

B.Math 2013 entrance  
paper-problem-3-solution

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**Problem 3.**

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function satisfying  $|f(x+y) - f(x-y) - y| \leq y^2$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that,  $f(x) = \frac{x}{2} + a$ , where  $a$  is a constant.

**Solution:**

Let's define a function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , by  $g(x) = f(x) - (\frac{x}{2})$ .

The given condition reads as,  $|f(x+y) - f(x-y) - y| \leq y^2$

$$\implies |f(x+y) - (\frac{x+y}{2}) - f(x-y) + (\frac{x-y}{2})| \leq y^2$$

$$\implies |\{f(x+y) - (\frac{x+y}{2})\} - \{f(x-y) - (\frac{x-y}{2})\}| \leq y^2$$

$$\implies |g(x+y) - g(x-y)| \leq y^2.$$

Now, let's calculate the following limit.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(\frac{x+c}{2} + \frac{x-c}{2}) - g(\frac{x+c}{2} - \frac{x-c}{2})}{x - c},$$

but the above condition says that,  $|g(\frac{x+c}{2} + \frac{x-c}{2}) - g(\frac{x+c}{2} - \frac{x-c}{2})| \leq (\frac{x-c}{2})^2$ ;

Dividing both side of the inequality by  $|x - c|$ ,

$$\text{we see that } \left| \frac{g(\frac{x+c}{2} + \frac{x-c}{2}) - g(\frac{x+c}{2} - \frac{x-c}{2})}{x - c} \right| \leq \frac{|x-c|}{4}.$$

now taking limit as  $x \rightarrow c$ , and using sandwich principle we observe that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} = 0.$$

Hence,  $g$  is differentiable on whole of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $g'(c) = 0 \forall c \in \mathbb{R}$

$\implies g$  is a constant function.

$\implies g(x) = a$  for some constant  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$\implies f(x) - (\frac{x}{2}) = a$

$\implies f(x) = (\frac{x}{2}) + a$ . **QED**

### ISI B.Stat. (Hons.) & B.Math. (Hons.) 2013 Subjective Solution Paper

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \quad S &= \log_a bc + \log_b ac + \log_c ba \\
 &= \log_a b + \log_a c + \log_b c + \log_b a + \log_c a + \log_c b \\
 &= \frac{\log b}{\log a} + \frac{\log c}{\log a} + \frac{\log c}{\log b} + \frac{\log a}{\log b} + \frac{\log a}{\log c} + \frac{\log b}{\log c} \\
 &= \left( \frac{\log b}{\log a} + \frac{\log a}{\log b} \right) + \left( \frac{\log c}{\log a} + \frac{\log a}{\log c} \right) + \left( \frac{\log c}{\log b} + \frac{\log b}{\log c} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now applying AM  $\geq$  GM inequalities we get,

$$\geq 2 + 2 + 2 = 6.$$

$$2. \quad f'(x) = \frac{2\sin x - 1}{(x + 2\cos x)^2} = 0 \text{ gives } x = \frac{\pi}{6}.$$

$$f(0) = \frac{1}{2}; \quad f\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{\frac{\pi}{6} + \sqrt{3}} \approx 0.44$$

The function is decreasing in the interval  $\left[0, \frac{\pi}{6}\right)$

$$\text{Now, } f\left(\pi - \frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{\frac{5\pi}{6} + \sqrt{3}} \approx 1.13$$

For  $x$  in  $\left[\frac{\pi}{6}, \frac{5\pi}{6}\right]$ ,  $f(x)$  is positive & then again it becomes decreasing function.

So, the range of the function is  $\left(0, \frac{6}{5\pi - 6\sqrt{3}}\right]$ .

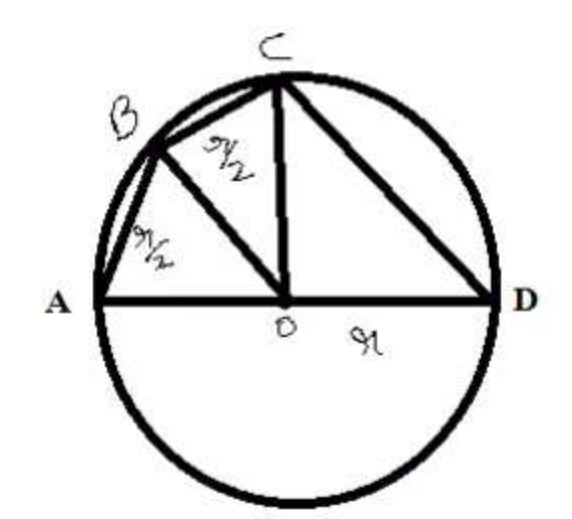
3. Given that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -y^2 \leq f(x+y) - f(x-y) - y \leq y^2 \\
 \Rightarrow & -y^2 + y \leq f(x+y) - f(x-y) \leq y^2 + y \\
 \Rightarrow & \frac{-y^2 + y}{(x+y) - (x-y)} \leq \frac{f(x+y) - f(x-y)}{(x+y) - (x-y)} \leq \frac{y^2 + y}{(x+y) - (x-y)} \\
 \Rightarrow & \lim_{2y \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{y}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \leq \lim_{2y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+y) - f(x-y)}{(x+y) - (x-y)} \leq \lim_{2y \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{y}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \\
 \Rightarrow & \frac{1}{2} \leq \lim_{2y \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+y) - f(x-y)}{(x+y) - (x-y)} \leq \frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

So,  $f(x)$  is a linear function  $y = ax + c$ , where  $a = \frac{1}{2}$  &  $c$  is a constant.

