

# Quadratic Equations & Inequations

## INTRODUCTION TO POLYNOMIALS

## Section - 1

### 1.1 Real Polynomial :

Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be real numbers and  $x$  is a real variable. Then,

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$$

is called a real polynomial of real variable  $x$  with real coefficient.

**For Example :**

$f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + 1, f(x) = x + 3, f(x) = 5x^4 + 3x^2 - 4x - 1$  are some examples of real polynomials.

**Note :** How to identify a polynomial ?

Polynomial in  $x$  should be an expression in terms of various powers of  $x$  where every power should be a positive integer.

**For Example :**  $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x} + 2, f(x) = x^2 + x^{1/2} + 3,$

$f(x) = x^{-2} - x^{-1} + 1$  are not polynomials.

### 1.2 Degree of a Polynomial

The degree of a real polynomial is the highest power of  $x$  in the polynomial.

$$f(x) = a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_0x^0$$

is a polynomial of degree  $n$  as highest power of  $x$  is  $n$  where  $n$  is a positive integer and  $a_n \neq 0$ .

**For Example :**

$f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 1$  is a polynomial of degree 3.

$f(x) = x^5 + x^2 - 1$  is a polynomial of degree 5.

➤ **Linear Polynomial :** Polynomial of degree one is known as linear polynomial.

**For Example :**

$f(x) = 2x + 3, f(x) = -x + 5$  are linear polynomials.

**Note :**  $f(x) = ax + b$  is a general degree one polynomial known as linear polynomial ( $a \neq 0$ ).

## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

- **Quadratic Polynomial :** Polynomial of degree two is known as quadratic polynomial.

**For Example :**

$f(x) = x^2 + x + 1, f(x) = -x^2 + 2x - 1$  are quadratic polynomials.

**Note :**  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c, a \neq 0$  is a general degree two polynomial known as quadratic polynomial.

### 1.3 Polynomial Equation :

If  $y = f(x)$  is a real polynomial of degree  $n$ , then  $f(x) = 0$  is the corresponding real polynomial equation of degree  $n$ .

**For Example :** If  $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 8$  is a quadratic polynomial, then  $x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$  is the corresponding quadratic equation.

### 1.4 Roots of an Equation :

Roots of an equation in  $x$  are those values of  $x$  which satisfy the equation

**OR**

If  $f(\alpha) = 0$ , then  $x = \alpha$  is the root of the equation  $f(x) = 0$ .

**For Example :**

$x = 2, x = 3$  are roots of  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$  because when we replace  $x = 2$  or  $x = 3$  in the equation,

We get :  $0 = 0$ . This implies  $x = 2$  and  $x = 3$  satisfy equation. Hence  $x = 2$  and  $x = 3$  are roots of the equation.

**Note :** ➤ Real roots of an equation  $f(x) = 0$  are the  $x$ -co-ordinates of the points where graph of  $y = f(x)$  intersects  $X$ -axis.  
➤ An equation of degree  $n$  has  $n$  roots. (**not necessarily all real**).

## QUADRATIC EQUATION & INEQUATION

## Section - 2

### 2.1 Introduction :

The standard form of the quadratic equation is :

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad \text{where } a, b, c \text{ are real numbers and } a \neq 0.$$

### 2.2 Roots of a Quadratic Equation

Roots of a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  ( $a \neq 0, a, b, c \in R$ ) are given by :

$$\alpha, \beta = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

- Sum of the roots  $= \alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a}$
- Product of roots  $= \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$
- Factorized form of  $ax^2 + bx + c = a(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$ .
- If  $S$  be the sum and  $P$  be the product of roots, then quadratic equation is :  $x^2 - Sx + P = 0$ .

#### Illustration the Concept :

(a) If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the roots of equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , find the value of following expressions.

(i)  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2$       (ii)  $\alpha^3 + \beta^3$       (iii)  $\alpha^4 + \beta^4$       (iv)  $(\alpha - \beta)^2$       (v)  $\alpha^4 - \beta^4$

#### SOLUTION :

In such type of problems, try to represent the given expression in terms of  $a + b$  (sum of roots) and  $ab$  (product of roots). In the given problem :

$$\alpha + \beta = \frac{-b}{a}, \quad \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$$

$$(i) \quad \alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta = \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 - \frac{2c}{a} = \frac{b^2 - 2ac}{a^2}$$

$$(ii) \quad \alpha^3 + \beta^3 = (\alpha + \beta)^3 - 3\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta) = \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)^3 - 3\left(\frac{c}{a}\right)\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right) = \frac{-b^3 + 3abc}{a^3}$$

$$(iii) \quad \alpha^4 + \beta^4 = (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)^2 - 2\alpha^2\beta^2 = [(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta]^2 - 2(\alpha\beta)^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{b^2 - 2ac}{a^2}\right)^2 - 2\frac{c^2}{a^2} = \frac{(b^2 - 2ac)^2 - 2c^2a^2}{a^4}$$

$$(iv) \quad (\alpha - \beta)^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta = \frac{b^2}{a^2} - \frac{4c}{a} = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{a^2}$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(v)} \quad \alpha^4 - \beta^4 &= (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)(\alpha + \beta)(\alpha - \beta) \\
 &= \left( \frac{b^2 - 2ac}{a^2} \right) \left( -\frac{b}{a} \right) \left( \pm \sqrt{\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{a^2}} \right) \quad \left[ \text{Using (i) and } \left( \alpha - \beta = \pm \frac{\sqrt{D}}{a} \right) \right] \\
 &= \pm \frac{b}{a^4} (b^2 - 2ac) \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the roots of equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , form an equation whose roots are :

$$\text{(i)} \quad \alpha + \frac{1}{\beta}, \beta + \frac{1}{\alpha} \quad \text{(ii)} \quad \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta}, \frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta}$$

### SOLUTION :

We know that to form an equation whose roots are known we have to find sum and product of the roots.

$$\text{(i)} \quad \text{Sum (S)} = \left( \alpha + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) + \left( \beta + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) = (\alpha + \beta) + \frac{(\alpha + \beta)}{\alpha\beta} = \frac{-b(a+c)}{ac}$$

$$\text{Product (P)} = \left( \alpha + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) \left( \beta + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) = \alpha\beta + \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} + 2 = \frac{(c+a)^2}{ac}$$

$$\text{Product (P)} = \left( \alpha + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) \left( \beta + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) = \alpha\beta + \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} + 2 = \frac{(c+a)^2}{ac}$$

The equation is :  $x^2 - Sx + P = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - \left( \frac{-b(a+c)}{ac} \right) x + \frac{(c+a)^2}{ac} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow acx^2 + b(c+a)x + (c+a)^2 = 0$  is the required equation.

$$\text{(ii)} \quad \text{Sum (S)} = \left( \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta} \right) + \frac{(\alpha + \beta)}{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{(ac+b^2)}{bc}$$

$$\text{Product (P)} = \left( \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta} \right) \left( \frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \right) = \frac{a}{c}$$

The equation is :  $x^2 - Sx + P = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - \left( -\frac{(ac+b^2)}{bc} \right) x + \frac{a}{c} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow bcx^2 + (ac+b^2)x + ab = 0$  is the required equation.

## 2.3 Nature of Roots of a Quadratic Equation

Nature of roots of a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  means whether the roots are real or complex. By analyzing the expression  $b^2 - 4ac$  (called as discriminant,  $D$ ), one can get an idea about the nature of the roots as follows :

1.(a) If  $D < 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ ), then the roots of the quadratic equation are non – real i.e. complex roots.

(b) If  $D = 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ ), then the roots are real and equal.

$$\text{Equal root} = -\frac{b}{2a}$$

(c) If  $D > 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ ), then the roots are real and unequal.

2. If  $D$  i.e. ( $b^2 - 4ac$ ) is a perfect square and  $a, b$  and  $c$  are rational, then the roots are rational.

3. If  $D$  i.e. ( $b^2 - 4ac$ ) is not a perfect square and  $a, b$  and  $c$  are rational, then roots are of the form  $m + \sqrt{n}$  and  $m - \sqrt{n}$ .

4. If  $a = 1, b, c \in I$  and the roots are rational numbers, then the roots must be integer.

5. If a quadratic equation in  $x$  has more than two roots, then it is an identity in  $x$  (i.e. true for all real values of  $x$ ) and  $a = b = c = 0$ .

