 - 6x + 9 - 9 = (x - 3)^2 - 9$$

∴ Least possible value of  $y = -9$

#### 7C.4 HKCEE MA 2011-I-12

$$(a) \angle C = 180^\circ - \angle B = 90^\circ \quad (\text{int. } \angle, AB/DC) \\ \angle DPC = 180^\circ - \angle APD - \angle APB \quad (\text{adj. } \angle \text{ s on st. line}) \\ = 90^\circ - \angle APB \\ \angle PAB = 180^\circ - \angle B - \angle APB \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle) \\ = 90^\circ - \angle APB = \angle DPC$$

In  $\triangle APB$  and  $\triangle PCD$ ,

$$\angle B = \angle C = 90^\circ \quad (\text{proved})$$

$$\angle DPC = \angle PAB \quad (\text{proved})$$

$$\angle PDC = \angle APB \quad (\angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

$$\therefore \triangle APB \sim \triangle PCD \quad (\text{AAA})$$

$$(b) \frac{AB}{BP} = \frac{PC}{CD} \quad (\text{corr. sides, } \sim \text{ s})$$

$$\frac{3}{x} = \frac{11}{k} \quad x = \frac{3k}{11}$$

$$3k = 11x \quad x^2 = 11x + 3k = 0$$

$$(c) \Delta \geq 0 \Rightarrow (-11)^2 - 4(3k) \geq 0 \Rightarrow k \leq \frac{121}{12}$$

Hence, the greatest integral value of  $k$  is 10.

17a

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= x^2 - 2kx + 2k^2 + 4 \\ &= x^2 - 2kx + \left(\frac{2k}{2}\right)^2 + 2k^2 + 4 - \left(\frac{2k}{2}\right)^2 \\ &= (x - k)^2 + k^2 + 4 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the coordinates of the vertex of the graph of  $y = f(x)$  are  $(k, k^2 + 4)$ .

b Since the graph of  $y = g(x+2)$  can be obtained by translating the graph of  $y = g(x)$  leftwards by 2 units, we know that  $D = (k-2, k^2 + 4)$ .

Since the graph of  $y = -g(x-2)$  can be obtained by translating the graph of  $y = g(x)$  rightwards by 2 units followed by reflecting the resulting graph along the  $x$ -axis, we know that  $E = (k+2, -(k^2 + 4)) = (k+2, -k^2 - 4)$ .

Let  $M$  be the mid-point of  $DE$  and  $O$  be the circumcentre of  $\triangle DEF$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \left( \frac{(k-2)+(k+2)}{2}, \frac{(k^2+4)+(-k^2-4)}{2} \right) \\ &= (k, 0) \end{aligned}$$

Suppose there exists such a point  $F$ .

$OM \perp DE$  (circumcentre of  $\triangle DEF$ )

The slope of  $OM \times$  The slope of  $DE = -1$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{0-3}{k-0} \cdot \frac{(k^2+4)-(-k^2-4)}{(k-2)-(k+2)} &= -1 \\ -6(k^2+4) &= 4k \\ 3k^2+2k+12 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta = 2^2 - 4(3)(12) = -140 < 0$$

Hence, there is no real solution to  $k$  so contradiction arises.

Therefore, there is no such a point  $F$ .

## 7C.5 HKCEE AM 1986 - I - 3

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= -kx^2 + 18x + 4k \\ &= -k \left[ x^2 - \frac{18}{k}x + \left(\frac{9}{k}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{9}{k}\right)^2 \right] + 4k \\ &= -k \left( x - \frac{9}{k} \right)^2 + \frac{81}{k} + 4k \\ \therefore \frac{81}{k} + 4k &= 45 \\ 4k^2 - 45k + 81 &= 0 \Rightarrow k = \frac{9}{4} \text{ or } 9 \end{aligned}$$

