

Quadratic Equations

Question1

With usual notations in $\triangle ABC$, if $\angle B = \frac{\pi}{2}$, and $\tan \frac{A}{2}, \tan \frac{C}{2}$ are roots of equation $px^2 + qx + r = 0$, $p \neq 0$, then MHT CET 2025 (25 Apr Shift 2)

Options:

A. $p + q = r$

B. $r + p = q$

C. $r = p$

D. $p = q$

Answer: A

Solution:

Given

- $\angle B = 90^\circ \Rightarrow \frac{B}{2} = 45^\circ$ so $\tan \frac{B}{2} = 1$.
- Roots of $px^2 + qx + r = 0$ are $\alpha = \tan \frac{A}{2}, \beta = \tan \frac{C}{2}$.

Formulae Used

1. For quadratic $px^2 + qx + r = 0$:

$$\alpha + \beta = -\frac{q}{p}, \quad \alpha\beta = \frac{r}{p}$$

2. Half-angle identity in any triangle:

$$\tan \frac{A}{2} \tan \frac{B}{2} + \tan \frac{B}{2} \tan \frac{C}{2} + \tan \frac{C}{2} \tan \frac{A}{2} = 1$$

Steps

Since $\tan \frac{B}{2} = 1$,

$$\alpha \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot \beta + \alpha\beta = 1 \Rightarrow (\alpha + \beta) + \alpha\beta = 1.$$



Substitute from (1):

$$\left(-\frac{q}{p}\right) + \frac{r}{p} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{r-q}{p} = 1 \Rightarrow r-q=p \Rightarrow \boxed{p+q=r}.$$

Concept Snapshot

Use the standard identity for \tan of half-angles in a triangle and the sum/product of roots of a quadratic to relate p, q, r .

✔ Final Answer

(A) $p+q=r$

Question2

If $x = -2 + \sqrt{-3}$, then the value of $2x^4 + 5x^3 + 7x^2 - x + 38$ is equal to MHT CET 2025 (23 Apr Shift 1)

Options:

- A. 1
- B. -2
- C. 3
- D. 5

Answer: C

Solution:

Given: $x = -2 + \sqrt{-3} = -2 + i\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow$ conjugate exists \Rightarrow
 x satisfies $(x+2)^2 + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 + 4x + 7 = 0$.

Reduce powers (mod $x^2 + 4x + 7$):

$$x^2 = -4x - 7$$

$$x^3 = x(-4x - 7) = -4x^2 - 7x = 9x + 28$$

$$x^4 = x(9x + 28) = 9x^2 + 28x = -36x - 63 + 28x = -8x - 63$$

Evaluate:

$$2x^4 + 5x^3 + 7x^2 - x + 38 = 2(-8x - 63) + 5(9x + 28) + 7(-4x - 7) - x + 38$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (-16x - 126) + (45x + 140) + (-28x - 49) - x + 38 \\ &= 0x + (-126 + 140 - 49 + 38) = 3. \end{aligned}$$

✔ Final Answer: 3 (Option C)

Question3

If $f(x) = 2x^3 + mx^2 - 13x + n$ and 2,3 are the roots of the equation $f(x) = 0$ then the value of $4m + 5n$ is MHT CET 2025 (20 Apr Shift 2)

Options:

- A. 30
- B. 100
- C. 130
- D. 150

Answer: C

Solution:

Given: $f(x) = 2x^3 + mx^2 - 13x + n$, roots 2, 3.

- $f(2) = 0 \Rightarrow 16 + 4m - 26 + n = 0 \Rightarrow 4m + n = 10$
- $f(3) = 0 \Rightarrow 54 + 9m - 39 + n = 0 \Rightarrow 9m + n = -15$

Subtract: $(9m + n) - (4m + n) = -15 - 10 \Rightarrow 5m = -25 \Rightarrow m = -5$.

Then $n = 10 - 4(-5) = 30$.

$$4m + 5n = 4(-5) + 5(30) = -20 + 150 = 130$$

✔ Final Answer: 130 (Option C)



Question4

If triangle ABC is a right angled at A and $\tan \frac{B}{2}, \tan \frac{C}{2}$ are roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0, a \neq 0$, then MHT CET 2025 (19 Apr Shift 2)

Options:

- A. $a + c = b$
- B. $a + b = c$
- C. $b + c = a$
- D. $a + c = 2b$

Answer: B

Solution:

Given: Roots = $\tan \frac{B}{2}, \tan \frac{C}{2}$.