### Illustration the Concept :

Comment upon the nature of roots of the following equations :

(i)  $x^2 + (a+b)x - c^2 = 0$

(ii)  $(a+b+c)x^2 - 2(a+b)x + (a+b-c) = 0$

(iii)  $(b-c)x^2 + (c-a)x + (a-b) = 0$

(iv)  $x^2 + 2(3a+5)x + 2(9a^2 + 25) = 0$

(v)  $(y-a)(y-b) + (y-b)(y-c) + (y-c)(y-a) = 0$

### SOLUTION :

To comment upon the nature of roots of quadratic equation we have to find 'D' (Discriminant)

(i) Find discriminant ( $D$ ).

$$D = (a+b)^2 - 4(1)(-c^2) = (a+b)^2 + 4c^2$$

$$\Rightarrow D \geq 0, \text{ hence the roots are real}$$

(ii)  $D = 4(a+b)^2 - 4(a+b+c)(a+b-c)$

$$= 4 \left[ (a+b)^2 - (a+b)^2 + c^2 \right] = 4c^2 = (2c)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow D \geq 0 \text{ and also a perfect square, hence the roots are rational.}$$

$$(iii) \quad D = (c-a)^2 - 4(b-c)(a-b)$$

$$= c^2 + a^2 - 2ac - 4ab + 4b^2 + 4ac - 4bc$$

$$= c^2 + a^2 + (2b)^2 - 4ab - 4bc + 2ac = (c+a-2b)^2$$

$\Rightarrow D \geq 0$  and also a perfect square, hence the roots are rational.

$$(iv) \quad D = 4(3a+5)^2 - 8(9a^2+25) = -4(3a-5)^2$$

$\Rightarrow D \leq 0$ , so the roots are non real if  $a \neq 5/3$  and real and equal if  $a = 5/3$

(v) Simplifying the given equation

$$3y^2 - 2(a+b+c)y + (ab+bc+ca) = 0$$

$$\text{Now } D = 4(a+b+c)^2 - 12(ab+bc+ca)$$

$$= 4(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$= 2[(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2]$$

$$\text{Using : } (a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) = \frac{1}{2}[(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2]$$

$\Rightarrow D \geq 0$ , so the root are real

**Note :** If  $D = 0$ , then  $(a-b)^2 + (b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow a = b = c \quad \Rightarrow$  if  $a = b = c$ , then the roots are equal

## 2.4 Condition for Common Root(s) :

Consider two quadratic equations :

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a'x^2 + b'x + c' = 0$$

(a) **For two common roots :**

In such a case, two equations should be identical. For that, the ratio of coefficients of  $x^2$ ,  $x$  and  $x^0$  must be same,

$$i.e. \quad \frac{a}{a'} = \frac{b}{b'} = \frac{c}{c'}$$

(b) **For one common root :**

Let  $\alpha$  be the common root of two equations. So  $\alpha$  should satisfy the two equations.

$$\Rightarrow a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0 \text{ and } a'\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c' = 0$$

Solving the two equations by using **Cramer's Rule** (or cross multiplication method) :

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha^2}{bc' - b'c} = \frac{-\alpha}{ac' - a'c} = \frac{1}{ab' - a'b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{a'c - ac'}{ab' - a'b}, \alpha^2 = \frac{bc' - b'c}{ab' - a'b}$$

$$\Rightarrow (bc' - b'c)(ab' - a'b) = (a'c - ac')^2$$

This is the condition for one root of two quadratic equations to be common.

**Note :** To find the common root between the two equations, make the coefficient of  $\alpha^2$  common and then subtract the two equations.

**Illustration - 1** The equation whose roots are squares of the sum and the difference of the roots of the equation  $2x^2 + 2(m+n)x + m^2 + n^2 = 0$  is :

(A)  $x^2 - 4mnx + (m^2 - n^2)^2 = 0$

(B)  $x^2 + 4mnx + (m^2 - n^2)^2 = 0$

(C)  $x^2 - 4mnx - (m^2 - n^2)^2 = 0$

(D)  $x^2 - 4mx - (m^2 - n^2)^2 = 0$

**SOLUTION : (C)**

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be the root of given equation.

$$\Rightarrow \alpha + \beta = -(m+n) \text{ and } \alpha\beta = \frac{(m^2 + n^2)}{2}$$

Now we have to make an equation whose roots are  $(\alpha + \beta)^2$  and  $(\alpha - \beta)^2$

$$\text{Sum } (S) = (\alpha + \beta)^2 + (\alpha - \beta)^2 = 2(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) = 2[(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta] = 4mn$$

$$\text{Product } (P) = (\alpha + \beta)^2 \cdot (\alpha - \beta)^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 \cdot [(\alpha + \beta)^2 - 4\alpha\beta]$$

$$P = (m+n)^2 [(m+n)^2 - 2(m^2 + n^2)] = -(m^2 - n^2)^2$$

The equation is :  $x^2 - Sx + P = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \text{The required equation is } x^2 - 4mnx - (m^2 - n^2)^2 = 0$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

**Illustration - 2** The value of  $k$ , so that the equations  $2x^2 + kx - 5 = 0$  and  $x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$  may have one root in common.

- (A)  $-3, -1$       (B)  $-3, \frac{-27}{4}$       (C)  $-1, -2$       (D)  $3, \frac{27}{4}$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

Let  $\alpha$  be the common root of two equations.

Hence  $2\alpha^2 + k\alpha - 5 = 0$  and  $\alpha^2 - 3\alpha - 4 = 0$

Solving the two equations ;

$$\frac{\alpha^2}{-4k - 15} = \frac{-\alpha}{-8 + 5} = \frac{1}{-6 - k} \quad \text{[ Using : [2.4 (b)] ]}$$

$$\Rightarrow (-3)^2 = (4k + 15)(6 + k) \Rightarrow 4k^2 + 39k + 81 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow k = -3 \text{ or } k = -27/4$$

**Illustration - 3** If  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  and  $bx^2 + cx + a = 0$  have a root in common, find the relation between  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .

- (A)  $a = 0$  or  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$       (B)  $a = 0$  or  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = -3abc$   
(C)  $a = 0$  or  $a^3 - b^3 - c^3 = 3abc$       (D)  $a = 0$  or  $a^3 + b^3 - c^3 = -3abc$

**SOLUTION : (A)**

Solve the two equations as done in last illustration :

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \text{ and } bx^2 + cx + a = 0$$

$$\frac{x^2}{ba - c^2} = \frac{-x}{a^2 - bc} = \frac{1}{ac - b^2} \quad \text{[ Using : [2.4 (b)] ]}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a^2 - bc)^2 = (ba - c^2)(ac - b^2)$$

Simplify to get :  $a(a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ or } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$$

This is the relation between  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .

**Illustration - 4** If the equations  $x^2 - ax + b = 0$  and  $x^2 - cx + d = 0$  have one root in common and second equation has equal roots, prove that  $ac$  is :

- (A)  $b$       (B)  $2(b + d)$       (C)  $b - d$       (D)  $bd$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

The equation  $x^2 - cx + d = 0$  has equal roots.

$$\Rightarrow D = 0 \Rightarrow D = c^2 - 4d = 0 \quad \dots\dots (i)$$



$\Rightarrow x = \frac{c}{2}$  is the equal root of this equation. [As equal root of  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  are  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$ ]

Now this should be the common root.

$\therefore x = \frac{c}{2}$  will satisfy the first equation

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c^2}{4} - a\left(\frac{c}{2}\right) + b = 0 \Rightarrow c^2 + 4b = 2ac \Rightarrow 4d + 4b = 2ac \quad [\text{Using (i)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(d + b) = ac \quad \text{Hence } ac = 2(b + d)$$

### Illustration - 5

If the ratio of roots of the equation  $x^2 + px + q = 0$  be equal to the ratio of roots of the equation  $x^2 + bx + c = 0$ , then prove that  $p^2c - b^2q =$

- (A)  $-1$       (B)  $1$       (C)  $0$       (D) None of these

### SOLUTION : (C)

Let  $\alpha, \beta$  be the roots of  $x^2 + px + q = 0$  so,  $\alpha + \beta = -p$ ,  $\alpha\beta = q$

and also let  $\gamma, \delta$   $x^2 + bx + c = 0$  so,  $\gamma + \delta = -b$ ,  $\gamma\delta = c$

Now,  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \Rightarrow \frac{(\alpha + \beta)^2}{(\alpha - \beta)^2} = \frac{(\gamma + \delta)^2}{(\gamma - \delta)^2}$  (Apply componendo-divideendo and take square on both sides)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(\alpha + \beta)^2}{(\alpha + \beta)^2 - (\alpha - \beta)^2} = \frac{(\gamma + \delta)^2}{(\gamma + \delta)^2 - (\gamma - \delta)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(\alpha + \beta)^2}{4\alpha\beta} = \frac{(\gamma + \delta)^2}{4\gamma\delta} \Rightarrow \frac{p^2}{4q} = \frac{b^2}{4c} \Rightarrow p^2c = b^2q.$$

### Illustration - 6

The condition that the equation  $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x+b} = \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{m+b}$  has real roots that are equal in magnitude but opposite in sign is

- (A)  $b^2 = m^2$       (B)  $b^2 = 2m^2$       (C)  $2b^2 = m^2$       (D) None of these

### SOLUTION : (B)

Clearly  $x = m$  is a root of the equation. Therefore, the other root must be  $-m$ . That is,

$$\frac{1}{-m} + \frac{1}{-m+b} = \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{m+b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{b-m} - \frac{1}{b+m} = \frac{2}{m} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{b+m-b+m}{b^2-m^2} = \frac{2}{m}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2m^2 = 2b^2 - 2m^2 \quad \text{or} \quad 2m^2 = b^2.$$

## INEQUATION & INEQUALITIES

## Section - 3

### 3.1 Inequalities

The following are some very useful points to remember :

- $a \leq b \Rightarrow$  Either  $a < b$  or  $a = b$
- $a < b$  and  $b < c \Rightarrow a < c$
- $a < b \Rightarrow a + c < b + c \forall c \in R$
- $a < b \Rightarrow -a > -b$  i.e. inequality sign reverses if both sides are multiplied by a negative number.
- $a < b$  and  $c < d \Rightarrow a + c < b + d \Rightarrow a - d < b - c$
- $a < b \Rightarrow ma < mb$  if  $m > 0$  and  $ma > mb$  if  $m < 0$
- $0 < a < b \Rightarrow a^r < b^r$  if  $r > 0$  and  $a^r > b^r$  if  $r < 0$
- $\left(a + \frac{1}{a}\right) \geq 2 \forall a > 0$  and equality holds for  $a = 1$ .
- $\left(a + \frac{1}{a}\right) \leq -2 \forall a < 0$  and equality holds for  $a = -1$ .

### 3.2 Interval

An infinite continuous subset of  $R$  is called an interval.