## 7C.6 HKCEE AM 1996 - I - 4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad x^2 - 6x + 11 &= (x-3)^2 + 2 \\ \therefore a = -3, b = 2 \\ \text{(b)} \quad x^2 - 6x + 11 \geq 2 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 11} \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \therefore 0 < \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 11} \leq \frac{1}{2} & \end{aligned}$$

## 7C.7 HKDSE MA 2013 - I - 17

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad f(x) &= -x^2 + 36x = -(x^2 - 36x + 18^2 - 18^2) \\ &= -(x-18)^2 + 324 \\ \therefore \text{Vertex} &= (18, 324) \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad A &= x \left( \frac{108 - 3x}{2} \right) = \frac{3}{2}(36x - x^2) \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \text{Max value of } A &= \frac{3}{2}(324) \quad (\text{by (a)}) \\ &= 486 < 500 \\ \therefore \text{NO.} & \end{aligned}$$

## 7D Solving equations using graphs of functions

## 7D.1 HKCEE MA 1980(3) - I - 16

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad 30 &= 25x - x^3 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = 25x - x^3 \\ y = 30 \end{cases} \\ \text{Add } y = 30 &\Rightarrow x = 1.3 \text{ or } 4.2 \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad AC^2 &= b^2 + b^2 = 2b^2 \\ &= h^2 + \left(\frac{AC}{2}\right)^2 \\ 25 &= h^2 + \frac{1}{2}b^2 \Rightarrow b = \sqrt{50 - 2h^2} \\ V &= \frac{1}{b^2 h} = \frac{1}{\frac{2}{3}(50 - 2h^2)h} \\ &= \frac{2}{3}(25h - h^3) \\ \text{(ii)} \quad 20 &= \frac{2}{3}(25h - h^3) \Rightarrow 20 = 25h - h^3 \\ \text{From (a), } h &= 1.3 \text{ or } 4.2. \end{aligned}$$

## 7D.2 HKCEE MA 1981(1) - I - 11

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \text{One side} &= x \text{ cm} \\ \text{The other side} &= \frac{20-2x}{2} = 10-x \text{ cm} \\ \therefore y &= x(10-x) = 10x-x^2 \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad y &= 18.4 \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \text{Add } y = 12 &\Rightarrow x = 1.4 \text{ or } 8.6 \\ \text{(iii)} \quad \text{Greatest area} &= y\text{-coordinate of vertex} = 25 \end{aligned}$$

## 7D.3 HKCEE MA 1983(A) - I - 14

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad V &= k(7-2k)^2 = 4k^3 - 28k^2 + 49k \\ \text{(b)} \quad 4x^3 - 28x^2 + 49x &= 20 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = 4x^3 - 28x^2 + 49x \\ y = 20 \end{cases} \\ \text{Add } y = 20 &\Rightarrow x = 0.6, 1.9 \text{ or } 4.5 \\ \text{(c)} \quad k &= 0.6 \text{ or } 1.9 \text{ or } 4.5 \text{ (rejected)} \end{aligned}$$

## 7D.4 HKCEE MA 1985(A) - I - 12

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) (i)} \quad x^3 + x - 1 &= 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = x^3 + x \\ y = 1 \end{cases} \\ \text{Add } y = 1 &\Rightarrow x = 0.7 \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad (x+1)^4 - (x-1)^4 &= [(x+1)^2 + (x-1)^2][(x+1)^2 - (x-1)^2] \\ &= (2x^2 + 2)(4x) = 8x^3 + 8x \\ \text{(ii)} \quad 8x^3 + 8x &= 8 \Rightarrow x^3 + x - 1 = 0 \\ \text{By (a)(ii), } x &= 0.69. \end{aligned}$$

