

## TMUA Practice - Algebra & Functions

1. Given that  $p$  and  $q$  are non-zero integers, the expression

$$\frac{(36^{p-q})(3^q)}{(12^{2p-q})(6^p)}$$

is an integer if:

- A  $p < 0$
- B  $q < 0$
- C  $p > 0$  and  $q < 0$
- D  $p > 0$  and  $q > 0$
- E  $p > 0$
- F  $q > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{2^{2p-2q} \cdot 3^{2p-2q} \cdot 3^q}{2^{4p-2q} \cdot 3^{2p-q} \cdot 2^p \cdot 3^p} \\
 &= 2^{2p-2q-4p+2q-p} \cdot 3^{2p-2q+q-2p+q-p} \\
 &= 2^{-3p} \cdot 3^{-p} \quad \text{integer for } p < 0 \text{ all } q
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Given that  $m = 7^8$  and  $n = 8^7$  which expression represents  $56^{56}$

- A  $mn$
- B  $(mn)^{56}$
- C  $m^7 n^8$
- D  $8m^7 + 7n^8$
- E  $(8m)^7 (7n)^8$

$$\begin{aligned}
 7^8 &= m & 8^7 &= n \\
 7^{56} &= m^7 & 8^{56} &= n^8
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 56^{56} &= 7^{56} \times 8^{56} \\
 &= \underline{\underline{m^7 n^8}}
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Find the set of values of  $x$  that satisfy both the following inequalities:

$$\frac{4x+1}{x-1} < 3$$

$$(x+2)(x-4) > 0$$

- A  $x < -4$
- B  $x > -4$
- C  $-2 < x < 1$
- D  $-4 < x < 4$
- E  $-4 < x < -2$

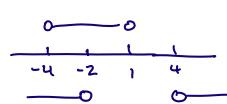
$$\frac{4x+1}{x-1} - 3 < 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (x+2)(x-4) &> 0 \\
 x^2 - 2x &> 8
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{4x+1-3x+3}{x-1} < 0$$

$$x < -2 \quad x > 4$$

$$\frac{x+4}{x-1} < 0$$



either  $x+4 > 0, x-1 < 0$

$$-4 < x < 1$$

or  $x+4 < 0, x-1 > 0$   
no solutions

logically  
 $-4 < x < -2$

4. Find the set of values of  $x$  that satisfy the following inequality:

$$\frac{3}{x+3} > \frac{x-4}{x}$$

- A  $-3 < x < 6$   
 B  $-2 < x < 6$   
 C  $-3 < x < -2$  and  $0 < x < 6$   
 D  $0 < x < 2$  and  $3 < x < 6$   
 E  $2 < x < 3$  and  $5 < x < 6$

$$3(x+3)x^2 > (x-4)(x+3)^2$$

$$(x+3)x(3x - (x^2 - x - 12)) > 0$$

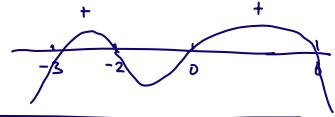
$$(x+3)x(12 + 4x - x^2) > 0$$

$$(x+3)x(6-x)(x+2) > 0$$

-ve qua<sup>tic</sup> M

$$-3 < x < -2$$

$$0 < x < 6$$

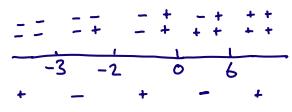


~~$$\frac{3}{x+3} - \frac{x-4}{x} > 0$$~~

$$\frac{3x - x^2 + x + 12}{x(x+3)} > 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 - 4x - 12}{x(x+3)} < 0$$

$$\frac{(x-6)(x+2)}{x(x+3)} < 0$$



5. Find the set of values of  $x$  that satisfy the following inequality, where  $p$  is a positive constant:

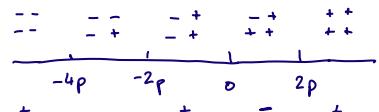
$$\frac{x+p}{x+4p} < \frac{p}{x}$$

- A  $-2p < x < 2p$   
 B  $0 < x < 2p$   
 C  $x < -4p, x > 0$   
 D  $-4p < x < -2p, 0 < x < 2p$   
 E  $-4p < x < 0, x > 2p$

$$\frac{xc+p}{x+4p} - \frac{p}{x} < 0$$

$$\frac{x^2 + px - px - 4p^2}{x(x+4p)} < 0$$

$$\frac{(x-2p)(x+2p)}{x(x+4p)} < 0$$



$$-4p < x < -2p$$

$$0 < x < 2p$$

6. A cubic curve has equation  $y = x^3 + kx - 2$  where  $k$  is a constant.  
 What value of  $k$  gives this curve exactly two distinct real roots