### 3.3 Closed interval

The set of real number between  $a$  and  $b$  (where  $a < b$ ) also including the end points  $a$  and  $b$  called a closed interval and is denote by  $[a, b]$ . Thus  $[a, b] = \{x \in R : a \leq x \leq b\}$

### 3.4 Open interval

The set of real number between  $a$  and  $b$  (where  $a < b$ ) also excluding the end points  $a$  and  $b$  is called on open interval and denoted by  $(a, b)$ . Thus  $(a, b) = \{x : a < x < b\}$ .

The set of real number  $x$  such that  $a < x \leq b$  is called a semi - open or semi - closed interval and is denoted by  $(a, b]$ . Similarly we have  $[a, b) = \{x : a \leq x < b\}$ .

The number  $b - a$  is called length of the interval  $(a, b)$  or of  $[a, b]$ . The smallest and greatest elements in an open interval  $(a, b)$  do not exist.

### 3.5 Infinite intervals

The set of all real numbers greater than a certain real number, say 'a' is an-infinite interval and is denoted by  $(a, \infty)$ . Thus  $(a, \infty) = \{x : x > a\}$ , and  $[a, \infty) = \{x : x \geq a\}$

Similarly, we define  $(-\infty, a) = \{x : x < a\}$  and  $[-\infty, a] = \{x : x \leq a\}$

The infinite intervals have infinite length. In writing them, we use the symbol  $\infty$  as notation only. The sides of  $-\infty$  and  $\infty$  in writing infinite intervals **must be kept open** because a real number is never equal to  $-\infty$  or  $\infty$ .

**Note :** In any interval the smaller value is to be written first. For example suppose we want to write set of real numbers between 1 and 3 then we will denote it by  $(1, 3)$  and not by  $(3, 1)$ .

## QUADRATIC POLYNOMIAL

## Section - 4

### 4.1 Introduction

The quadratic polynomial in  $x$  is  $ax^2 + bx + c$  ; where  $a, b, c$  are real numbers and  $a \neq 0$ .

$ax^2 + bx + c$  is also known as the quadratic expression in  $x$ . Evidently  $ax^2 + bx + c$  is a function in  $x$ . For different real values of  $x$ , we get different real values of  $ax^2 + bx + c$ .

So, in general quadratic expression is represented as :  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  or  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

### 4.2 Graph of a Quadratic Polynomial

$$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c \quad (a \neq 0)$$

To draw the graph of  $f(x)$ , proceed according to following steps :

1. The shape of the curve  $y = f(x)$  is **parabolic**.

2. For  $a > 0$ , the parabola opens upwards.

For  $a < 0$ , the parabola opens downwards.

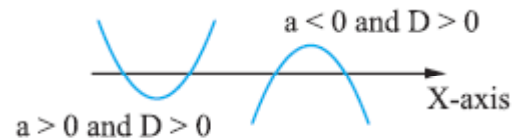
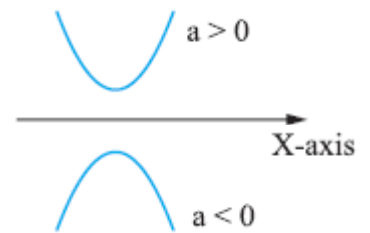
3. **Intersection with axes :**

(i) **with X-axis**

➤ **For  $D > 0$**

Parabola cuts X-axis in two points.

The points of intersection are  $\alpha, \beta = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$ .

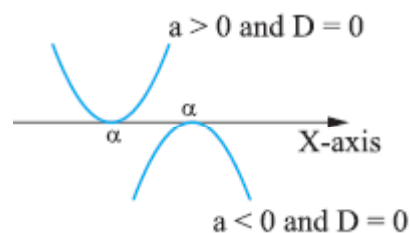


## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

### ➤ For $D = 0$

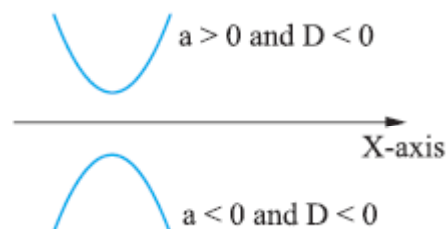
Parabola touches X-axis in one point.

The points of intersection is  $\alpha = \frac{-b}{2a}$ .



### ➤ For $D < 0$

Parabola does not cut X-axis at all i.e. no point of intersection with X-axis.



### (ii) with Y-axis

The points of intersection with Y-axis is  $(0, c)$  {put  $x = 0$  in the quadratic polynomial}

## 4. Maximum and Minimum value of $f(x)$ :

V is called as vertex of parabola.

The coordinates of  $V \equiv \left( -\frac{b}{2a}, -\frac{D}{4a} \right)$

The line passing through vertex and parallel to the Y-axis is called as axis of symmetry.

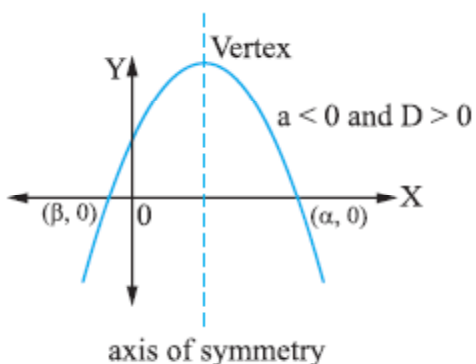
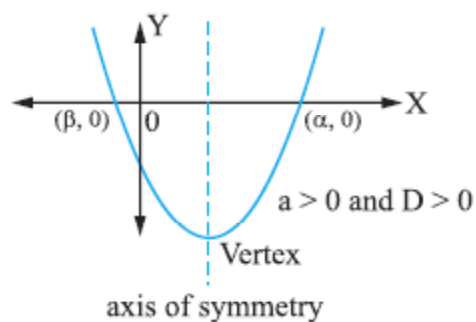
The parabolic graph of a quadratic polynomial is symmetrical about axis of symmetry.

### ➤ $f(x)$ has minimum value at vertex if $a > 0$ and

$$f_{\min} = -\frac{D}{4a} \text{ at } x = -\frac{b}{2a}.$$

### ➤ $f(x)$ has maximum value at vertex if $a < 0$ and

$$f_{\max} = -\frac{D}{4a} \text{ at } x = -\frac{b}{2a}.$$



**Note :** Graph of any quadratic polynomial can be plotted by following steps (1) to (4)

### 4.3 Sign of a Quadratic Polynomial

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a, b, c \in R$  and  $a \neq 0$ .

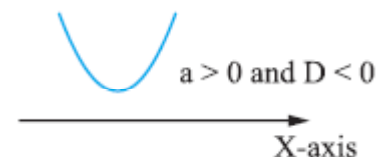
**1.  $a > 0, D < 0$  :**

As  $a > 0$ , parabola opens upward.

As  $D < 0$ , parabola does not intersect X-axis.

So  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

*i.e.*,  $f(x)$  is positive for all value of  $x$ .



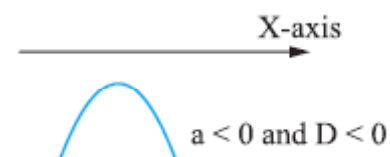
**2.  $a < 0, D < 0$  :**

As  $a < 0$ , parabola opens downward.

As  $D < 0$ , parabola does not intersect X-axis.

So  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

*i.e.*,  $f(x)$  is negative for all value of  $x$ .



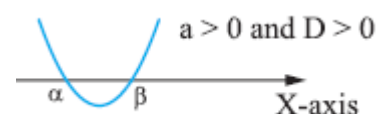
**3.  $a > 0, D > 0$  :**

As  $a > 0$ , parabola opens upward.

As  $D > 0$ , parabola intersect X-axis in two points say  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  ( $\alpha < \beta$ ).

So  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, \alpha] \cup [\beta, \infty)$  and  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in (\alpha, \beta)$ .

*i.e.*,  $f(x)$  is positive for some values of  $x$  and negative for other values for  $x$ .



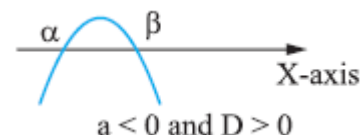
**4.  $a < 0, D > 0$  :**

As  $a < 0$ , parabola opens downward.

As  $D > 0$ , parabola intersect X-axis in two points say  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  ( $\alpha < \beta$ ).

So  $f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in (-\infty, \alpha] \cup [\beta, \infty)$  and  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in (\alpha, \beta)$ .

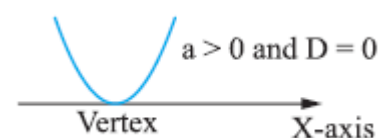
*i.e.*,  $f(x)$  is positive for some values of  $x$  and negative for other values of  $x$ .



**5.  $a > 0, D = 0$  :**

As  $a > 0$ , parabola opens upward.

As  $D = 0$ , parabola touches X-axis.



## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

So  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

i.e.  $f(x)$  is positive for all values of  $x$  except at vertex where  $f(x) = 0$ .

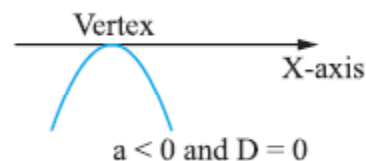
### 6. $a < 0, D = 0$ :

As  $a < 0$ , parabola opens downward.

As  $D = 0$ , parabola touches X-axis.

So  $f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

i.e.  $f(x)$  is negative for all values of  $x$  except at vertex where  $f(x) = 0$ .