From quadratic: $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a}, \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$.

Since $A = 90^\circ, \tan \frac{A}{2} = 1$. Identity:

$$\alpha + \beta + \alpha\beta = 1$$

So,

$$-\frac{b}{a} + \frac{c}{a} = 1 \Rightarrow c - b = a \Rightarrow a + b = c$$

Final Answer: (B) $a + b = c$

Question5



The value of ' a ' so that the sum of squares of the roots of the equation $x^2 - (a - 2)x - a + 1 = 0$ assumes the least value is MHT CET 2025 (19 Apr Shift 2)

Options:

A. 2

B. 1

C. 4

D. 0

Answer: B

Solution:

Equation given

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

Step 1: Sum and product of roots

If roots = α, β :

- Sum: $\alpha + \beta = a - 2$
 - Product: $\alpha\beta = -a + 1$
-

Step 2: Sum of squares

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha^2 + \beta^2 &= (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta \\ &= (a - 2)^2 - 2(-a + 1) \\ &= (a^2 - 4a + 4) + 2a - 2 = a^2 - 2a + 2\end{aligned}$$

Step 3: Minimize

Expression: $a^2 - 2a + 2$.

Complete square:



$$a^2 - 2a + 2 = (a - 1)^2 + 1 \geq 1$$

Minimum value = 1, at $a = 1$.

✔ Final Answer:

Option (B): 1

Question6

The Number of values of C that satisfy the conclusion of Rolle's theorem in case of following function $f(x) = \sin 2\pi x, x \in [-1, 1]$ is
MHT CET 2024 (15 May Shift 2)

Options:

A. 02

B. 04

C. 03

D. zero

Answer: B

Solution:

$$f(x) = \sin 2\pi x$$

$$\therefore f'(x) = 2\pi \cos 2\pi x$$

$$\text{Now, } f'(C) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\pi \cos 2\pi C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos 2\pi C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\pi C = \frac{-3\pi}{2}, \frac{-\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

$$\dots [\because x \in (-1, 1) \Rightarrow 2\pi x \in (-2\pi, 2\pi)]$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{-3}{4}, -\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}$$

Number of values of $C = 4$

Question7

The equation $e^{\sin x} - e^{-\sin x} = 4$ has _____ solutions. MHT CET 2024 (15 May Shift 1)

Options:

A. 2

B. 4

C. 3

D. no

Answer: D

Question8

In a $\triangle PQR$, $m\angle R = \frac{\pi}{2}$. If $\tan\left(\frac{P}{2}\right)$ and $\tan\left(\frac{Q}{2}\right)$ are the roots of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ($a \neq 0$), then MHT CET 2024 (11 May Shift 2)



Options:

- A. $a + b = c$
- B. $b + c = a$
- C. $a + c = b$
- D. $b = c$

Answer: A

Solution:

In $\triangle PQR$

$$\angle P + \angle Q + \angle R = 180^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle P + \angle Q + \frac{\pi}{2} = 180^\circ \quad \tan\left(\frac{P}{2}\right) \text{ and } \tan\left(\frac{Q}{2}\right) \text{ are roots}$$

$$\therefore \angle P + \angle Q = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\angle P}{2} + \frac{\angle Q}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

of the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$...[Given]. \therefore Sum of roots

$$= \frac{-b}{a} \tan\left(\frac{P}{2}\right) + \tan\left(\frac{Q}{2}\right) = \frac{-b}{a} \text{ Also,}$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{P}{2}\right) \cdot \tan\left(\frac{Q}{2}\right) = \frac{c}{a} \text{ Using, } \tan\left(\frac{P}{2} + \frac{Q}{2}\right) = \frac{\tan \frac{P}{2} + \tan \frac{Q}{2}}{1 - \tan \frac{P}{2} \tan \frac{Q}{2}},$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\frac{-b}{a}}{1 - \frac{c}{a}}$$

we get $\Rightarrow 1 = \frac{-b}{a - c}$

$$\Rightarrow a - c = -b$$

$$\Rightarrow a + b = c$$

Question9

Let α, β be the roots of the equation $x^2 - px + r = 0$ and $\frac{\alpha}{2}, 2\beta$ be the roots of the equation $x^2 - qx + r = 0$. Then the value of r is
MHT CET 2024 (09 May Shift 2)

