

Theory of equations: Relation between roots and coefficients

Let us consider a general equation of n th degree

$$a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + a_2 x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1} x + a_n = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where $a_0 \neq 0$.

Suppose $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$ are the n roots of equation (1).

Then

$$a_0(x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2)(x - \alpha_3) \dots (x - \alpha_n) = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Comparing equation (1) and (2) we get the relation between roots and coefficients as follows.

$$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_n = \sum \alpha_i = -\frac{a_1}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 + \alpha_1 \alpha_3 + \alpha_1 \alpha_4 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1} \alpha_n + \alpha_n \alpha_1 = \sum \alpha_i \alpha_j = \frac{a_2}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 + \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_4 + \alpha_1 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 + \dots + \alpha_n \alpha_1 \alpha_2 = \sum \alpha_i \alpha_j \alpha_k = -\frac{a_3}{a_0}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \dots \alpha_n = \prod \alpha_i = (-1)^n \frac{a_n}{a_0}$$

For example

(a) let α, β be the roots of equation $a_0 x^2 + a_1 x + a_2 = 0$. Then the relations will be

$$\alpha + \beta = -\frac{a_1}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta = \frac{a_2}{a_0}$$

(b) let α, β, γ be the roots of equation $a_0 x^3 + a_1 x^2 + a_2 x + a_3 = 0$. Then the relations will be

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -\frac{a_1}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta + \beta \gamma + \gamma \alpha = \frac{a_2}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta \gamma = -\frac{a_3}{a_0}$$

(c) let $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ be the roots of equation $a_0 x^4 + a_1 x^3 + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x + a_4 = 0$. Then the relations will be

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta = -\frac{a_1}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta + \beta \gamma + \gamma \delta + \delta \alpha = \frac{a_2}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta \gamma + \beta \gamma \delta + \gamma \delta \alpha + \delta \alpha \beta = -\frac{a_3}{a_0}$$

$$\alpha \beta \gamma \delta = \frac{a_4}{a_0}$$

Ex1. Solve the equation $x^4 + 2x^3 - 21x^2 - 22x + 40 = 0$, given that the roots being in A.P.

Ans. Let the roots are $\alpha - 3d, \alpha - d, \alpha + d, \alpha + 3d$.

Then

$$(\alpha - 3d) + (\alpha - d) + (\alpha + d) + (\alpha + 3d) = -2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$(\alpha - 3d)\{(\alpha - d) + (\alpha + d) + (\alpha + 3d)\} + (\alpha - d)\{(\alpha + d) + (\alpha + 3d)\} + (\alpha + d)(\alpha + 3d) = -21 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(\alpha - 3d)(\alpha^2 - d^2) + (\alpha^2 - 9d^2)(\alpha - d) + (\alpha^2 - 9d^2)(\alpha + d) + (\alpha^2 - d^2)(\alpha + 3d) = 22 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(\alpha^2 - 9d^2)(\alpha^2 - d^2) = 40 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

From (1)

$$\alpha - 3d + \alpha - d + \alpha + d + \alpha + 3d = -2$$

$$\text{or, } 4\alpha = -2$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = -\frac{1}{2}$$

From (4)

$$(\alpha^2 - 9d^2)(\alpha^2 - d^2) = 40$$

$$\text{or, } \left(\frac{1}{4} - 9d^2\right)\left(\frac{1}{4} - d^2\right) = 40$$

$$\text{or, } (1 - 36d^2)(1 - 4d^2) = 640$$

$$\text{or, } 1 - 36d^2 - 4d^2 + 144d^4 = 640$$

$$\text{or, } 144d^4 - 40d^2 - 639 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } d^2 = \frac{40 \pm \sqrt{1600 - 4 \cdot 144 \cdot (-639)}}{2 \cdot 144}$$