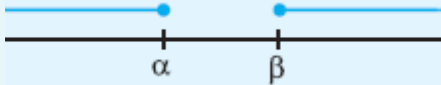
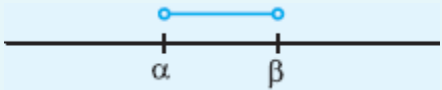
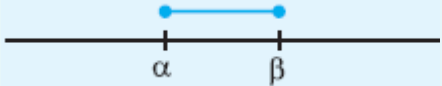


## 4.4 Quadratic Inequation :

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a, b, c \in R$  and  $a \neq 0$ . To solve the inequations of type :

$\{f(x) \leq 0 ; f(x) < 0 ; f(x) \geq 0 ; f(x) > 0\}$ , we use the following procedure.

### (a) $D > 0$

- Make the coefficient of  $x^2$  positive
- Factorise the expression and represent the left hand side of inequality in the form  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$ .
- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) > 0$ , then  $x$  lies outside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, \alpha) \cup (\beta, \infty)$ 

- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) \geq 0$ , then  $x$  lies on and outside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, \alpha] \cup [\beta, \infty)$ 

- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) < 0$ , then  $x$  lies inside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (\alpha, \beta)$ 

- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) \leq 0$ , then  $x$  lies on and inside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in [\alpha, \beta]$ 


(b)  $D < 0$  and  $a > 0 : f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(c)  $D < 0$  and  $a < 0 : f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(d)  $D = 0$  and  $a > 0 : f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(e)  $D = 0$  and  $a < 0 : f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(f)  $D \leq 0, a > 0 : f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

(g)  $D \leq 0, a < 0 : f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

**Illustration the Concept :**

(a) If  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 2$ , then solve the following inequalities :

(i)  $f(x) \geq 0$                       (ii)  $f(x) \leq 0$                       (iii)  $f(x) > 0$                       (iv)  $f(x) < 0$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 2$$

Let us find  $D$

$$\Rightarrow D = b^2 - 4ac = (2)^2 - 4(1)(2) = -4 < 0 \Rightarrow D < 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  roots of the corresponding equation ( $f(x) = 0$ ) are non real.

$f(x)$  cannot be factorized into linear factor.

Also observe that  $a = \text{coefficient of } x^2 = 1 > 0$

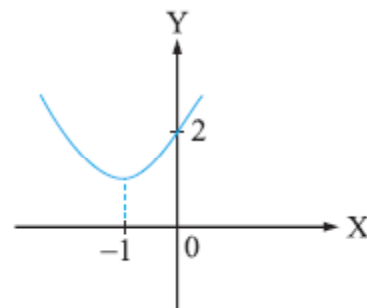
As  $a > 0$  and  $D < 0$ , we get :  $f(x) > 0 \forall x \in R$

[Using result 3.5 (b)]

(i)  $f(x) \geq 0$  is true  $\forall x \in R$                       (ii)  $f(x) \leq 0$  is true for no value of  $x$  i.e.,  $x \in \{ \}$ .

(iii)  $f(x) > 0$  is true  $\forall x \in R$ .                      (iv)  $f(x) < 0$  is true for no value of  $x$  i.e.,  $x \in \{ \}$ .

[Using results given in section 3.5, (b) and (c)]



(b) If  $f(x) = x^2 + 4x + 4$ , then solve the following inequalities :

(i)  $f(x) \geq 0$                       (ii)  $f(x) \leq 0$                       (iii)  $f(x) > 0$                       (iv)  $f(x) < 0$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 4x + 4 = (x + 2)^2$$

Let us find  $D$

$$\Rightarrow D = b^2 - 4ac = (4)^2 - 4(1)(4) = 0 \Rightarrow D = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  roots of the corresponding equation ( $f(x) = 0$ ) are real and equal.

Also observe that  $a = \text{coefficient of } x^2 = 1 > 0$

As  $D = 0$  and  $a > 0$ , we get :

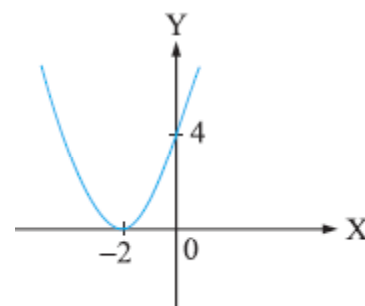
$$\Rightarrow f(x) \geq 0 \forall x \in R$$

[Using 3.5 (d)]

(i)  $f(x) \geq 0$  is true  $\forall x \in R$ .                      (ii)  $f(x) \leq 0$  is true  $\forall x \in \{-2\}$

(iii)  $f(x) > 0$  is true  $\forall x \in R - \{-2\}$                       (iv)  $f(x) < 0$  is true for no value of  $x$  i.e.,  $x \in \{ \}$ .

[Using results given in section 3.5]



## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

**Illustration - 7** Solve the following quadratic inequality :  $x^2 - 2x - 3 < 0$ .

- (A)  $x \in [-1, 3]$       (B)  $x \in (-1, 3)$       (C)  $x \in [3, 4]$       (D)  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (3, \infty)$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

$$x^2 - 2x - 3 < 0$$

Let us find  $D \Rightarrow D = b^2 - 4ac = (-2)^2 - 4(1)(-3) = 16 > 0 \Rightarrow D > 0$

Now factorize LHS using 'Splitting the middle term' method *i.e.*,

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - 3x + x - 3 < 0 &\Rightarrow (x - 3)(x + 1) < 0 \\ \Rightarrow x \in (-1, 3) &\quad \text{[Using result mentioned in section 3.5 (a)]} \end{aligned}$$

**Illustration - 8** Solve the following quadratic inequality :  $x^2 + x - 1 \geq 0$

- (A)  $x \in R$       (B)  $x \in \left[ \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2} \right]$   
(C)  $x \in \left( -\infty, \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right] \cup \left[ \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}, \infty \right)$       (D)  $x \in \phi$

**SOLUTION : (C)**

$$x^2 + x - 1 \geq 0 \quad \dots\dots (i)$$

Let us find  $D$

$$\Rightarrow D = b^2 - 4ac = 1^2 - 4(1)(-1) = 5 > 0 \Rightarrow D > 0.$$

LHS cannot be factorized using splitting the middle term method. We will find roots of the corresponding equation (say  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ) then use result  $ax^2 + bx + c = a(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are roots of  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ .  
 $\dots\dots (ii)$

Consider  $x^2 + x - 1 = 0$

Using  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$  formula to find roots, we get  $x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$

Using (i), we get :  $x^2 + x - 1 = \left[ x - \left( \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right] \left[ x - \left( \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right] \geq 0 \quad \dots\dots (iii)$

Combining (i) and (iii), we get :  $x^2 + x - 1 = \left[ x - \left( \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right] \left[ x - \left( \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \right] \geq 0$

$$x \in \left( -\infty, \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right] \cup \left[ \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}, \infty \right) \quad \text{[Using result given in section 3.5 (a)]}$$



## 4.5 Maximum and Minimum values of a Quadratic Polynomial

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ ,  $a \neq 0$ .

**Case : I ( $a > 0$ )** When  $a > 0$ , parabola opens upward.

From graph, vertex (V) is the lowest point on the graph.

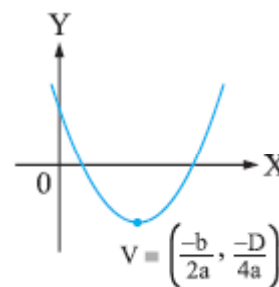
$\Rightarrow y = f(x)$  possesses minimum value at  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$ .

$\Rightarrow y_{\min} = f(x)_{\min} = \frac{-D}{4a}$  at  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$

As you can observe on graph,

Maximum value of  $f(x)$  is approaching to infinitely large value,

i.e.,  $y_{\max} = f(x)_{\max} = \infty$  (not defined).



**Case : II ( $a < 0$ )**

When  $a < 0$ , parabola opens downward.

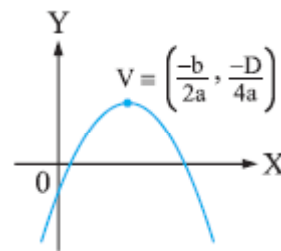
From graph, vertex (V) is the highest point on the graph.

$y = f(x)$  possesses maximum value at  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$

$\Rightarrow y_{\max} = f(x)_{\max} = \frac{-D}{4a}$  at  $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$

As you can observe from graph, minimum value of  $f(x)$  is approaching to infinitely small value.

i.e.,  $y_{\min} = f(x)_{\min} = -\infty$  (not defined).



### Illustration the Concept :

Find  $f(\max)$  or  $f(\min)$  in the following polynomials over  $x \in R$ .

(i)  $f(x) = 4x^2 - 12x + 15$

(ii)  $f(x) = -3x^2 + 5x - 4$

(i)  $f(x) = 4x^2 - 12x + 15$

As  $a = 4 > 0$

$f(x)$  has minimum value at vertex.

$$D = (12)^2 - 4 \times 4 \times 15 = 144 - 240 = -96$$

$$f_{\min} = \frac{-D}{4a} \quad \text{at} \quad x = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

(ii)  $f(x) = -3x^2 + 5x - 4$

As  $a = -3 < 0$

$f(x)$  has maximum value at vertex.

$$D = (5)^2 - 4(-3)(-4) = 25 - 48 = -23$$

$$f_{\max} = \frac{-D}{4a} \quad \text{at} \quad x = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

$$\Rightarrow f_{\min} = \frac{-(-96)}{4 \times 4} = \frac{96}{16} = 6 \text{ at } x = -\frac{-12}{2 \times 4} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$f_{\max} = -\frac{(-23)}{4(-3)} = -\frac{23}{12} \text{ at } x = \frac{-(-5)}{2(-3)} = \frac{5}{6}$$

$$\therefore f_{\min} = 6 \text{ at } x = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\therefore f_{\max} = -\frac{23}{12} \text{ at } x = \frac{5}{6}$$

$$f_{\max} = \infty$$

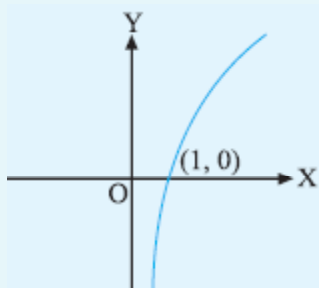
$$f_{\min} = -\infty$$

### ★ 4.6 Introduction to Logarithmic Function :

If  $x = a^y$  for  $x > 0$ ,  $a > 0$  and  $a \neq 1$ , then logarithm for  $x$  with respect to the base  $a$  is defined to be  $y$ . In symbols  $\log_a x = y$ .