Options:

A. $\frac{2}{9}(p - q)(2q - p)$

B. $\frac{2}{9}(q - p)(2p - q)$

C. $\frac{2}{9}(q - 2p)(2q - p)$

D. $\frac{2}{9}(2p - q)(2q - p)$

Answer: D

Solution:

α and β are the roots of $x^2 - px + r = 0$

\therefore sum of roots = $\alpha + \beta$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha + \beta = p \dots (i)$$

$\frac{\alpha}{2}, 2\beta$ are the roots of $x^2 - qx + r = 0$

\therefore sum of roots = q

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{2} + 2\beta = q$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha + 4\beta = 2q \dots (ii)$$

Subtracting (i) from (ii), we get

$$3\beta = 2q - p$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{2q - p}{3}$$

From (i),



$$\alpha + \frac{2q-p}{3} = p$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{2(2p-q)}{3}$$

Product of roots = $\alpha\beta$

$$\Rightarrow r = \alpha\beta = \frac{2(2p-q)}{3} \times \frac{2q-p}{3}$$

$$= \frac{2}{9}(2p-q)(2q-p)$$

Question10

The equation $(\cos p - 1)x^2 + (\cos p)x + \sin p = 0$ in the variable x , has real roots. Then p can take any value in the interval MHT CET 2024 (03 May Shift 2)

Options:

A.

$(0, 2\pi)$

B.

$(-\pi, 0)$

C.

$\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$

D.

$(0, \pi)$

Answer: D

Solution:

Given equation is $(\cos p - 1)x^2 + (\cos p)x + \sin p = 0$

Comparing with $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, we get $a = \cos p - 1, b = \cos p, c = \sin p$



$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \cos^2 p - 4(\cos p - 1)(\sin p) \geq 0 \\ \text{It has real roots.} \therefore b^2 - 4ac &\geq 0 \Rightarrow \cos^2 p - 4 \sin p \cos p + 4 \sin p \geq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \cos^2 p - 4 \sin p \cos p + 4 \sin^2 p \\ &\quad + 4 \sin p - 4 \sin^2 p \geq 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (\cos p - 2 \sin p)^2 + 4 \sin p(1 - \sin p) \geq 0 \\ \therefore (\cos p - 2 \sin p) &\text{ is always positive} \\ \therefore 1 - \sin p &\geq 0 \text{ for all values of } p, p \in (0, \pi) \end{aligned}$$

Question 11

Let α and β be two real roots of the equation $(k + 1) \tan^2 x - \sqrt{2}\lambda \tan x = (1 - k)$ where $k (\neq -1)$ and λ are real numbers. If $\tan^2(\alpha + \beta) = 50$, then a value of λ is MHT CET 2024 (03 May Shift 2)

Options:

A.

$$5\sqrt{2}$$

B.

$$10\sqrt{2}$$

C.

$$10$$

D.

$$5$$

Answer: C

Solution:



$$(k + 1) \tan^2 x - \sqrt{2}\lambda \tan x = (1 - k) \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\Rightarrow (k + 1) \tan^2 x - \sqrt{2}\lambda \tan x + (k - 1) = 0 \quad \dots (ii)$$

α and β are two real roots.

$$\therefore \tan \alpha + \tan \beta = \frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda}{k + 1}$$

$$\tan \alpha \cdot \tan \beta = \frac{k - 1}{k + 1}$$

$$\text{Now, } \tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta}{1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda}{k+1}}{1 - \frac{(k-1)}{k+1}}$$
$$= \frac{\sqrt{2}\lambda}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^2(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{\lambda^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 50 = \frac{\lambda^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 = 100$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 10$$

Question12

The number of roots of the equation, $(81)^{\sin^2 x} + (81)^{\cos^2 x} = 30$ in the interval $[0, \pi]$, is equal to MHT CET 2024 (03 May Shift 1)

Options:

A.

4

B.



8

C.

3

D.