$$\text{or, } d^2 = \frac{40 \pm 608}{288}$$

$$d^2 = \frac{40 + 608}{288} \quad [\text{Taking +ve sign for real value}]$$

$$\text{or, } d^2 = \frac{648}{288} = \frac{9}{4}$$

$$\text{or, } d = \pm \frac{3}{2}$$

Taking $d = \frac{3}{2}$ the roots are

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha - 3d, \alpha - d, \alpha + d, \alpha + 3d \\ -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{9}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{9}{2} \\ -5, -2, 1, 4 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Taking } d = -\frac{3}{2} \text{ the roots are} \\ \alpha - 3d, \alpha - d, \alpha + d, \alpha + 3d \\ -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{9}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{9}{2} \\ 4, 1, -2, -5 \end{array}$$

Hence the required roots are $-5, -2, 1, 4$,

②

Ex 2. Solve the equation $3x^3 - 26x^2 + 52x - 24 = 0$ given that the roots being in G.P.

Ans. Let the roots are $\frac{\alpha}{p}$, α and αp .

Then

$$\alpha\left(\frac{1}{p} + 1 + p\right) = \frac{26}{3} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{p} \cdot \alpha \cdot \alpha p = \frac{24}{3} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

From (2) $\alpha^3 = 8$
 $\alpha = 2$

From (1) $2\left(\frac{1}{p} + 1 + p\right) = \frac{26}{3}$

$$\text{or } 3\frac{(1+p+p^2)}{p} = 13$$

$$\text{or } 3 + 3p + 3p^2 - 13p = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3p^2 - 10p + 3 = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3p^2 - 9p - p + 3 = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3p(p-3) - (p-3) = 0$$

$$\text{or } (p-3)(3p-1) = 0$$

$$\text{or } p = 3, \frac{1}{3}$$

if $p=3$ the roots are	} if $p=\frac{1}{3}$ the roots are
$\frac{\alpha}{p}, \alpha, \alpha p$	
$\frac{2}{3}, 2, 6$	
	$\frac{\alpha}{p}, \alpha, \alpha p$
	$6, 2, \frac{2}{3}$

Hence, the required roots are $\frac{2}{3}, 2, 6$.

Ex 3. If the roots of the equation $x^3 + 3px^2 + 3qx + r = 0$ be in H.P., then show that $2q^3 = r(3pq - r)$.

Ans. Let α, β, γ be the roots of the given equation.

Then $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -3p$ --- (1)

$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = 3q$ --- (2)

$\alpha\beta\gamma = -r$ --- (3)

Also given $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = \frac{2}{\gamma}$ [$\because \alpha, \beta, \gamma$ are in H.P.]

$\Rightarrow \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma = 2\alpha\gamma$ --- (4)

From (2) & (4) we get

$$3\alpha\gamma = 3q$$
$$\text{or, } \alpha\gamma = q \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

By (3) $\div$ (5) we get

$$\frac{\alpha\beta\gamma}{\alpha\gamma} = -\frac{r}{q}$$
$$\text{or, } \beta = -\frac{r}{q} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

From equation (4)

$$\beta(\alpha + \gamma) = 2q$$
$$\text{or, } -\frac{r}{q}(\alpha + \gamma) = 2q \quad [\text{using eq}^n (6)]$$
$$\text{or, } \alpha + \gamma = -\frac{2q^2}{r} \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

From (1)

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -3p$$
$$\text{or, } \alpha + \gamma = -3p - \beta$$
$$\text{or, } -\frac{2q^2}{r} = -3p - \left(-\frac{r}{q}\right) \quad [\text{using eq}^n (7)]$$
$$\text{or, } \frac{2q^2}{r} = +\left(3p - \frac{r}{q}\right)$$
$$\text{or, } \frac{2q^2}{r} = \frac{3pq - r}{q}$$
$$\text{or, } 2q^3 = r(3pq - r) \quad (\text{Proved})$$

Ex 4. If the roots of the equation $x^3 - ax^2 + x - b = 0$ be in H.P., then show that the mean root is $3b$.

Ans. Let α, β, γ be the roots of the given equation.

