

MA129 Lab Report 1 - Pre-Calculus Topics

Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Winter 2017

1. [11 marks] Simplify each of the following expressions. Where appropriate, express your final answer with positive, rational exponents.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a)} \quad & (t-1)^2(t+2) - (t^2-1)(3+t) \\
 &= (t^2 - 2t + 1)(t+2) - (3t^2 + t^3 - 3 - t) \\
 &= t^3 + 2t^2 - 2t^2 - 4t + t + 2 - 3t^2 - t^3 + 3 + t \\
 &= -3t^2 - 2t + 5
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(b)} \quad & \frac{m-1}{m^2-2m-8} + \frac{m+1}{m^2+m-2} \\
 & \frac{m-1}{m^2-2m-8} + \frac{m+1}{m^2+m-2} = \frac{m-1}{(m-4)(m+2)} + \frac{m+1}{(m-1)(m+2)} \\
 &= \frac{(m-1)(m-1) + (m+1)(m-4)}{(m-4)(m+2)(m-1)} \\
 &= \frac{m^2 - 2m + 1 + m^2 - 3m - 4}{(m-4)(m+2)(m-1)} \\
 &= \frac{2m^2 - 5m - 3}{(m-4)(m+2)(m-1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(c)} \quad & \frac{8^{2/3}x^{3/5}(y^{-4})^{1/3}}{x^{-1/5}y^{-1/3}} \\
 & \frac{8^{2/3}x^{3/5}(y^{-4})^{1/3}}{x^{-1/5}y^{-1/3}} = \frac{(8^{1/3})^2x^{3/5}y^{-4/3}}{x^{-1/5}y^{-1/3}} \\
 &= \frac{4x^{4/5}}{y}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(d)} \quad & \left(\frac{2}{x} + \frac{4}{x-1}\right) \div \left(\frac{3}{x-1} - \frac{1}{x}\right) \\
 &= \frac{2(x-1) + 4x}{x(x-1)} \cdot \frac{3x - (x-1)}{x(x-1)} \\
 &= \frac{2x - 2 + 4x}{x(x-1)} \cdot \frac{x(x-1)}{3x - x + 1} \\
 &= \frac{6x - 2}{x(x-1)} \cdot \frac{x(x-1)}{2x + 1} = \frac{6x - 2}{2x + 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

2. [5 marks] If two receivers with resistances R_1 and R_2 are connected in parallel, then the formula

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$$

relates the total resistance R for the circuit.

- (a) Given that R_1 is 3 ohms and R is 2 ohms, find R_2 .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} &= \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{R_2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{R_2} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{R_2} = \frac{3}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{6} \Rightarrow R_2 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Suppose instead that $R = 1.2$ ohms, and R_1 is 1 ohm larger than R_2 . Find R_1 and R_2 . [Note: R_1 and R_2 cannot be negative.]

$$R = 1.2 \text{ and } R_1 = R_2 + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{1}{R} &= \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1.2} = \frac{1}{R_2 + 1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1.2} = \frac{R_2 + (R_2 + 1)}{R_2(R_2 + 1)} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1.2} = \frac{2R_2 + 1}{R_2^2 + R_2} \\ &\Rightarrow R_2^2 + R_2 = 2.4R_2 + 1.2 \\ &\Rightarrow R_2^2 - 1.4R_2 - 1.2 = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (R_2 - 2)(R_2 + 0.6) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $R_2 \geq 0$, $R_2 = 2$ ohms and $R_1 = 3$ ohms.

3. [3 marks] Solve $-2 < \frac{2+4x}{-3} \leq 4$ for x . State your result using interval notation.

$$\begin{aligned} -2 < \frac{2+4x}{-3} \leq 4 &\Leftrightarrow 6 > 2+4x \geq -12 \\ &\Leftrightarrow 4 > 4x \geq -14 \\ &\Leftrightarrow 1 > x \geq -\frac{14}{4} = -\frac{7}{2} \quad \therefore x \in \left[-\frac{7}{2}, 1\right) \end{aligned}$$

4. [4 marks] A laptop manufacturer has estimated that the profit in thousands of dollars is given by the expression $-5x^2 + 25x - 15$ where x (in thousands) is the number of units produced. What production range will enable the manufacturer to realize a profit of at least \$15,000?

We need to solve the inequality $-5x^2 + 25x - 15 \geq 15$, or, equivalently, $5x^2 - 25x + 30 \leq 0$.

$$\text{Solve: } 5x^2 - 25x + 30 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 5(x^2 - 5x + 6) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 5(x-3)(x-2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3, x = 2$$

$$| (-\infty, 2) | (2, 3) | (3, \infty)$$

$$\frac{5(x-3)(x-2)}{5(x-3)(x-2)} \quad | \quad + \quad | \quad - \quad | \quad +$$

\therefore the solution to $5x^2 - 25x + 30 \leq 0$ is $[2, 3]$. A production range of 2000 to 3000 laptops will enable the manufacturer to realize a profit of at least \$15,000.