**Note :** If any of the condition viz. (i)  $x > 0$  (ii)  $a > 0$  (iii)  $a \neq 1$  is not fulfilled, logarithm is invalid.

#### Graph of logarithmic Function

$y = \log_a x, a > 1$ or $x = a^y; a > 1$	
<p>(i) When <math>0 &lt; x &lt; 1</math></p> <p><math>x = a^y</math></p> <p>We have to choose those values of <math>y</math> for which <math>0 &lt; a^y &lt; 1</math></p> <p>Since <math>a &gt; 1, y &lt; 0 \Rightarrow y \in (-\infty, 0)</math>.</p> <p>(ii) When <math>x = 1</math>,</p> <p><math>x = a^y</math></p> <p>We have to choose those values of <math>y</math> for which <math>x</math> becomes 1 <math>\Rightarrow y = 0</math>.</p> <p>Since</p> <p>(iii) When <math>x &gt; 1</math>,</p> <p><math>x = a^y</math></p> <p>We have to choose those values of <math>y</math> for which <math>x &gt; 1</math>.</p> <p>Since <math>a &gt; 1, 0 &lt; y &lt; \infty</math>.</p>	 <p>Graph of <math>\log_a x, a &gt; 1</math></p>
$y = \log_a x, 0 < a < 1$ or $x = a^y, 0 < a < 1$	
<p>(iv) When <math>0 &lt; x &lt; 1</math>,</p> <p>We have to choose those values of <math>y</math> for which <math>0 &lt; a^y &lt; 1</math></p>	

Since  $0 < a < 1$ ,  $y > 0$ .

(v) When  $x = 1$ ,

$$x = a^y$$

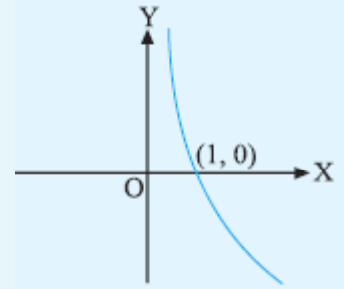
We have to choose those values of  $y$  for which  $x$  becomes 1

$$\Rightarrow y = 0$$

(vi) When  $x > 1$ ,

We have to choose those values of  $y$  for which  $a^y > 1$ .

Since  $a < 1$ ,  $y < 0$



Graph of  $\log_a x$ ,  $0 < a < 1$

#### 4.7 General Properties to logarithmic function :

(i)  $\log_a (xy) = \log_a x + \log_a y$ .

(ii)  $\log_a \left( \frac{x}{y} \right) = \log_a x - \log_a y$ .

(iii)  $\log_a x^y = y \log_a x$

(iv)  $\log_a n^x = \frac{1}{n} \log_a x$  and  $\log_a 2n^x = \frac{1}{2n} \log_a x$

(v)  $\log_a 1 = 0$

(vi)  $\log_a a = 1$

(vii)  $\log_y x = \frac{1}{\log_x y}$ , where  $x, y > 0$ ,  $x \neq 1$ ,  $y \neq 1$

(viii)  $\log_y x = \frac{\log_z x}{\log_z y}$ , where  $x, y, z > 0$ ;  $x \neq 1$ ,  $y \neq 1$

(ix)  $a^{\log_a x} = x$

(x)  $x^{\log_a y} = y^{\log_a x}$

(xi) If  $a > 1$ , and  $m > n \Leftrightarrow \log_a m > \log_a n$

(xii) If  $0 < a < 1$ , then  $m > n \Leftrightarrow \log_a m > \log_a n$ .

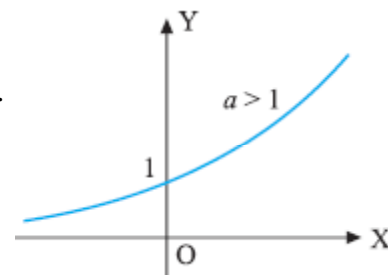
**Note :** Whenever the base of a logarithmic term is not written, its base is assumed to be 10. Logarithm of  $x$  to the base  $e$  is usually written in  $\ln x$ .

**(b) Exponential Function**

$y = a^x$  where  $a > 1$  or  $0 < a < 1$  is an exponential function of  $x$ .

This function is the inverse of logarithmic function *i.e.*

it can be obtained by interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  in  $y = \log_a x$ .

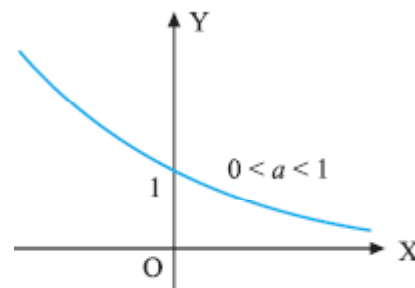


As observed from the graph, if  $a > 1$ , then  $y$  increases as  $x$  increases.

If  $0 < a < 1$ , then  $y$  decreases as  $x$  increases.

**Continuity :**

The graph of  $f(x) = a^x$  is continuous (*i.e.* no break in the curve) everywhere.



**Domain and Range :**

The domain of the function  $f(x)$  is  $x \in R$  and range is  $y > 0$ .

**Illustration the Concepts :**

Prove that :  $\left(\sqrt[3]{9}\right)^{\frac{1}{5 \log_5 3}} = 25^{\frac{1}{15}}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{L.H.S} &= \left[\sqrt[3]{9}\right]^{\frac{1}{5 \log_5 3}} &= (3)^{\frac{2}{15} \log_3 5} \\
 &= \left[9^{1/3}\right]^{\frac{1}{5} \log_3 5} = \left[(3^2)^{1/3}\right]^{\frac{1}{5} \log_3 5} &= 3^{\log_3 5^{\frac{2}{15}}} \\
 &= \left[3^{2/3}\right]^{\frac{1}{5} \log_3 5} &= 5^{\frac{2}{15}} = \left(5^2\right)^{\frac{1}{15}} = 25^{\frac{1}{15}} = \text{R.H.S}
 \end{aligned}$$


**Illustration - 9**

If  $a > 0$ ,  $a \neq 1$ , then the equation  $2\log_x a + \log_{ax} a + 3 \log_{a^2 x} a = 0$  has

- (A) exactly one real root                      (B) two real roots  
(C) no real roots                                  (D) infinite number of real roots

**SOLUTION : (B)**

The equation can be written as

$$\frac{2 \log a}{\log x} + \frac{\log a}{\log (ax)} + \frac{3 \log a}{\log (a^2 x)} = 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots(i) \quad \left[ \text{Using } \log_a b = \frac{\log b}{\log a} \right]$$

As  $a > 0$  and  $a \neq 1$ ,  $\log a \neq 0$ , (i) can be written as

$$\frac{2}{y} + \frac{1}{b+y} + \frac{3}{2b+y} = 0 \quad (\text{where } b = \log a \text{ and } y = \log x)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(b+y)(2b+y) + y(2b+y) + 3y(b+y) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow 4b^2 + 11by + 6y^2 = 0$$

Above equation is a quadratic in  $y$ . On solving, we get :

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{-11b \pm \sqrt{121b^2 - 96b^2}}{12} = -\frac{4b}{3}, -\frac{b}{2}$$

As  $y = \log x$  and  $b = \log a$

$$\Rightarrow \log x = -\frac{4}{3} \log a \quad \text{or} \quad -\frac{1}{2} \log a \Rightarrow x = a^{-4/3}, a^{-1/2} \quad [\text{Using : } \log_a b = c \Rightarrow b = a^c]$$

$\Rightarrow$  Two real roots can exist.

**Illustration - 10**

If the graph of the polynomial :  $y = x^2 + kx - x + 9$  is above  $X$ -axis, then the possible values of  $k$  are :

- (A)  $k \in R$                       (B)  $k \in (-5, 7)$                       (C)  $k \in \phi$                       (D)  $k \in (7, 9)$

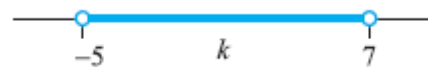
**SOLUTION : (B)**

$y = ax^2 + bx + c$  has its graph above  $x$ -axis if :  $D = (k-1)^2 - 36 < 0$ , for graph to lie above  $x$ -axis

$$a > 0 \text{ and } D < 0 \quad (k-7)(k+5) < 0$$

$$\text{Given } y = x^2 + (k-1)x + 9 \quad \Rightarrow -5 < k < 7 \{ \text{For graph to lie above } x\text{-axis} \}$$

Coefficient of  $x^2 = a = 1$  i.e. positive.



## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

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**Illustration - 11** If  $\log_2(ax^2 + x + a) \geq 1 \forall x \in R$ , then exhaustive set of values of 'a' is :

- (A)  $\left(0, 1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$  (B)  $\left(1 - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}, 1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$  (C)  $\left(0, 1 - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)$  (D)  $\left[1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}, \infty\right)$

**SOLUTION : (D)**

$$\begin{aligned} \log_2(ax^2 + x + a) &\geq 1 \quad \forall x \in R &\Rightarrow a > 0 \text{ and } 4a^2 - 8a - 1 \geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow ax^2 + x + a &\geq 2 \quad \forall x \in R &\Rightarrow a > 0 \text{ and } a \in \left(-\infty, 1 - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}\right] \cup \left[1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}, \infty\right) \\ \Rightarrow ax^2 + x + (a - 2) &\geq 0 \quad \forall x \in R \\ \Rightarrow \text{coefficient of } x^2 > 0 \text{ and } D &\leq 0 &\Rightarrow a \in \left[1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}, \infty\right) \\ \Rightarrow a > 0 \text{ and } 1 - 4a(a - 2) &\leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

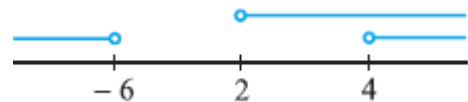
**Illustration - 12** The least Integral value of 'k' for which  $(k - 2)x^2 + 8x + k + 4 > 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , is :

- (A) 5 (B) 2 (C) 3 (D) None of these

**SOLUTION : (A)**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(x) &= (k - 2)x^2 + 8x + k + 4 \\ f(x) > 0 &\Rightarrow a > 0 \text{ and } D < 0 \\ k - 2 > 0 \text{ and } 64 - 4(k - 2)(k + 4) &< 0 \\ k > 2 \text{ and } 16 - (k^2 + 2k - 8) &< 0 \\ k > 2 \text{ and } k^2 + 2k - 24 &> 0 \\ k > 2 \text{ and } (k - 4)(k + 6) &> 0 \\ k > 2 \text{ and } (k < -6 \text{ or } k > 4) & \end{aligned}$$

[By using result 3.5 (b)]



As it can be observed that  $k$  can take value greater than 4

$$\Rightarrow k > 4.$$

$\therefore$  least integral value of  $k = 5$ .

**Illustration - 13** If  $a < b$ , then solution of  $x^2 + (a + b)x + ab < 0$  is given by

- (A)  $x < b$  or  $x < a$  (B)  $a < x < b$  (C)  $x < a$  or  $x > b$  (D)  $-b < x < -a$

**SOLUTION : (D)**

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + (a + b)x + ab &< 0 \\ \Rightarrow (x + a)(x + b) &< 0 &\Rightarrow -b < x < -a \end{aligned}$$

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**Illustration - 14** If  $a, b, c \in R$  and  $(a + b + c)c < 0$ , then the quadratic equation  $p(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  has:

- (A) A negative root      (B) Two real root      (C) Two imaginary root      (D) None of these

**SOLUTION : (B)**

$$p(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\text{Now, } a + b + c = p(1) \text{ and } c = p(0)$$

According to question

$$(a + b + c)c < 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad p(1)p(0) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = 0 \text{ has at least one root in } (0, 1).$$

$p(x) = 0$  has two real roots because if coefficients and any one root are real, then other root would also be real.

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**Illustration - 15** Let  $a, b, c$  be three distinct real numbers such that each of the expression  $ax^2 + bx + c$ ,  $bx^2 + cx + a$  and  $cx^2 + ax + b$  is positive for all  $x \in R$  and let  $\alpha = \frac{bc + ca + ab}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$  then

- (A)  $\alpha < 4$       (B)  $\alpha < 1$       (C)  $\alpha > 1/4$       (D)  $\alpha > 1$

**SOLUTION : (B) & (C)**

 According to the given conditions  $a > 0, b^2 < 4ac$ ;  $b > 0, c^2 < 4ab$ ;  $c > 0, a^2 < 4bc$ 

$$\therefore a^2 + b^2 + c^2 < 4(bc + ca + ab) \quad \dots\dots\dots (i)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4} < \frac{bc + ca + ab}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{4} < \alpha.$$

$$\text{Also } a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - (bc + ca + ab) = \frac{1}{2} [(b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2 + (a - b)^2] > 0 \quad \dots\dots\dots (ii)$$

$$\text{But } \frac{1}{2} [(b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2 + (a - b)^2] > 0 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - (bc + ca + ab) > 0 \quad [\text{Using (ii)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{bc + ca + ab}{a^2 + b^2 + c^2} < 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha < 1.$$

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**Illustration - 16**  $a, b, c \in R, a \neq 0$  and the quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  has no real roots, then

- (A)  $a + b + c > 0$       (B)  $a(a + b + c) > 0$       (C)  $b(a + b + c) > 0$       (D)  $c(a + b + c) > 0$

**SOLUTION : (B) & (D)**

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ . It is given that  $f(x) = 0$  has no real roots. So, either  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in R$  or

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

$f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in R$  i.e.  $f(x)$  has same sign for all values of  $x$ .

$$\therefore f(0)f(1) > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c(a+b+c) > 0.$$

$$\text{Also, } af(1) > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a(a+b+c) > 0.$$

**Illustration - 17** Let  $f(x) = x^2 + 4x + 1$ , then

(A)  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x$

(B)  $f(x) \geq 1$  when  $x \geq 0$

(C)  $f(x) \geq 1$  when  $x \leq -4$

(D)  $f(x) = f(-x)$  for all  $x$

**SOLUTION : (B) & (C)**

Since  $f(x)$  is a quadratic expression having real roots. Therefore  $f(x)$  does not have the same sign for all  $x$ .

$$\text{Now, } f(x) \geq 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x^2 + 4x + 1 \geq 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x^2 + 4x \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad x \leq -4 \quad \text{or} \quad x \geq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{(B) and (C) are correct.}$$

$$f(-x) = x^2 - 4x + 1 \Rightarrow f(-x) \neq f(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{(D) is wrong}$$

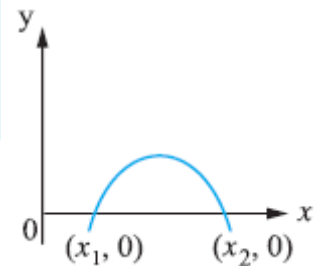
**Illustration - 18** The adjoining figure shows the graph of  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ . Then

(A)  $a < 0$

(B)  $b^2 < 4ac$

(C)  $c > 0$

(D)  $a$  and  $b$  are of opposite signs.



**SOLUTION : (A) & (D)**

As it is clear from the figure that it is a parabola opening downwards i.e.  $a < 0$ .

$\Rightarrow$  (A) is correct.

$\Rightarrow$  It is  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  i.e. degree two polynomial.

Now, if  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \Rightarrow$  it has two roots  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , as it cuts the axis at two distinct point  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

Now, from the figure it is also clear that  $x_1 + x_2 > 0$ . (i.e. sum of roots are positive)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{-b}{a} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{b}{a} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a \text{ and } b \text{ are of opposite signs.} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{(D) is correct}$$

As  $D > 0$  and  $f(0) = c < 0$ , both (B) and (C) are wrong.

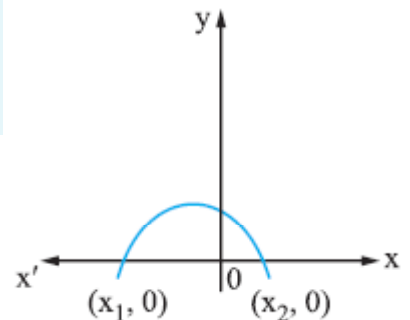
**Illustration - 19** The diagram shows the graph of  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ . Then,

(A)  $a > 0$

(B)  $b < 0$

(C)  $c > 0$

(D)  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$



**SOLUTION : (B) & (C)**

As it is clear from the figure that it is a parabola opening downwards

i.e.  $a < 0$ .

$\Rightarrow$  It is  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  i.e. degree two polynomial.



Now, if  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \Rightarrow$  it has two roots  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  as it cuts the axis at two distinct point  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

Now from the figure it is also clear that  $x_1 + x_2 < 0$ . (i.e. sum of roots are negative)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{-b}{a} < 0 \Rightarrow \frac{b}{a} > 0 \quad b < 0 \Rightarrow (B)$$

As the graph of  $y = f(x)$  cuts the +y-axis at  $(0, c)$  where  $c > 0 \Rightarrow$  (C) is correct.

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## RATIONAL FUNCTION & RATIONAL INEQUATION

## Section - 5

### 5.1 Introduction to Rational Functions

Rational function of  $x$  is defined as ratio of two polynomial of  $x$ , say  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  where  $Q(x) \neq 0$ . i.e.

$$\text{If } f(x) = \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}; Q(x) \neq 0,$$

then  $f(x)$  is a rational function of  $x$ .

Following are some examples of rational functions of  $x$ .

$$f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2+x+1}; f(x) = \frac{x^2-x+2}{x^2-5x+6}; x \neq 2, x \neq 3; f(x) = \frac{x^4+x^3+x+1}{(x-1)^2}; x \neq 1$$

### 5.2 Maximum and Minimum values of a Rational Function of $x$

**Consider :**  $f(x) = y = \frac{ax^2 + bx + c}{px^2 + qx + r}$  where  $x \in R - \{\alpha, \beta\}$ ,

where  $\alpha, \beta$  are roots of  $px^2 + qx + r = 0$  .....(i)

$$\begin{array}{c} x \in R - \{\alpha, \beta\} \rightarrow \boxed{\frac{ax^2 + bx + c}{px^2 + qx + r}} \rightarrow y \in ? \end{array}$$

We will find maximum and minimum values  $f(x)$  can take.