Then $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = a \quad \text{--- (1)}$

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

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

Also $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} = \frac{2}{b} \quad [\because \alpha, \beta, \gamma \text{ are in H.P.}]$

$$\text{or, } \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma = 2\alpha\gamma \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

From (2) and (4)

$$3\alpha\gamma = 1$$
$$\text{or, } \alpha\gamma = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

By $(3) \div (5)$

$$\frac{\alpha\beta\gamma}{\alpha\gamma} = \frac{b}{\frac{1}{3}}$$

or, $\beta = 3b$ (Proved)

Ex 5. If the sum of two roots be equal to the third root of the equation $x^3 + px^2 + qx + r = 0$. Then prove that $p^3 - 4pq + 8r = 0$

Ans. Let α, β, γ be the roots of the equation

$$x^3 + px^2 + qx + r = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

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

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = q \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = -r \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Also, according to the given condition

$$\alpha + \beta = \gamma \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

From (2) and (5)

$$2\gamma = -p$$

$$\text{or, } \gamma = -\frac{p}{2}$$

Since γ is a root of equation (1) we have

$$\gamma^3 + p\gamma^2 + q\gamma + r = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^3 + p\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 + q\left(-\frac{p}{2}\right) + r = 0$$

$$\text{or, } -\frac{p^3}{8} + \frac{p^3}{4} - \frac{pq}{2} + r = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{p^3}{8} - \frac{pq}{2} + r = 0$$

$$\text{or, } p^3 - 4pq + 8r = 0 \text{ (Proved)}$$

Ex 6. If one root of the equation $x^3 + ax + b = 0$ be twice the difference of the other two, then show that one root is $\frac{13b}{3a}$.

Ans. Let α, β, γ be the roots of the given equation

$$x^3 + ax + b = 0$$

Then $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$

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

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

(5)

Also ~~given~~ according to the given condition

$$\alpha = 2(\beta - \gamma) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

From (1) and (4)

$$\alpha = 2(\beta - \gamma)$$

$$\text{or } -\beta - \gamma = 2\beta - 2\gamma$$

$$\text{or, } \gamma = 3\beta \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

From (2) and (5)

$$\alpha(\beta + \gamma) + \beta\gamma = a$$

$$\text{or, } -(\beta + \gamma)^2 + \beta\gamma = a \quad [\text{using eqn (1)}]$$

$$\text{or, } -(\beta + 3\beta)^2 + \beta \cdot 3\beta = a$$

$$\text{or, } -16\beta^2 + 3\beta^2 = a$$

$$\text{or, } -13\beta^2 = a$$

$$\text{or, } \beta^2 = -\frac{a}{13} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

By (3) $\div 6$

$$\frac{\alpha\beta\gamma}{\beta^2} = -\frac{b}{13}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{\alpha \cdot \beta \cdot 3\beta}{\beta^2} = \frac{13b}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } 3\alpha = \frac{13b}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = \frac{13b}{3a} \quad (\text{Proved})$$

Ex7. If the equation $ax^3 + 3bx^2 + 3cx + d = 0$ has two equal roots, then show that $(bc - ad)^2 = 4(b^2 - ac)(c^2 - bd)$ and each of the equal roots is $\frac{bc - ad}{2(ac - b^2)}$.

Ans. Let α, α, β be the roots of the given equation $ax^3 + 3bx^2 + 3cx + d = 0$ --- (1)

$$\text{Then } \alpha + \alpha + \beta = -\frac{3b}{a} \Rightarrow 2\alpha + \beta = -\frac{3b}{a} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\alpha \cdot \alpha + \alpha\beta + \alpha\beta = \frac{3c}{a} \Rightarrow \alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta = \frac{3c}{a} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\alpha^2\beta = -\frac{d}{a} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Applying (2) $\times$ (3)

$$4\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta = -\frac{6b}{a}\alpha$$

$$-\alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta = \frac{3c}{a}$$

$$\frac{3\alpha^2}{3\alpha^2} = -\frac{6b}{a}\alpha - \frac{3c}{a}$$

(6)

$$\text{or, } 3\alpha^2 a = -6b\alpha - 3c$$

$$\text{or, } a\alpha^2 + 2b\alpha + c = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