2

Answer: A

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (81)^{\sin^2 x} + (81)^{\cos^2 x} &= 30 \dots (i) \\
 \text{Let } y &= 81^{\sin^2 x} \\
 \therefore 81^{\cos^2 x} &= 81^{(1-\sin^2 x)} = \frac{81}{81^{\sin^2 x}} = \frac{81}{y} \quad \therefore \text{Equation (i) becomes} \\
 y + \frac{81}{y} &= 30 \\
 \therefore y^2 - 30y + 81 &= 0 \\
 \therefore (y - 27)(y - 3) &= 0 \\
 \therefore y &= 27 \text{ or } 3 \\
 \therefore 81^{\sin^2 x} &= 27 \quad \text{or} \quad 81^{\sin^2 x} = 3 \\
 \therefore 3^{4\sin^2 x} &= 3^3 \quad \text{or} \quad 3^{4\sin^2 x} = 3^1 \\
 \therefore 4\sin^2 x = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad 4\sin^2 x = 1 &\therefore \sin x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \dots [\because x \in [0, \pi]] \therefore x = \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{2\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6} \\
 \dots [\because x \in [0, \pi]] &\therefore \text{Required number of roots are } 4.
 \end{aligned}$$

Question13

The equation $x^3 + x - 1 = 0$ has MHT CET 2023 (14 May Shift 1)

Options:

A.

no real root.

B.

exactly two real roots.

C.

exactly one real root.

D.

more than two real roots.



Answer: C

Solution:

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^3 + x - 1$$

A root of $f(x)$ exists, if $f(x) = 0$ for at least one value of x .

$$f(0) = -1 < 0$$

$$f(1) = 1 > 0$$

\therefore By intermediate value theorem, there has to be a point 'c' between 0 and 1 such that $f(x) = 0$.

\therefore The given equation has exactly one real root.

Alternate Method:

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^3 + x - 1$$

$$\therefore f'(x) = 3x^2 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ is an increasing function.

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ intersects X-axis at only one point.

\therefore The given equation has exactly one real root.

Question14

In $\triangle ABC$, with tustal notations, $m\angle C = \frac{\pi}{2}$, if $\tan\left(\frac{A}{2}\right)$ and $\tan\left(\frac{B}{2}\right)$ are the roots of the equation. $a_1x^2 + b_1x + c_1 = 0$ ($a_1 \neq 0$), then MHT CET 2023 (09 May Shift 2)

Options:

A.

$$a_1 + b_1 = c_1$$

B.

$$b_1 + c_1 = a_1$$

C.

$$a_1 + c_1 - b_1$$

D.

$$b_1 = c_1$$

Answer: A

Solution:

In $\triangle ABC$,

$$\angle A + \angle B + \angle C = 180^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle A + \frac{\pi}{2} + \angle B = 180^\circ \quad \tan\left(\frac{A}{2}\right) \text{ and } \tan\left(\frac{B}{2}\right) \text{ are roots of equation}$$

$$\therefore \angle A + \angle B = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\angle A}{2} + \frac{\angle B}{2} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$a_1x^2 + b_1x + c_1 = 0 \dots [\text{Given}] \quad \therefore \text{Sum of roots} = \frac{-b_1}{a_1}$$
$$\tan\left(\frac{A}{2}\right) + \tan\left(\frac{B}{2}\right) = \frac{-b_1}{a_1} \quad \text{Also, } \tan\left(\frac{A}{2}\right) \cdot \tan\left(\frac{B}{2}\right) = \frac{c_1}{a_1} \text{ Using}$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\frac{-b_1}{a_1}}{1 - \frac{c_1}{a_1}}$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{A}{2} + \frac{B}{2}\right) = \frac{\tan\frac{A}{2} + \tan\frac{B}{2}}{1 - \tan\frac{A}{2}\tan\frac{B}{2}}, \text{ we get } 1 = \frac{-b_1}{a_1 - c_1}$$

$$a_1 - c_1 = -b_1$$

$$a_1 + b_1 = c_1$$

Question 15

If $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + 2$ and $f(1) = 4$, $f(3) = 38$, then $a - b =$ **MHT CET 2020 (20 Oct Shift 2)**

Options:

A.

15

B.

-2

C.

2

D.

