



Edexcel A Level FM Revision Questions: Solutions

Sequences, series; induction; roots of equations (real)

Question 1

For the recurrence relation $u_{n+1} = u_n + 2^{n+1}$ ----- (A) with $u_1 = 5$

Prove true for $n = 1$ $u_1 = 5$ $u_1 = 2^{1+1} + 1 = 5$ check

Assume statement is true for $n = k \Rightarrow u_k = 2^{k+1} + 1$ ----- (B)

Prove that the statement is true for $n = k + 1$

We need to prove the statement $\Rightarrow u_{k+1} = 2^{k+2} + 1$ ----- (C)

Consider *LHS* u_{k+1} $u_{k+1} = u_k + 2^{k+1}$ from (A)

$$u_{k+1} = 2^{k+1} + 1 + 2^{k+1} \quad \text{using (B)}$$

$$u_{k+1} = 2 \times 2^{k+1} + 1 \quad \Rightarrow u_{k+1} = 2^1 \times 2^{k+1} + 1$$

$u_{k+1} = 2^{k+2} + 1$ which is statement C as required ... thus proved.

Question 2

$$1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + n^3 = \frac{1}{4}n^2(n + 1)^2$$

Prove statement true for $n = 1$ LHS = 1 RHS = $\frac{1}{4}1^2(1 + 1)^2 = 1$
check

Assume statement true for $n = k$

$$1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + k^3 = \frac{1}{4}k^2(k + 1)^2 \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

Prove statement true for $n = k + 1$

We need to show that

$$1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + k^3 + (k + 1)^3 = \frac{1}{4}(k + 1)^2(k + 2)^2 \quad \text{--- (B)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + k^3 + (k + 1)^3 &= \frac{1}{4}k^2(k + 1)^2 + (k + 1)^3 && \text{from statement (A)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}k^2(k + 1)^2 + (k + 1)^3 \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(k + 1)^2\{k^2 + 4(k + 1)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + k^3 + (k + 1)^3 = \frac{1}{4}(k + 1)^2(k + 2)^2 \text{ which is statement B thus proved}$$

Question 3

Prove statement true for n = 0

$$5^0 + 2 \times 11^0 = 3 \quad \text{check}$$

Assume statement true for n = k

$$5^k + 2 \times 11^k = 3 \times P \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

Prove statement true for n = k + 1

We need to show that $5^{k+1} + 2 \times 11^{k+1}$ is divisible by 3

$$\begin{aligned} 5^{k+1} + 2 \times 11^{k+1} &= 5 \times 5^k + 2 \times 11^{k+1} \\ &= 5 \times (3 \times P - 2 \times 11^k) + 2 \times 11^{k+1} && \text{from statement (A)} \\ &= 5 \times 3 \times P - 10 \times 11^k + 2 \times 11^{k+1} \\ &= 5 \times 3 \times P - 10 \times 11^k + 2 \times 11 \times 11^k \\ &= 5 \times 3 \times P + 12 \times 11^k \end{aligned}$$

$$5^{k+1} + 2 \times 11^{k+1} = 3 \times (5 \times P + 4 \times 11^k) \text{ which is divisible by 3 so statement proved.}$$

Question 4

$$(a) \quad \alpha + \beta + \gamma = \left\{ -\frac{b}{a} \right\} \Rightarrow 3 = -p \quad \Rightarrow p = -3$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma = \left\{ \frac{c}{a} \right\} \quad \Rightarrow \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma = q$$

$$\text{Now } (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)^2 = \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 + 2(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma) \quad \Rightarrow 9 = 4 + 2q \quad \Rightarrow q = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$(b) \quad \text{roots of } 2x^3 - 5x^2 + ux + v = 0 \text{ are } w, 10, -6w$$

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = \left\{ -\frac{b}{a} \right\} \Rightarrow w + 10w - 6w = \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow 5w = \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow w = \frac{1}{2}$$

Roots are $\frac{1}{2}$, 5 and -3

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma = \left\{ \frac{c}{a} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \times 5 + 5 \times -3 + \frac{1}{2} \times 3 = \frac{u}{2} \Rightarrow u = -28$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = \left\{ \frac{d}{a} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \times 5 \times -3 = \frac{v}{2} \Rightarrow v = 15$$

Question 5

The roots of the cubic equation $x^3 - 4x^2 + 8x + 7 = 0$ are α, β and γ .

Find the cubic equation whose roots are $2\alpha + 1, 2\beta + 1$ and $2\gamma + 1$.

The new roots (y) are related to the old roots (x) by the transformation $y = 2x + 1$

Thus to transform $x \rightarrow y$, we need to substitute into the equation for the old roots

$$x = \frac{y-1}{2}$$

to give the equation of the new roots.

$$\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right)^3 - 4\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right) + 7 = 0$$

X 8

$$8\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right)^3 - 32\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right)^2 + 64\left(\frac{y-1}{2}\right) + 56 = 0$$

$$y^3 - 3y^2 + 3y - 1 - 8y^2 + 16y - 8 + 32y - 32 + 56 = 0$$

$$y^3 - 11y^2 + 51y + 15 = 0$$

Question 6

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)(1-2n^2)$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = 3 \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 - 4 \sum_{r=1}^n r^3$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = 3 \times \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(2n+1) - 4 \times \frac{1}{4}n^2(n+1)^2$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)(2n+1) - n^2(n+1)^2$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)[(2n+1) - 2n(n+1)]$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)(1+2n-2n-2n^2)$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2(3-4r) = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)(1-2n^2)$$

Question 7

$$\frac{1}{r(r+2)} = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{r} - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{r+2}$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n \frac{1}{r(r+2)} = \sum_{r=1}^n \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{r} - \sum_{r=1}^n \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{r+2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-2} + \frac{1}{n-1} + \frac{1}{n} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{1}{n+2} \right)$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n \frac{1}{r(r+2)} = \frac{n(3n+5)}{4(n+1)(n+2)}$$

$$A = 3 \text{ and } B = 5$$

Question 8

$$2r + 5 = A(2r + 1)(2r + 3) + B(2r - 1)(2r + 3) + C(2r - 1)(2r + 1)$$

$$\text{Let } r = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 6 = A \times 2 \times 4 \Rightarrow A = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\text{Let } r = -\frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 4 = B \times -2 \times 2 \Rightarrow B = -1$$

$$\text{Let } r = -\frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow 2 = C \times -4 \times -2 \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{Thus } A + B + C = 0$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n \frac{2r+5}{(2r-1)(2r+1)(2r+3)} = \frac{3}{4 \times 1} + \frac{3}{4 \times 3} + \frac{3}{4 \times 5} + \dots + \frac{3}{4(2n-3)} + \frac{3}{4(2n-1)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} - \dots - \frac{1}{(2n-3)} - \frac{1}{(2n-1)} - \frac{1}{(2n+1)} \\
&= +\frac{1}{4 \times 5} + \dots + \frac{1}{4(2n-3)} + \frac{1}{4(2n-1)} + \frac{1}{4(2n+1)} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4(2n+3)} \\
\sum_{r=1}^n \frac{2r+5}{(2r-1)(2r+1)(2r+3)} &= \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4(2n+1)} \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4(2n+3)}
\end{aligned}$$

Be careful about lining up similar terms to aid the calculation.

$$\text{Thus } P = \frac{2}{3}, \quad Q = -\frac{3}{4} \text{ and } R = \frac{1}{4}$$