- A  $-3$   
 B  $-2$   
 C  $-1$   
 D  $1$   
 E  $3$

2 distinct roots  $\Rightarrow$  repeated root (A) and single root (B)

$$(x-A)^2(x-B) = (x^2 - 2Ax + A^2)(x-B)$$

$$= x^3 - x^2(2A+B) + x(A^2 + 2AB) - A^2B$$

Comparing coefficients:

$$2A+B=0 \quad ①$$

$$B=-2A \quad ①$$

$$A^2 + 2AB = k \quad ②$$

$$A^2B = 2 \quad ③$$

$$① \text{ in } ③ \quad -2A^3 = 2$$

$$A^3 = -1$$

$$A = -1 \quad B = 2$$

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

$$k = 1 + 2(-1)(2) = -3$$

7. The equation  $2x^2 + 9x - k = 0$  where  $k$  is a constant has two distinct real roots.

One root is 4 more than the other root. The value of  $k$  is

- A  $\frac{55}{8}$       B  $\frac{9}{2}$       C  $-\frac{17}{8}$       D  $-\frac{17}{4}$       E  $-\frac{55}{8}$

$$\text{Let roots} = a, a+4$$

$$(x-a)(x-a-4) = 0$$

$$x^2 - (a+a+4)x + a(a+4) = 0$$

$$2x^2 - (4a+8)x + 2a(a+4) = 0$$

$$4a+8 = -9$$

$$a = -\frac{17}{4}$$

$$-k = -\frac{17}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$k = -\frac{17}{8}$$

8. Find the minimum value of  $2(2^{\sin x}) - 4^{\sin x} + \frac{10}{3}$

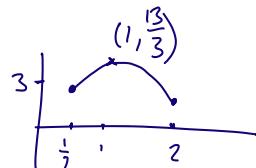
- A  $\frac{10}{3}$       B  $\frac{13}{3}$       C  $\frac{49}{12}$       D  $\frac{20}{3}$       E 0

$$\text{Let } y = 2^{\sin x}$$

$$-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq y \leq 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 2y - y^2 + \frac{10}{3} \\ & \frac{10}{3} - (y^2 - 2y) \\ & \frac{10}{3} - [(y-1)^2 - 1] \\ & \frac{13}{3} - (y-1)^2 \end{aligned}$$



Min at  $y = 2$

$$\frac{13}{3} - 1 = \frac{10}{3}$$

9. When  $(2x^2 + 6x - 3)$  is multiplied by  $(px - 1)$  and the resulting product is divided by  $(x + 1)$  the remainder is 28.

The value of  $p$  is

- A 3      B 2      C  $\frac{7}{4}$       D  $\frac{3}{2}$       E  $\frac{28}{5}$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = (2x^2 + 6x - 3)(px - 1)$$

$$f(-1) = 28$$

$$(2 - 6 - 3)(-p - 1) = 28$$

$$7(p+1) = 28$$

$$p = 3$$

10. The simultaneous equations below have two distinct real solutions

$$3x^2 - xy = 4 \text{ and } 2x - y = p \quad \text{where } p \text{ is a real constant}$$

What are the values that  $p$  can take

$$y = 2x - p$$

- A there are no possible values for  $p$
- B  $p < -4, p > 4$
- C  $-4 < p < 4$
- D  $p$  can take any value