8

Answer: D

Solution:

$$f(1) = 4; \quad a + b = 2 \dots (1)$$

$$f(3) = 38; \quad 9a + 3b + 2 = 38 \dots (2)$$

$$3a + b = 12$$

Solving (1) & (2)

$$a = 5, b = -3$$

$$a - b = 8$$

Question 16

The quadratic equation whose roots are the numbers having arithmetic mean 34 and geometric mean 16 is MHT CET 2020 (19 Oct Shift 2)

Options:

A.

$$x^2 + 68x - 256 = 0$$

B.

$$x^2 - 68x - 256 = 0$$

C.

$$x^2 - 68x + 256 = 0$$

D.

$$x^2 + 68x + 256 = 0$$



Answer: C

Solution:

Quad Eqⁿ :→

AM of $a, b = 34$

$a + b = 68$

GM of $a, b, = \pm 6$

$a, b \rightarrow$ roots $\rightarrow ab = 256$
 $x^2 - 68x + 256 = 0$

Question17

If the A.M. and G.M. of the roots of a quadratic equation in x are p and q respectively, then its equation is MHT CET 2020 (15 Oct Shift 2)

Options:

A.

$$x^2 + 2px + q^2 = 0$$

B.

$$x^2 + px + q^2 = 0$$

C.

$$x^2 - px + q^2 = 0$$

D.

$$x^2 - 2px + q^2 = 0$$

Answer: D

Solution:

$$v' = 2v$$

$$\frac{x_1+x_2}{2} = p \quad \& \quad \sqrt{x_1x_2} = q$$

$$\text{None } ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$b = -(x_1 + x_2)$$

$$c = x_1x_2$$

$$b = -2p$$

$$\therefore x^2 - 2px + q^2 = 0$$

Question18

If m_1 and m_2 are slopes of the lines represented by $(\sec^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) x^2 - 2 \tan \theta xy + \sin^2 \theta y^2 = 0$, then $|m_1 - m_2| =$
MHT CET 2020 (14 Oct Shift 1)

Options:

A.

1

B.

2

C.

4

D.

3

Answer: B

Solution:



$$(\sec^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta) x^2 - 2 \tan \theta xy + \sin^2 \theta y^2 = 0$$

$$\sqrt{ax^2 + 2bxy + by^2} = 0$$

$$|m_1 - m_2| = ?$$

$$|m_1 - m_2| = \sqrt{(m_1 + m_2)^2 - 4m_1m_2}$$

$$m_1 + m_2 = \frac{-2h}{b}$$

$$m_1m_2 = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$|m_1 - m_2| = \sqrt{\frac{4 \tan^2 \theta - 4(\sec^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta)}{\sin^2 \theta}}$$

$$= 2$$

Question 19

If $A = \left\{ x \in \frac{R}{x^2} + 5|x| + 6 = 0 \right\}$ then $n(A) =$ **MHT CET 2019 (Shift 1)**

Options:

A.

0

B.

4

C.

1

D.

2

Answer: A

Solution:

$$\text{We have, } A = \left\{ x \in \frac{\mathbb{R}}{x^2} + 5|x| + 6 = 0 \right\}$$

$$\text{Now, } x^2 + 5|x| + 6 = 0 \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 3|x| + 2|x| + 6 = 0$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow |x| = -2 \text{ or } |x| = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow x \neq 2 \text{ or } x \neq 3$$

Here, no value of x satisfy the Eq. (i).

$$\therefore n(A) = 0$$

Question20

If α and β are roots of the equation $x^2 + 5|x| - 6 = 0$ then the value of $|\tan^{-1} \alpha - \tan^{-1} \beta|$ is **MHT CET**

2017

Options:

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

B. 0

C. π

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

Answer: A

Solution:

$$x^2 + 5|x| - 6 = 0$$

$$|x|^2 + 5|x| - 6 = 0$$

$$|x|^2 + 6|x| - |x| - 6 = 0$$

$$|x|(|x| + 6) - 1(|x| + 6) = 0$$

$$(|x| - 1)(|x| + 6) = 0$$

$$|x| = 1, \text{ \textbf{nbsp}; } |x| \neq -6 \text{ (Since modulus can not be giving negative values)}$$

$$\therefore |x| = 1$$

$$\therefore x = \pm 1$$

$$\alpha = 1, \beta = -1$$

$$\therefore |\tan^{-1} \alpha - \tan^{-1} \beta| = |\tan^{-1} 1 - \tan^{-1}(-1)|$$

$$= \left| \frac{\pi}{4} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \right|$$

$$= \left| \frac{\pi}{2} \right| = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