Cross Multiply in (i) to get :

$$y(px^2 + qx + r) = ax^2 + bx + c \Rightarrow (a - py)x^2 + (b - qy)x + (c - ry) = 0$$

$$\text{As } x \text{ is real, } D \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (b - qy)^2 - 4(a - py)(c - ry) \geq 0$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

Above relationship is an inequality in  $y$ . On solving the inequality we will get values  $y$  can take.

**Case - I :**  $y \in [A, B]$

If  $y$  can take values between  $A$  and  $B$ , then,

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = B$ , Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = A$ .

**Case - II :**  $y \in (-\infty, A] \cup [B, \infty)$

If  $y$  can take values outside  $A$  and  $B$ , then

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = \infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = -\infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

**Case - III :**  $y \in (-\infty, \infty)$  *i.e.*  $y \in R$

If  $y$  can take all values, then

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = \infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = -\infty$  *i.e.* not defined.



### Illustration - 20

If  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 34x - 71}{x^2 + 2x - 7}$ ,  $x \in R$ , then  $f(x)$  can take values :

- (A)  $(5, 9)$       (B)  $(-\infty, 5] \cup [9, \infty)$       (C)  $[5, 9]$       (D) None of these

**SOLUTION : (B)**

$$\text{Let } \frac{x^2 + 34x - 71}{x^2 + 2x - 7} = k \quad \Rightarrow \quad (17 - k)^2 - (1 - k)(7k - 71) \geq 0$$

$$\text{By cross multiply and making a quadratic} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 8k^2 - 112k + 360 \geq 0$$

$$\text{equation in } x, \text{ we get :} \quad \Rightarrow \quad k^2 - 14k + 45 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2(1 - k) + (34 - 2k)x + 7k - 71 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (k - 5)(k - 9) \geq 0$$

$$\text{As } x \in R, \text{ discriminant } \geq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k \in (-\infty, 5] \cup [9, \infty) \quad [\text{Using result 3.5 (a)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow (34 - 2k)^2 - 4(1 - k)(7k - 71) \geq 0 \quad \text{Hence } k \text{ can never lie between 5 and 9}$$


**Illustration - 21**

The values of  $m$  for which the expression :  $\frac{2x^2 - 5x + 3}{4x - m}$  can take all real values for

$$x \in R. - \left\{ \frac{m}{4} \right\}$$

- (A)  $m \in [4, 6]$     (B)  $m \in [6, 8]$     (C)  $m \in [-6, -4]$     (D)  $m \in [-4, -2]$

**SOLUTION : (A)**

$$\text{Let } \frac{2x^2 - 5x + 3}{4x - m} = k \Rightarrow 2x^2 - (4k + 5)x + 3 + mk = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{As } x \in R, \text{ discriminant} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (4k + 5)^2 - 8(3 + mk) \geq 0 \Rightarrow 16k^2 + (40 - 8m)k + 1 \geq 0$$

A quadratic in  $k$  is positive for all values of  $k$  if coefficient of  $k^2$  is positive and discriminant  $\leq 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow (40 - 8m)^2 - 4(16)(1) \leq 0 \Rightarrow (5 - m)^2 - 1 \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m - 5 - 1)(m - 5 + 1) \leq 0 \Rightarrow (m - 6)(m - 4) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m \in [4, 6]$$

[By using 3.5 (a)]

So for the given expression to take all real values,  $m$  should take values :  $m \in [4, 6]$ .


**Illustration - 22**

The values of  $m$  so that the inequality :  $\left| \frac{x^2 + mx + 1}{x^2 + x + 1} \right| < 3$  holds for all  $x \in R$ .

- (A)  $m \in (-1, 8)$     (B)  $m \in (-\infty, -1) \cup (5, \infty)$     (C)  $m \in (-1, 5)$     (D) None of these

**SOLUTION : (C)**

We know that  $|a| < b \Rightarrow -b < a < b$

$$\text{Hence } \left| \frac{x^2 + mx + 1}{x^2 + x + 1} \right| < 3. \Rightarrow -3 < \frac{x^2 + mx + 1}{x^2 + x + 1} < 3$$

$$\text{Case I : } \frac{x^2 + mx + 1}{x^2 + x + 1} < 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(x^2 + mx + 1) - 3(x^2 + x + 1)}{x^2 + x + 1} < 0 \Rightarrow \frac{-2x^2 + (m - 3)x - 2}{\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}} < 0$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

Multiplying both sides by denominator, we get :

$$\Rightarrow -2x^2 + (m-3)x - 2 < 0 \quad (\text{because denominator is always positive})$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 - (m-3)x + 2 > 0$$

A quadratic expression in  $x$  is always positive if coefficient of  $x^2 > 0$  and  $D < 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow (m-3)^2 - 4(2)(2) < 0 \quad \Rightarrow m^2 - 6m - 7 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m-7)(m+1) < 0 \quad \Rightarrow m \in (-1, 7) \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

$$\text{Case II : } -3 < \frac{x^2 + mx + 1}{x^2 + x + 1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad < 0 \quad \frac{(x^2 + mx + 1) + 3(x^2 + x + 1)}{x^2 + x + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 + (m+3)x + 4 > 0$$

For this to be true for all  $x \in R$ ,  $D < 0$

$$\Rightarrow (m+3)^2 - 4(4)(4) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m+3-8)(m+3+8) < 0 \quad [\text{Using } a^2 - b^2 = (a+b)(a-b)]$$

$$\Rightarrow (m-5)(m+11) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow m \in (-11, 5) \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

We will combine (i) and (ii) because must be satisfied.

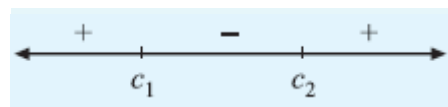
$$\Rightarrow \text{The common solution is } m \in (-1, 5).$$

### 5.3 Rational Algebraic Inequalities :

#### (a) Solving Quadratic Inequality :

A simple and quick method of solving quadratic inequarions is as follows :

- Make the coefficient of  $x^2$  positive if necessary.



- Check for  $b^2 - 4ac$ . If it is ngative then the solution is either all real  $x$  or no real  $x$  depending on the inequality sign. If  $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , then solve the given quadratic to get the real roots  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  where  $c_1 < c_2$ .
- If the final sign of the inequation is ' $>$ ' then the soluiton set is  $(-\infty, c_1) \cup (c_2, \infty)$  and if the final sign is ' $<$ ' then the solution set is  $(c_1, c_2)$ .

#### (b) Equivalence in Inequality :

The inequations are said to be equivalent if every solution of one is a solution of the other. For instance, the

inequations  $(x-2)(x-3) > 0$  and  $\frac{x-2}{x-3} > 0$  are equivalent. The solution set to both inequations

is  $(-\infty, 2) \cup (3, \infty)$ .

### PROOF

The inequation  $\frac{x-2}{x-3} > 0$  makes sense if  $x \neq 3$ . Multiplying by  $(x-3)^2 > 0$  on both sides, we get  $(x-2)(x-3) > 0$  whose solution set is easily seen to be  $(-\infty, 2) \cup (3, \infty)$ .

The student must note carefully that the inequations  $(x-2)(x-3) \geq 0$  and  $\frac{x-2}{x-3} \geq 0$  are NOT equivalent. The former has solution set  $(-\infty, 2] \cup [3, \infty)$ , while the latter has solution set  $(-\infty, 2] \cup [3, \infty)$ .

Similarly the inequations

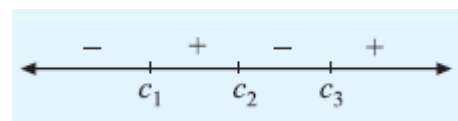
$$(x-1)(x-2)(x-3) > 0; \frac{(x-1)(x-2)}{(x-3)} > 0 \text{ and } \frac{(x-1)}{(x-2)(x-3)} > 0$$

are all equivalent, (See the section for solutions to the cubic inequations)

### (c) Cubic inequations :

Suppose the inequation can be written as

$$(x - c_1)(x - c_2)(x - c_3) > 0, \text{ where } c_1 < c_2 < c_3.$$



The solution set =  $(c_1, c_2) \cup (c_3, \infty)$

If the sign in the above inequation is ' $<$ ', then the solution set is  $(-\infty, c_1) \cup (c_2, c_3)$

### (d) Generalization :

The solution set to the inequation

$$(x - c_1)(x - c_2) \dots (x - c_n) > 0, \text{ where } c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_n \text{ is}$$

The solution set is :  $(c_1, c_2) \cup (c_3, c_4) \cup \dots \cup (c_n, \infty)$ , if  $n$  is odd

and  $(-\infty, c_1) \cup (c_2, c_3) \cup \dots \cup (c_n, \infty)$ , if  $n$  is even.

**Note :** Dealing with inequations in an immature manner leads to serious errors. The consequences are generally

(1) Allowing fake solutions.

(2) Discarding correct ones.

## (e) Rational Algebraic Inequalities

Consider the following types of rational algebraic inequalities.

$$\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} > 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} < 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \geq 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \leq 0$$

where  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  are polynomials in  $x$ .

- These inequalities can be solved by the *method of intervals* also known as *sign method* or *wavy curve method*.

### How to solve Rational Algebraic Inequality :

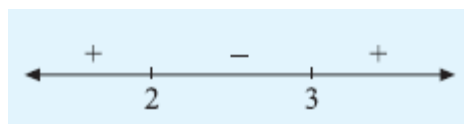
- Factorise  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  into linear factors.
- Make coefficient of  $x$  positive in all factors.
- Equate all the factors to zero and find corresponding values of  $x$ . These values are known as critical points.
- Plot the critical points on a number line.  $n$  critical points will divide the number line  $(n + 1)$  regions.
- In right most region, the expression bears positive sign and in other regions the expression bears alternate positive and negative signs.