## 7D.5 HKCEE MA 1985(B) - I - 12

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \text{Since } \triangle ABC \text{ and thus } \triangle BPQ \text{ are right-angled isosceles,} \\ QR &= (16-2x) \text{ cm.} \\ \therefore \text{Area of } PQRS &= x(16-2x) = 2(8x-x^2) \text{ (cm}^2\text{)} \\ \text{(b) (i)} \quad \text{The greatest area is attained when } x = 4. \\ \text{(ii)} \quad 28 &= 2(8x-x^2) \\ 14 &= 8x-x^2 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = 8x-x^2 \\ y = 14 \end{cases} \\ \text{Add } y = 14 &\Rightarrow x = 2.6 \text{ or } 5.4. \end{aligned}$$

### 7D.6 HKCEE MA 1986(B) – I – 14

(a)  $c = y\text{-intercept} = 6$   
 Roots = 2 and 3  $\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{c}{a} = (-2)(3) \Rightarrow a = 1 \\ -\frac{b}{a} = (-2) + (3) \Rightarrow b = 1 \end{cases}$   
 (b) (i)  $(x+2)(x-3) = -1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = x^2 + x + 6 \\ y = -1 \end{cases}$   
 Add  $y = 1 \Rightarrow x = -2.2 \text{ or } 3.2$

### 7D.7 HKCEE MA 1987(A) – I – 14

(a) (i)  $x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x \\ y = 1 \end{cases}$   
 Add  $y = 1 \Rightarrow x = 0.1, 2.3 \text{ or } 3.5$   
 (c)  $\begin{cases} y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x \\ y = k \end{cases}$   
 To have 3 intersections,  $0 < k < 4$ .

### 7D.8 HKCEE MA 1997 – I – 13

(a) (i) 10  
 (ii)  $1.8 < x \leq 16 \Rightarrow 2 \leq x \leq 16$   
 (b) (i) Put  $x = 3$  and  $H = 144$ :  $144 = 3^2 - 51 + c$   
 $c = 186$   
 (iii) Total cost =  $10 \times \$20 + 6 \times 120 = \$520$   
 Total proceeds  
 $= 6 \times \$100 + 4 \times \$300 + 4 \times \$10 + 2 \times \$60$   
 $= \$1960$   
 Gain =  $1960 - 520 = \$1440$

### 7D.9 HKCEE MA 2000 – I – 18

(a) Let  $V = ah^2 + bh^3$ .  
 $\begin{cases} \frac{29\pi}{3} = a + b \\ 81\pi = 9a + 27b \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = 10\pi \\ b = -\frac{\pi}{3} \end{cases}$   
 $\therefore V = 10h^2 - \frac{\pi}{3}h^3$   
 (b) (i) Surface area = Surface area of original hemisphere  
 $= 2\pi(10)^2 = 200\pi \text{ (cm}^2\text{)}$   
 (ii)  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{4}{3}\pi(10)^3 - 2\left(10h^2 - \frac{\pi}{3}h^3\right) = \frac{1400}{3}\pi$   
 $\frac{2000}{3}\pi - 20h^2 + \frac{2\pi}{3}h^3 = \frac{1400}{3}\pi$   
 $h^2 - 30h^2 + 300 = 0$   
 (iii)  $\begin{cases} y = x^3 - 30x^2 \\ y = -300 \end{cases}$   
 Add  $y = -300$  to the graph  $\Rightarrow h = 3.35$

### 7E Transformation of graphs of functions

#### 7E.1 HKCEE MA 2010 – I – 16

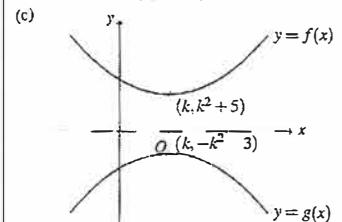
(a) (i)  $f(x) = \frac{-1}{144}(x^2 - 72x) - 6$   
 $= \frac{-1}{144}(x^2 - 72x + 36^2 - 36^2) - 6$   
 $= \frac{-1}{144}(x-36)^2 + 3$   
 $\therefore \text{Vertex} = (36, 3)$   
 (ii)  $g(x) = f(x+4) + 5 = \frac{-1}{144}(x-32)^2 + 8$   
 (iii)  $h(x) = 2^{f(x+4)} + 5 = 2^{\frac{-1}{144}(x-32)^2 + 3} + 5$

