

Mathematics Honors of Sub.
B.Sc. Part-I.
Paper-I

Topic: Symmetric function of two roots.

Q: - if α, β, γ be the roots of $x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$. find the value of $\sum \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)$

Sol: Let α, β, γ be the roots of the equation

$$x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta + \gamma = p, \text{ i.e. } \sum \alpha = p \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma = q, \text{ i.e. } \sum \alpha\beta = q \text{ --- (2)}$$

$$\text{and } \alpha\beta\gamma = r \text{ --- (3)}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)$$

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

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

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

$$= \frac{\sum \alpha^2 \beta}{\alpha\beta\gamma} \text{ --- (4)}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } \sum \alpha \sum \alpha \beta &= (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha) \\ &= \sum \alpha^2 \beta + 3\alpha\beta \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \sum \alpha^2 \beta &= \sum \alpha \sum \alpha \beta - 3\alpha\beta \\ &= (-p)q - 3r \quad [\text{from (1), (2)} \\ &\quad \text{and (3)}] \\ &= pq - 3r \end{aligned}$$

Hence from (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right) &= \frac{\sum \alpha^2 \beta}{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \frac{pq - 3r}{r} \\ &= \frac{pq}{r} - 3. \end{aligned}$$

Q1. Find the value of $\sum \frac{\alpha\beta}{\gamma^2}$ for the equation

$x^4 + px^3 + qx^2 + rx + S = 0$ where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ are its roots.

Solⁿ - If $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ are the roots of the equation $x^4 + px^3 + qx^2 + rx + S = 0$, then $\sum \alpha = -p$, $\sum \alpha\beta = q$, $\sum \alpha\beta\gamma = -r$ and $\alpha\beta\gamma\delta = S$.

Now,

Since we know that

$$\sum \alpha\beta \cdot \sum \frac{1}{\alpha^2} = (\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \alpha\delta + \beta\gamma + \beta\delta + \gamma\delta).$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\beta^2} + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} + \frac{1}{\delta^2} \right)$$

$$= \sum \frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \sum \frac{\alpha\beta}{\gamma^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Again, $\sum \alpha \sum \frac{1}{\alpha} =$

$$(\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta) \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\delta} \right)$$

$$= 4 + \sum \left(\frac{1}{\beta} \right)$$

Or, $\sum \left(\frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right) = \sum \alpha \sum \frac{1}{\alpha} - 4$

$$= (-p) \left[\frac{\sum \alpha \beta \gamma}{\alpha \beta \gamma \delta} \right] - 4$$

$$= (-p) \left(\frac{-r}{s} \right) - 4 = \frac{pr}{s} - 4 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

And $\sum \frac{1}{\alpha^2} = \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\beta^2} + \frac{1}{\gamma^2} + \frac{1}{\delta^2}$

$$= \left(\sum \frac{1}{\alpha} \right)^2 - 2 \sum \frac{1}{\alpha\beta}$$

$$= \left[\frac{\sum \alpha \beta \gamma}{\alpha \beta \gamma \delta} \right]^2 - 2 \left[\frac{\sum \alpha \beta}{\alpha \beta \gamma \delta} \right]$$

Or, $\sum \frac{1}{\alpha^2} = \left(\frac{-r}{s} \right)^2 - 2 \left(\frac{q}{s} \right)$

$$= \frac{r^2 - 2qs}{s^2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

From (1), (2) and (3), we have

$$(q) \left(\frac{r^2 - 2qs}{s^2} \right) = \left(\frac{pr}{s} - 4 \right) + \sum \frac{\alpha\beta}{\gamma^2}$$

$$\text{Or, } \sum \frac{\alpha\beta}{\gamma^2} = \frac{qr^2 - 2q2s - prs + 4s^2}{s^2}$$

Q: Find the value of symmetric function $\sum (\alpha-\beta)/(\alpha+\beta)^2$, where α, β, γ are the roots of the equation $x^3 + px^2 + qx + r = 0$.

Sol: Here α, β, γ are the roots of the equation

$$x^3 + px^2 + qx + r = 0.$$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta + \gamma = -p \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = q \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{and } \alpha\beta\gamma = -r \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\text{Now, } \sum \left(\frac{\alpha-\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \right)^2 =$$

$$\sum \left[\frac{(\alpha+\beta)^3 - 4\alpha\beta}{(\alpha+\beta)^2} \right]$$

$$= \sum \left[1 - \frac{4\alpha\beta}{(\alpha+\beta)^2} \right]$$

$$= 3 - 4 \sum \frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha+\beta)^2} = 3 - 4 \left[\frac{\sum \alpha\beta (\beta+\gamma)^2 (\gamma+\alpha)^2}{(\alpha+\beta)^2 (\beta+\gamma)^2 (\gamma+\alpha)^2} \right]$$

$$\text{But } \sum \alpha\beta (\beta+\gamma)^2 (\gamma+\alpha)^2$$

$$= \sum \alpha\beta (\gamma^2 + \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha)^2$$