From (2) and (4)

$$\alpha^2 \beta = -\frac{d}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 \left(-\frac{3b}{a} - 2\alpha\right) = -\frac{d}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 (3b + 2a\alpha) = d$$

$$\text{or, } 2a\alpha^3 + 3b\alpha^2 - d = 0 \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

Applying (5) $\times 2\alpha$ - (6)

$$2a\alpha^3 + 4b\alpha^2 + 2c\alpha = 0$$

$$2a\alpha^3 + 3b\alpha^2 - d = 0$$

$$\hline b\alpha^2 + 2c\alpha + d = 0 \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

From (5) and (7), we get by cross-multiplication,

$$\frac{\alpha^2}{2bd - 2c^2} = \frac{\alpha}{cb - ad} = \frac{1}{2ac - 2b^2}$$

$$\therefore \alpha = \frac{bc - ad}{2(ac - b^2)}$$

$$\text{Also } \alpha^2 = \frac{2bd - 2c^2}{2ac - 2b^2}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{(bc - ad)^2}{4(ac - b^2)^2} = \frac{2(bd - c^2)}{2(ac - b^2)}$$

$$\text{or, } (bc - ad)^2 = 4(bd - c^2)(ac - b^2)$$

$$\text{or, } (bc - ad)^2 = 4(b^2 - ac)(c^2 - bd) \quad (\text{Proved})$$

Ex 8. If the sum of two roots of the equation $2x^3 - 3x^2 + kx - 1 = 0$ be one, then find the value of k . Also find the roots of the equation.

Ans. Let α, β, γ be the roots of the equation
 $2x^3 - 3x^2 + kx - 1 = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$

$$\text{Given } \alpha + \beta = 1 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = \frac{k}{2} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

(7)

from (2) & (3)

$$1 + \gamma = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{or, } \gamma = \frac{3}{2} - 1$$

$$\text{or, } \gamma = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

from (5) and (6)

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

$$\text{or, } \alpha\beta = 1 \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

from (2)

$$\alpha + \beta = 1$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha + \frac{1}{\alpha} = 1$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 + 1 = \alpha$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 - \alpha + 1 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4}}{2}$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = \frac{1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\therefore \alpha = \frac{1 + i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{1 - i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

from (4)

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

$$\text{or, } 1 + \gamma = \frac{k}{2} \quad [\text{using (2) \& (7)}]$$

$$\text{or, } 1 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{k}{2} \quad [\text{using (6)}]$$

$$\text{or, } k = \frac{3}{2} \times 2$$

$$\text{or, } k = 3$$

Hence, the value of k is 3 and the roots of the equation are $\frac{1+i\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1-i\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$.

Ex 9. If the equation $x^4 - px^3 + qx^2 - rx + s = 0$ has two roots of the form $(\alpha + i\alpha), (\beta + i\beta)$, where α and β are real, then show that

$$p^2 = 2q \text{ and } r^2 = 2qs$$

Hence, or otherwise solve the equation

$$x^4 + 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 120x + 900 = 0.$$

Ans. Let $\alpha + i\alpha, \alpha - i\alpha, \beta + i\beta, \beta - i\beta$ are the roots of the equation

$$x^4 - px^3 + qx^2 - rx + s = 0$$

$$(\alpha + i\alpha) + (\alpha - i\alpha) + (\beta + i\beta) + (\beta - i\beta) = p \Rightarrow 2(\alpha + \beta) = p \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$2\alpha^2 + (\alpha + i\alpha)(\beta + i\beta + \beta - i\beta) + (\alpha - i\alpha)(\beta + i\beta + \beta - i\beta) + 2\beta^2 = q$$