4. Suppose there is no such player. Say X be the player with highest number of names in his list. Let A be the set of players in list of X whom X has directly defeated and B be the set of other players of X's list. Since there is no player with all others names, say X does not have Y's name. This implies Y has beaten X and hence in Y's list, there is X and also each member of set A. Now the members of set B are in X's list because each is beaten by someone of set A. Now if a member of set A beats Y, that would imply that Y is in X's list, which is not so. Hence Y has beaten each member of set A, which further implies he has the names of set B also in his list. Thus Y is a player with more names in his list than that of X, a contradiction.

5.



Let  $\angle AOB = \angle BOC = m$

$$\cos m = \frac{OA^2 + OB^2 - AB^2}{2 \times OA \times OB} = \frac{r^2 + r^2 - \frac{r^2}{4}}{2r^2} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$\text{Then } \cos 2m = 2\cos^2 m - 1 = \frac{34}{64}$$

Using Cosine Rule in  $\triangle AOC$ , we get  $AC^2 = OA^2 + OC^2 - 2 \times OA \times OC \cos 2m$

$$\text{So, } AC^2 = \frac{2r^2 \times 30}{64}$$

$$\text{Now, } CD^2 = AD^2 - AC^2 = \frac{2r^2 \times 98}{64}$$

$$\text{So, } CD = \frac{7r}{4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{CD}{r} = \frac{7}{4}$$

6.

Assume  $P(x) - Q(x) = F(x)$ . We will show that  $F(x)$  has repeated roots of  $x = 1$ . To prove this we will show that the derivatives of  $F(x)$  also has roots  $x = 1$ .

$$(P(x))^3 - (Q(x))^3 = P(x^3) - Q(x^3) .$$

$$\Rightarrow (P - Q)^3 + 3PQ(P - Q) = P(x^3) - Q(x^3)$$

$$\Rightarrow (F(x))^3 + 3PQF(x) = F(x^3)$$

Since sum of coefficients of  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  are equal hence  $P(1) = Q(1)$ . Thus  $F(1) = P(1) - Q(1) = 0$ .

Taking the Derivative we have

$$3(F(x))^2 F'(x) + 3(P'QF + PQ'F + PQF') = 3x^2 F'(x^3)$$

If we replace  $x$  by 1; all terms containing  $F$  will vanish. Since  $P(1)$  and  $Q(1)$  equals  $S$

We have  $S^2 F'(1) = F'(1)$  implying either  $F'(1) = 0$  or  $S^2 = 1$

If  $S^2 \neq 1$  we continue the differentiation. Again ignoring all terms containing  $F$  and  $F'$  (since  $F(1) = F'(1) = 0$ ), we have  $S^2 F^2(1) = 3F^2(1)$  implying either  $S^2 = 3 \vee F^2(1) = 0$  .

By induction we can easily show that if we perform  $a$  times differentiation we will have

$F^a(1) = 0$  or  $S^2 = 3^{a-1}$  (one 3 will be generated in each differentiation from the  $x^3$  term; all the derivatives till  $a-1$ th derivative will be ignored as at  $x = 1$  they are 0.

(This is a sketch of the solution. The induction should be implemented at this step.)

Hence  $F(x) = P(x) - Q(x) = (x-1)^a R(x)$  and  $S^2 = 3^{a-1}$  .

7. For  $N$  be a positive integer  $N(N - 101)$  be a perfect square.

Since 101 is a prime number, so both  $N$  and  $N - 101$  should be perfect squares.

Note that all consecutive perfect squares have a difference of successive odd numbers like

$$2^2 - 1^2 = 3$$

$$3^2 - 2^2 =$$

$$4^2 - 3^2 = 7$$

.....

$$51^2 - 50^2 = 101$$

So,  $N = 51^2$  or 2601 is our required solution.

8. Since ABCD is a square so  $AB \parallel CD$ .

Hence the equation to the line passing through C and D must be  $y = x + c$  (where  $c$  is a constant)  
That is the slope is 1 ( as the line AB is  $y = x + 8$ ; it has slope 1) and the y-intercept is  $c$ .

Let the line  $y = x + c$  intersect the parabola  $y = x^2$  at  $\alpha, \beta$  (x coordinates).

Thus  $x^2 = x + c$  has the solutions  $\alpha, \beta$  .

Using Sridhar's formula  $x = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1+4c}}{2}$  . These must be the values of  $\alpha, \beta$  . Thus  
 $\alpha - \beta = \sqrt{1+4c}$

Distance between the lines  $y = x + 8$  and  $y = x + c$  is  $\frac{|c-8|}{\sqrt{2}}$

Also the coordinates of C and D are  $(\alpha, \alpha + c), (\beta, \beta + c)$  . Hence the length  $CD = \sqrt{2}(\alpha - \beta)$   
(using distance formula). Since  $\alpha - \beta = \sqrt{1+4c}$  ; the length of  $CD = \sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+4c}$  .

This length CD equals the distance between lines  $y = x + 8$  and  $y = x + c$  since ABCD is a square.

Thus  $\frac{|c-8|}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+4c}$  ; squaring both sides we have  $(c-8)^2 = 4(1+4c)$  .

From here we solve for  $c$ :  $c^2 - 16c + 64 = 4 + 16c$  or  $c^2 - 32c + 60 = 0$   
Thus  $(c-30)(c-2) = 0$

Therefore  $c$  may have two values : 30 and 2

**Hence the possible length of sides are  $11\sqrt{2}$  or  $3\sqrt{2}$**

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