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Pure Maths. 3.

Polynomials

Exercise - 1.

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Polynomials

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Q1. The polynomial $x^4 + 2x^3 + ax + b$, where a and b are constants, is divisible by $x^2 - x + 1$. Find the values of a and b . ---[5]

[S-18/31/Q4]

Q2. Find the quotient and remainder when x^4 is divided by $x^2 + 2x - 1$ ---[3]

[W-17/31/Q1]

Q3. The polynomial $4x^3 + ax + 2$, where a is a constant, is denoted by $p(x)$. It is given that $(2x+1)$ is a factor of $p(x)$.

(i) Find the value of a . ---[2]

(ii) When a has this value,

(a) factorise $p(x)$ ---[2]

(b) Solve the inequality $p(x) > 0$, justifying your answer. ---[3]

[M-16/32/Q4]

Q4. The polynomial $4x^4 + ax^2 + 11x + b$, where a and b are constants, is denoted by $p(x)$. It is given that $p(x)$ is divisible by $x^2 - x + 2$

(i) Find the values of a and b ---[5]

(ii) When a and b have these values, find the real roots of the equation $p(x) = 0$ ---[2]

[W-16/33/Q4]

Q5. The polynomial $8x^3 + ax^2 + bx - 1$, where a and b are constants, is denoted by $p(x)$. It is given that $(x+1)$ is a factor of $p(x)$ and that when $p(x)$ is divided by $(2x+1)$ the remainder is 1.

(i) Find the values of a and b ---[5]

(ii) When a and b have these values, factorise $p(x)$ completely. ---[3]

[W-15/31/Q6]

Q6. Using factor theorem, factorise completely, ---[4]

$16x^3 - 24x^2 - 15x - 2$ [S-14/31/Q6(III)]

* Q7 (i) The polynomial $f(x)$ is of the form $(x-2)^2 g(x)$, where $g(x)$ is another polynomial. Show that $(x-2)$ is a factor of $f'(x)$. ---[2]

(ii) The polynomial $x^5 + ax^4 + 3x^3 + bx^2 + a$, where a and b are constants, has a factor $(x-2)^2$. Using factor theorem and the result of part (i) or otherwise, find the values of a and b . ---[5]

[S-14/32/Q5]

Answers

Q1. $a=1$ and $b=2$

Q2. quotient = $x^2 - 2x + 5$
remainder = $-12x + 5$

Q3 (i) $a=3$

(ii) (a) $(2x+1)(2x^2-x+2)$

(b) critical value $x = -\frac{1}{2}$

as $(2x^2-x+2) = 2\left[\left(x-\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 + \frac{15}{16}\right]$
is always positive.

$\therefore p(x) > 0 \Rightarrow x > -\frac{1}{2} \checkmark$

Q4 (i) $a=1$ and $b=-6$

(ii) $p(x) = (x^2-x+2)(4x^2+4x-3)$

$x^2-x+2=0$ has no real roots.

for $4x^2+4x-3=0$

real roots are $\frac{1}{2}$ and $-\frac{3}{2} \checkmark$

Q5 (i) $a=6$ and $b=-3$

(ii) $(x+1)(8x^2-2x-1)$

or $(x+1)(4x+1)(2x-1) \checkmark$

Q6 $(x-2)(4x+1)^2$

Q7 (i) $f'(x) = (x-2)^2 g'(x) + 2(x-2)g(x)$
 $= (x-2)[(x-2)g'(x) + 2(x-2)g(x)]$

$\therefore (x-2)$ is a factor of $f'(x) \checkmark$

(ii) $p(2)=0 \Rightarrow 32+16a+24+4b+8=0$
 $\Rightarrow 17a+4b=-56 \textcircled{1}$

(continued \rightarrow)

Q7 (iii) $p'(x) = 5x^4 + 4ax^3 + 9x^2 + 2bx$

from Part (i)

$(x-2)$ is also a factor of $p'(x)$

$\Rightarrow p'(2) = 0$

$\Rightarrow 80 + 32a + 36 + 4b = 0$

$\Rightarrow 32a + 4b = -116$

or $8a + b = -29 \textcircled{2}$

Solving $\textcircled{1}$ & $\textcircled{2}$

$a = -4$ & $b = 3$