$$\text{or, } 2\alpha^2 + 2\beta(\alpha + i\alpha + \alpha - i\alpha) + 2\beta^2 = q$$

$$\text{or, } 2\alpha^2 + 4\alpha\beta + 2\beta^2 = q$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 + 2\alpha\beta + \beta^2 = \frac{q}{2}$$

$$\text{or, } (\alpha + \beta)^2 = \frac{q}{2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\text{or } \frac{p^2}{4} = \frac{q}{2} \text{ or } p^2 = 2q \text{ (Proved)}$$

$$2\alpha^2(\beta + i\beta) + 2\alpha^2(\beta - i\beta) + 2\beta^2(\alpha + i\alpha) + 2\beta^2(\alpha - i\alpha) = r$$

$$\text{or, } 2\alpha^2(\beta + i\beta + \beta - i\beta) + 2\beta^2(\alpha + i\alpha + \alpha - i\alpha) = r$$

$$\text{or, } 4\alpha^2\beta + 4\beta^2\alpha = r$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta) = \frac{r}{4} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(\alpha + i\alpha)(\alpha - i\alpha)(\beta + i\beta)(\beta - i\beta) = s$$

$$\text{or, } (\alpha^2 + \alpha^2)(\beta^2 + \beta^2) = s$$

$$\text{or, } 4\alpha^2\beta^2 = s$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2\beta^2 = \frac{s}{4} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Now from (3)

$$\alpha^2\beta^2(\alpha + \beta)^2 = \frac{r^2}{16}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{s}{4} \cdot \frac{q}{2} = \frac{r^2}{16} \quad [\text{using (2) and (4)}]$$

$$\text{or } r^2 = 2qs \text{ (Proved)}$$

And part

We have equation

$$x^4 + 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 120x + 900 = 0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

from eqⁿ ①

$$2(\alpha + \beta) = -4$$

$$\alpha, \quad \alpha + \beta = -2 \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

from eqⁿ ④

$$\alpha^2 \beta^2 = \frac{900}{4} = 225$$

$$\alpha, \quad \alpha\beta = \pm \sqrt{225}$$

$$\text{or } \alpha\beta = \pm 15$$

If $\alpha\beta = 15$

$$\alpha(-2-\alpha) = 15$$

$$\text{or, } -2\alpha - \alpha^2 = 15$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 + 2\alpha + 15 = 0$$

$$\alpha, \quad \alpha = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4 \cdot 15}}{2 \cdot 1}$$

α is real. So, we cannot take this value.

If $\alpha\beta = -15$

$$\alpha(-2-\alpha) = -15$$

$$\text{or, } -2\alpha - \alpha^2 = -15$$

$$\text{or } \alpha^2 + 2\alpha = 15$$

$$\text{or } \alpha^2 + 2\alpha - 15 = 0$$

$$\text{or } \alpha^2 + 5\alpha - 3\alpha - 15 = 0$$

$$\text{or } \alpha(\alpha+5) - 3(\alpha+5) = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (\alpha+5)(\alpha-3) = 0$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = -5, 3$$

from ⑥ if $\alpha = -5$
 $\alpha + \beta = -2$

$$\text{or, } \beta = -2 - \alpha$$

$$\text{or, } \beta = -2 - (-5)$$

$$\text{or, } \beta = 3$$

If $\alpha = -5, \beta = 3$ then

$$\alpha \pm i\alpha, \quad \beta \pm i\beta$$

$$-5 \pm 5i, \quad 3 \pm 3i$$

If $\alpha = 3$ then from eqⁿ ⑥

$$\beta = -2 - \alpha$$

$$= -2 - 3$$

$$= -5$$

If $\alpha = 3, \beta = -5$ then

$$\alpha \pm i\alpha, \quad \beta \pm i\beta$$

$$3 \pm 3i, \quad -5 \pm 5i$$

Hence, the required roots are $3 \pm 3i, -5 \pm 5i$.

