

Chapter review 2

1 $3x^2 - 4x + 6 = 0$ has roots α and β
 $a = 3$, $b = -4$ and $c = 6$

a i $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a}$
 $= \frac{4}{3}$

ii $\alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$
 $= \frac{6}{3}$
 $= 2$

b $\alpha^3 + \beta^3 = (\alpha + \beta)^3 - (3\alpha^2\beta + 3\alpha\beta^2)$
 $= (\alpha + \beta)^3 - 3\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)$
 $= \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^3 - 3(2)\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)$
 $= -\frac{152}{27}$ as required

c The sum of the roots is

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha^2} = \frac{\alpha^3 + \beta^3}{\alpha^2\beta^2}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{152}{27}}{(\alpha\beta)^2}$$

using result from b

$$= \frac{-152}{27(2)^2}$$

$$= -\frac{38}{27}$$

The product of the roots is

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2} \left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha^2} \right) = \frac{\alpha\beta}{\alpha^2\beta^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\alpha\beta}$$

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

So $x^2 + \frac{38}{27}x + \frac{1}{2} = 0$

$$54x^2 + 76x + 27 = 0$$

2 $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{5}{2}$ and $\alpha\beta = -6$

a $x^2 + \frac{5}{2}x - 6 = 0$
 $2x^2 + 5x - 12 = 0$

b i $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta$
 $= \left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 - 2(-6)$
 $= \frac{73}{4}$

ii $\alpha^3 + \beta^3 = (\alpha + \beta)^3 - (3\alpha^2\beta + 3\alpha\beta^2)$
 $= (\alpha + \beta)^3 - 3\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)$
 $= \left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)^3 - 3(-6)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)$
 $= -\frac{485}{8}$

2 c The sum of the roots is

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha - \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \beta - \frac{1}{\beta^2} &= \alpha + \beta - \left(\frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\beta^2} \right) \\ &= \alpha + \beta - \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{(\alpha\beta)^2} \\ &= -\frac{5}{2} - \frac{\frac{73}{4}}{(-6)^2} \\ &= -\frac{433}{144}\end{aligned}$$

The product of the roots is

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\alpha - \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \right) \left(\beta - \frac{1}{\beta^2} \right) &= \left(\frac{\alpha^3 - 1}{\alpha^2} \right) \left(\frac{\beta^3 - 1}{\beta^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{\alpha^3 \beta^3 - \alpha^3 - \beta^3 + 1}{\alpha^2 \beta^2} \\ &= \frac{(\alpha\beta)^3 - (\alpha^3 + \beta^3) + 1}{(\alpha\beta)^2} \\ &= \frac{(-6)^3 - \left(-\frac{485}{8} \right) + 1}{(-6)^2} \\ &= -\frac{1235}{288}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } x^2 + \frac{433}{144}x - \frac{1235}{288} = 0$$

$$288x^2 + 866x - 1235 = 0$$

3 $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{7}{3}$ and $\alpha\beta = -2$

a $x^2 + \frac{7}{3}x - 2 = 0$

$$3x^2 + 7x - 6 = 0$$

3 b $3x^2 + 7x - 6 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (3x - 2)(x + 3) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3} \text{ or } x = -3$$

α and β are roots of the equation

$$\alpha > \beta \text{ so } \alpha = \frac{2}{3} \text{ and } \beta = -3$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha - \beta &= \frac{2}{3} - (-3) \\ &= \frac{11}{3} \text{ as required}\end{aligned}$$

c The sum of the roots is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha} + \frac{\alpha - \beta}{\beta} &= \frac{\beta(\alpha + \beta) + \alpha(\alpha - \beta)}{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{\alpha\beta + \beta^2 + \alpha^2 - \alpha\beta}{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta}{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{\left(-\frac{7}{3} \right)^2 - 2(-2)}{(-2)} \\ &= -\frac{85}{18}\end{aligned}$$

The product of the roots is

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha} \right) \left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{\beta} \right) &= \frac{(\alpha + \beta)(\alpha - \beta)}{\alpha\beta} \\ &= \frac{\left(-\frac{7}{3} \right) \left(\frac{11}{3} \right)}{(-2)} \\ &= \frac{77}{18}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } x^2 + \frac{85}{18}x + \frac{77}{18} = 0$$

$$18x^2 + 85x + 77 = 0$$

Challenge

1 $2x^2 + px + q = 0$ has roots α and β

$16x^2 + 57x + 16 = 0$ has roots $\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ and $\frac{\beta}{\alpha}$

a i From the first equation

$$\alpha + \beta = -\frac{p}{2} \text{ and } \alpha\beta = \frac{q}{2}$$

From the second equation

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} = -\frac{57}{16}$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} = \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}{\alpha\beta}$$

$$= \frac{(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta}{\alpha\beta}$$

$$= \frac{\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{q}{2}\right)}{\frac{q}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{2\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - 4\left(\frac{q}{2}\right)}{q}$$

Since $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} = -\frac{57}{16}$

$$\frac{2\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - 4\left(\frac{q}{2}\right)}{q} = -\frac{57}{16}$$

$$32\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - 64\left(\frac{q}{2}\right) = -57q$$

$$8p^2 - 32q = -57q$$

$$8p^2 + 25q = 0$$

Since $p + q = -3$

$$q = -3 - p$$

$$8p^2 + 25(-p - 3) = 0$$

$$8p^2 - 25p - 75 = 0$$

$$(8p + 15)(p - 5) = 0$$

$$p = -\frac{15}{8} \text{ or } p = 5$$

Since p is a positive integer, $p = 5$

ii $q = -3 - p$

$$q = -8$$

b $2x^2 + 5x - 8 = 0$

$$x = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{5^2 - 4(2)(-8)}}{2(2)}$$

$$= \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{89}}{4}$$

α and β are the roots of the equation

$\alpha > \beta$

$$\therefore \alpha = \frac{-5 + \sqrt{89}}{4} \text{ and } \beta = \frac{-5 - \sqrt{89}}{4}$$

Therefore

$$\alpha - \beta = \frac{-5 + \sqrt{89}}{4} - \left(\frac{-5 - \sqrt{89}}{4}\right)$$

$$= \frac{-5 + \sqrt{89}}{4} + \frac{5 + \sqrt{89}}{4}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{89}}{2}$$

2 $4x^2 + px + q = 0$ has roots α and α^*

a $\alpha + \alpha^* = -\frac{p}{4}$ and $\alpha\alpha^* = \frac{q}{4}$

Since $\text{Re}(\alpha) = -3$

$$\alpha = -3 + bi \text{ and } \alpha^* = -3 - bi$$

$$\alpha + \alpha^* = (-3 + bi) + (-3 - bi)$$

$$= -6$$

and since

$$\alpha + \alpha^* = -\frac{p}{4}$$

$$-\frac{p}{4} = -6$$

$$p = 24$$

b $\alpha = -3 + bi$ and $\alpha^* = -3 - bi$

$$\alpha\alpha^* = (-3 + bi)(-3 - bi)$$

$$= 9 + b^2$$

and since $\alpha\alpha^* = \frac{q}{4}$

$$9 + b^2 = \frac{q}{4}$$

$$q = 36 + 4b^2$$

Since $\text{Im}(\alpha) \neq 0$, $b^2 > 0$

Therefore $q > 36$