(b) (i) When  $u = 8$ ,  $8 = 2^{f(u)}$   
 $3 = f(8) = \frac{-1}{144}(s-36)^2 + 3$   
 $s = 36$   
 $\therefore \text{The temperature is } 36^\circ\text{C.}$

(ii) From the table,  $\begin{cases} r = s-4 \\ v = u+5 \end{cases}$   
 Hence,  $u = 2^{f(r)}$  becomes:  $v-5 = 2^{f(r+4)}$   
 $\Rightarrow v = 2^{f(r+4)} + 5 = 2^{\frac{-1}{144}(r-32)^2 + 3} + 5$

#### 7E.2 HKDSE MA 2015 – I – 18

(a)  $\Delta = (-4k)^2 - 4(2)(3k^2 + 5) = -8k^2 - 40 \leq -40 < 0$   
 $\therefore \text{It does not cut the x-axis.}$   
 (b)  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 4kx + 3k^2 + 5$   
 $= 2(x^2 - 2kx + k^2 - k^2) + 3k^2 + 5$   
 $= 2(x-k)^2 + k^2 + 5$   
 $\therefore \text{Vertex} = (k, k^2 + 5)$



S and T are nearest to each other when they are the vertices of the two parabolas respectively. Since OS  $\neq$  OT,  $\triangle OST$  is not isosceles, and thus the x-axis is not the  $\perp$  bisector of ST. NOT correct.

#### 7E.3 HKDSE MA 2016 – I – 18

(a)  $f(x) = -\frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 36x) - 121$   
 $= -\frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 36x + 18^2 - 18^2) - 121$   
 $= \frac{1}{3}(x - 18)^2 - 13$   
 $\therefore \text{Vertex} = (18, -13)$   
 (b)  $g(x) = f(x) + 13 = -\frac{1}{3}(x - 18)^2$   
 (c)  $-\frac{1}{3}x^2 - 12x - 121 = f(-x)$   
 Hence, the transformation is a reflection in the y axis

### 7E.4 HKDSE MA 2018 – I – 18

(a) Let  $f(x) = hx^2 + kx$ .  
 $\begin{cases} 60 = f(2) = 4h + 2k \\ 99 = f(3) = 9h + 3k \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} h = 3 \\ k = 24 \end{cases}$   
 $\therefore f(x) = 3x^2 + 24x$   
 (b) (i)  $f(x) = 3(x^2 + 8x) = 3(x^2 + 8x + 16 - 16)$   
 $= 3(x+4)^2 - 48$   
 $\therefore Q = (-4, -48)$   
 (ii)  $R = (-4, 75)$   
 (iii)  $QR = 75 - (-48) = 123$   
 $SQ = \sqrt{60^2 + 48^2} = \sqrt{5904}$   
 $RS = \sqrt{60^2 + 75^2} = \sqrt{9225}$   
 Hence,  $QR^2 = SQ^2 + RS^2$ .  $\triangle QRS$  is right-angled at S.  
 (converse of Pyth. thm)  
 $\therefore P$  is the mid-point of QR.

### 7E.5 HKDSE MA 2019 – I – 19

(a)  $f(4) = \frac{1}{1+k}((4)^2 + (6k-2)(4) + (9k+25))$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}(33 + 33k) = 33$   
 Hence, the graph passes through F.  
 (b) (i)  $g(x) = f(-x) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}((-x)^2 + (6k-2)(-x) + (9k+25)) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}(x^2 - (6k-2)x + (3k-1)^2 + (9k+25)) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}((x-3k+1)^2 - 9k^2 + 3k + 24) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}((x-3k+1)^2 - 3(1+k)(3k-8)) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}(x-3k+1)^2 - 3(3k-8) + 4$   
 $= \frac{1}{1+k}(x-3k+1)^2 + 28 - 9k$   
 $\therefore U = (3k-1, 28-9k)$