Ex 10. If α be a multiple root of order 3 of the equation

$$x^4 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0,$$

then show that $\alpha = -\frac{8d}{3c}$.

(Ans) Let $\alpha, \alpha, \alpha, \beta$ are the roots of the equation

$$x^4 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Then } \alpha + \alpha + \alpha + \beta = 0 \Rightarrow 3\alpha + \beta = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\alpha \cdot \alpha + \alpha \cdot \alpha + \alpha \cdot \beta + \alpha \cdot \alpha + \alpha \cdot \beta + \alpha \cdot \beta = b \Rightarrow 3\alpha^2 + 3\alpha\beta = b \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$\alpha \cdot \alpha \cdot \alpha + \alpha \cdot \alpha \cdot \beta + \alpha \cdot \alpha \cdot \beta + \alpha \cdot \alpha \cdot \beta = -c \Rightarrow \alpha^3 + 3\alpha^2\beta = -c \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$\alpha^3\beta = d \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$\text{From eq (2) } \beta = -3\alpha \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

$$\text{From eq (3) } 3\alpha^2 + 3\alpha\beta = b$$

$$3\alpha^2 + 3\alpha(-3\alpha) = b$$

$$\text{or, } 3\alpha^2 - 9\alpha^2 = b$$

$$\text{or, } -6\alpha^2 = b$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^2 = -\frac{b}{6} \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

$$\text{From eq (4) } \alpha^3 + 3\alpha^2(-3\alpha) = -c$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^3 - 9\alpha^3 = -c$$

$$\text{or, } -8\alpha^3 = -c$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^3 = \frac{c}{8} \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

$$\text{From eq (5) } \alpha^3\beta = d$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^3(-3\alpha) = d$$

$$\text{or, } -3\alpha^4 = d$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha^4 = -\frac{d}{3} \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

Applying (9) $\div$ (8)

$$\frac{\alpha^4}{\alpha^3} = \frac{-\frac{d}{3}}{\frac{c}{8}}$$

$$\text{or, } \alpha = -\frac{8d}{3c} \quad (\text{Proved})$$

Exercise

1. Solve the equation $x^3 - 9x^2 + 23x - 15 = 0$, given that the roots are in A.P. [Ans. 1, 3, 5]
2. Solve the equation $27x^3 + 42x^2 - 28x - 8 = 0$, given that the roots are in G.P. [Ans. $-\frac{2}{9}, \frac{2}{3}, -2$]
3. Solve the equation $2x^3 - x^2 - 22x - 24 = 0$, two of the roots being in the ratio 3:4. [Ans. $-\frac{3}{2}, -2, 4$]
4. Solve the equation $24x^3 + 46x^2 + 9x - 9 = 0$, one of the roots ~~is~~ being double of another. [Ans. $-\frac{3}{4}, -\frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$]
5. Solve the equation $x^3 - 5x^2 - 16x + 80 = 0$, if two of its roots α and β be connected by the relation $\alpha + \beta = 0$. [Ans. 4, -4, 5]
6. Determine r so that one of root of the equation $x^3 - rx^2 + rx - 4 = 0$ shall be reciprocal of another and find the roots. [Ans. $r = 5$; 4, $\frac{1}{2}(1 \pm i\sqrt{3})$]
7. Solve the equation $x^4 + 4x^3 - 2x^2 - 12x + 9 = 0$ which has two pairs of equal roots. [Ans. 1, 1, -3, -3]
8. If $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ be the roots of the equation $x^4 - ax^3 + bx^2 - cx - 1 = 0$, find the condition that $\alpha\beta - \gamma\delta = 2$. [Ans. $a^2 = c^2 + 4b$]
9. Find the condition that the roots of the equation $x^4 + px^3 + qx^2 + rx + s = 0$ are in G.P. [Ans. $p^2s = r^2$]
10. Find the condition that the roots of the equation $x^3 + px^2 + qx + r = 0$ are in A.P. [Ans. $p(9q - 2p^2) = 27r$]