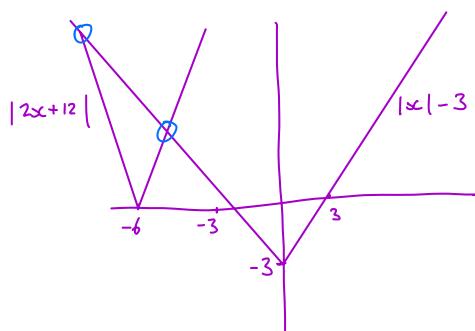
$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 - 2x^2 + xp &= 4 \\ x^2 + px - 4 &= 0 \\ \Delta &> 0 \\ p^2 + 4(4) &> 0 \\ p^2 + 16 &> 0 \end{aligned}$$

true for all  $p$

11. What is the sum of the solutions of the following equation

$$|x| - 3 = |2x + 12|$$

- A -14
- B -4
- C 0
- D 4
- E 14



$$\begin{aligned} -x - 3 &= 2x + 12 & -x - 3 &= -2x - 12 \\ 3x &= -15 & x &= -9 \\ x &= -5 & & \end{aligned}$$

$$-5 - 9 = -14$$

12. How many solutions are there to the following equation:

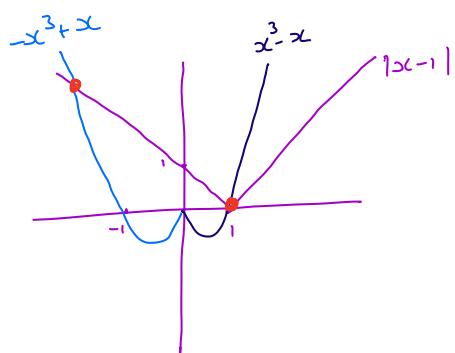
$$|x| + |x - 1| = |x^3|$$

- A 0
- B 1
- C 2
- D 3
- E 4

$$|x-1| = |x^3| - |x|$$

$$\begin{aligned} x > 0 & \quad |x^3| - |x| = x^3 - x \\ &= x(x^2 - 1) \\ &= x(x-1)(x+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x < 0 & \quad |x^3| - |x| = -x^3 + x \\ &= -x(x^2 - 1) \\ &= -x(x-1)(x+1) \end{aligned}$$

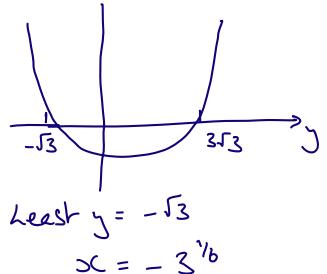


13. Given that  $(a^3 + \frac{3}{b^3})(b^3 - \frac{3}{a^3}) = 2\sqrt{3}$  where  $a, b$  are real numbers,

then the least value of  $ab$  is

- A  $-\sqrt{3}$
- B  $\sqrt{3}$
- C  $-3\sqrt{3}$
- D  $3\sqrt{3}$
- E  $-3^{\frac{1}{6}}$
- F  $3^{\frac{1}{6}}$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 b^3 + 3 - 3 - \frac{9}{a^3 b^3} &= 2\sqrt{3} \\ x = ab &\quad x^3 - \frac{9}{x^3} = 2\sqrt{3} \\ y = x^3 &\quad y - \frac{9}{y} = 2\sqrt{3} \\ y = (ab)^3 &\quad y^2 - 2\sqrt{3}y - 9 = 0 \\ (y - 3\sqrt{3})(y + \sqrt{3}) &= 0 \\ \text{min value } ab &= \underline{\underline{-3^{\frac{1}{6}}}} \end{aligned}$$



14. The function  $f$  is defined such that  $3f(x) + 2f(-x) = 5x - 10$   
 find the value of  $f(1)$

- A 0
- B 1
- C 2
- D 3
- E 4

$$\begin{aligned} 3f(x) + 2f(-x) &= 5x - 10 \\ 3f(-x) + 2f(x) &= -5x - 10 \\ \hline 5f(x) &= 25x - 20 \\ f(x) &= 5x - 2 \\ f(1) &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

15. The function  $f$  satisfies  $2f(x) - f\left(\frac{2x+3}{x-2}\right) = 2x - 2$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

What is the value of  $f(9)$

- A 16
- B 12
- C 8
- D -12
- E -16

$$\begin{aligned} x = 9 &\quad 2f(9) - f(9) = 16 \quad \textcircled{1} \\ x = 3 &\quad 2f(3) - f(9) = 4 \\ \textcircled{1} \times 2 &\quad \begin{bmatrix} 4f(9) - 2f(3) = 32 \\ 2f(3) - f(9) = 4 \end{bmatrix} + \\ &\quad \hline 3f(9) = 36 \\ f(9) &= 12 \\ f(3) &= 8 \end{aligned}$$