### Illustration the Concepts :

- (i) Solve  $x^2 - 5x + 6 > 0$ .

It is easy to see that  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x - 2)(x - 3)$ .

Thus, the critical points are 2 and 3 and since the sign is ' $>$ ', the solution set is  $(-\infty, 2) \cup (3, \infty)$

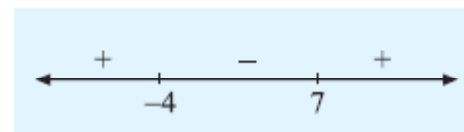


- (ii) Solve  $28 + 3x - x^2 > 0$

Multiplying with  $-1$ , we get  $x^2 - 3x - 28 < 0$

$$\Rightarrow (x + 4)(x - 7) < 0$$

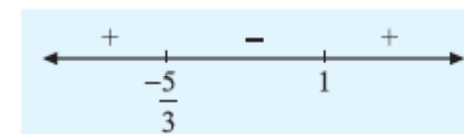
$$\Rightarrow x \in (-4, 7)$$



- (iii) Solve  $5 - 2x - 3x^2 \leq 0$

Multiplying with  $-1$ , we get  $3x^2 + 2x - 5 \geq 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow (x - 1)(3x + 5) \geq 0$$



$$\Rightarrow x \in \left(-\infty, \frac{-5}{3}\right] \cup [1, \infty)$$

(iv) Solve  $x^2 + 3x - 1 < 0$

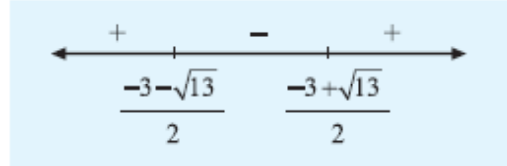
Now the factors of  $x^2 + 3x - 1$  are not possible by inspection although they are real

Solving,  $x^2 + 3x - 1 = 0$ , we get  $\frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{13}}{2}$  as critical

points. Thus, the inequation can be written as

$$\left[ x - \frac{-3 - \sqrt{13}}{2} \right] \left[ x - \frac{-3 + \sqrt{13}}{2} \right] < 0$$

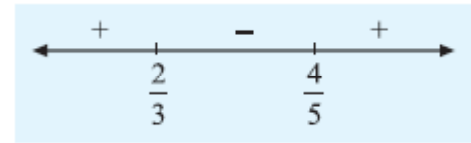
Hence the solution set  $\left( \frac{-3 - \sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{-3 + \sqrt{13}}{2} \right)$



(v) Solve  $\frac{3x-2}{5x-4} < 0$

The critical point are  $\frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{4}{5}$  and therefore the

solution is  $\left( \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{5} \right)$



(vi) Solve  $(x-3)(x-2)^2 > 0$

Since  $(x-2)^2 > 0$  for all  $x$  except at  $x = 2$  for which

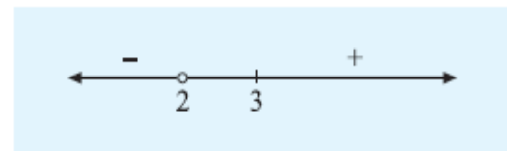
$$(x-2)^2 = 0.$$

The given inequation is equivalent to  $x-3 > 0$  and

$x \neq 2$ .

Now  $x-3 > 0$  is obviously satisfied in  $(3, \infty)$

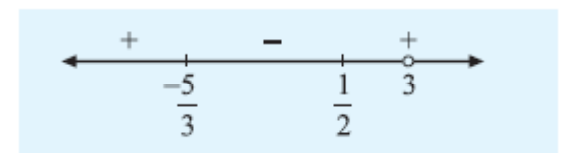
which does not include 2. Thus the required solution is  $(3, \infty)$



(vii) Solve  $(x-3)^2(2x-1)(3x+5) > 0$

Since  $(x-3)^2 > 0$  for all  $x$  except at  $x = 3$  hence the

inequation can be written as  $(2x-1)(3x+5) > 0$  if  $x \neq 3$ .



## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

$$\Rightarrow x \in \left(-\infty, -\frac{5}{3}\right) \cup \left(\frac{1}{2}, \infty\right), \text{ where } x \neq 3,$$

Hence, the required solution is :

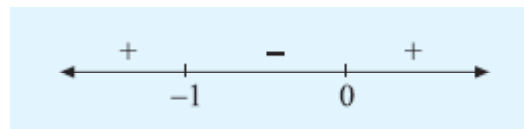
$$\left(-\infty, -\frac{5}{3}\right) \cup \left(\frac{1}{2}, 3\right) \cup (3, \infty)$$

(viii) Solve  $1/x > -1$

$$\frac{1}{x} + 1 > 0 \quad ; \quad \frac{x+1}{x} > 0$$

The critical points are  $-1$  and  $0$

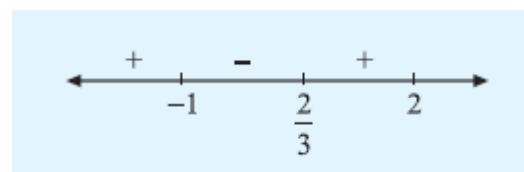
Hence, the required solution  $= (-\infty, -1) \cup (0, \infty)$



(ix) Solve  $(x-2)(3x-2)(x+1) < 0$

The critical points in the ascending order are  $-1$ ,  $2/3$  and  $2$  using our algorithm for cubic inequality.

Hence, the required solution is  $(-\infty, -1) \cup \left(\frac{2}{3}, 2\right)$



### Illustration - 23

$$\text{Solve for } x : \frac{8x^2 + 16x - 51}{(2x-3)(x+4)} > 3$$

**SOLUTION :**

$$\frac{8x^2 + 16x - 51}{(2x-3)(x+4)} > 3$$

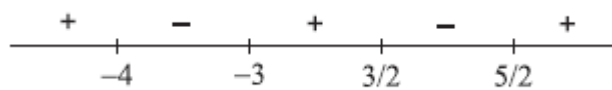
$$\Rightarrow \frac{8x^2 + 16x - 51 - 3(2x-3)(x+4)}{(2x-3)(x+4)} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2x^2 + x - 15}{(2x-3)(x+4)} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(2x-5)(x+3)}{(2x-3)(x+4)} > 0$$

Critical points are :  $x = -4, -3, 3/2, 5/2$

The solution from the number line is :

$$x \in (-\infty, -4) \cup \left(-3, \frac{3}{2}\right) \cup \left(\frac{5}{2}, \infty\right)$$





**Illustration - 24**

Solve for  $x$ :  $\frac{4}{1+x} + \frac{2}{1-x} < 1$ .

**SOLUTION :**

$$\frac{4}{1+x} + \frac{2}{1-x} < 1$$

On solving the above inequality, we get :  $\frac{x^2 - 2x + 5}{(1+x)(1-x)} < 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(1+x)(1-x)} < 0 \quad [\text{As } x^2 - 2x + 5 > 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ (because } D < 0, a > 0)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(1+x)(x-1)} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup (1, \infty)$$

**Illustration - 25**

Let  $y = \sqrt{\frac{2}{x^2 - x + 1} - \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{(2x+1)}{x^3 + 1}}$ ; find all the real values of  $x$  for which  $y$  takes real values (i.e. find domain). are :

- (A)  $x \in (-1, 0) \cup (1, 2)$       (B)  $x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup [0, 1]$   
 (C)  $m \in (0, 1) \cup (2, 3)$       (D)  $m \in (-1, 1)$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

For  $y$  to take real values ;  $\frac{2}{x^2 - x + 1} - \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{(2x+1)}{x^3 + 1} \geq 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2(x+1) - (x^2 + 1 - x) - (2x+1)}{x^3 + 1} \geq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \frac{-x^2 + x}{(x+1)(x^2 - x + 1)} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x(x-1)}{(x+1)(x^2 - x + 1)} \leq 0$$

Multiply both sides by  $x^2 - x + 1$  to get,

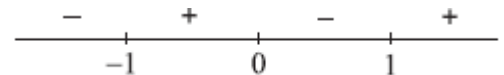
[As  $x^2 - x + 1 > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  (because  $D < 0, a > 0$ ) we can multiply both sides by  $x^2 - x + 1$ ]

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x(x-1)}{(x+1)} \leq 0$$

Critical points are  $x = 0, x = 1, x = -1$ .

Expression is negative for  $x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup [0, 1]$

So real values of  $x$  for which  $y$  is real are  $x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup [0, 1]$ .



POSITION OF ROOTS OF A QUADRATIC EQUATION

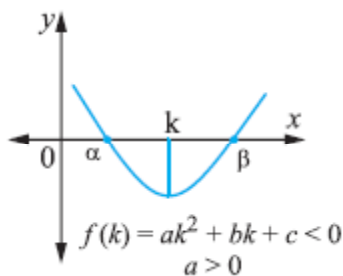
Section - 6

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ , where  $a, b, c \in R$  be a quadratic expression and  $k, k_1, k_2$  be real numbers such that  $k_1 < k_2$ . Let  $\alpha, \beta$  ( $\alpha \neq \beta$ ) be the roots of the equation  $f(x) = 0$  i.e.  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ . Then  $\alpha = \frac{-b - \sqrt{D}}{2a}$  and  $\beta = \frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}$ , where  $D$  is the discriminant of the equation.

### 6.1 Conditions for a number $k$ to lie between the roots of a quadratic equation

If a number  $k$  lies between the roots of a quadratic equation  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , then the equation must have real roots and the sign of  $f(k)$  is opposite to the sign of ' $a$ ' as is evident from Fig. 1 and 2.

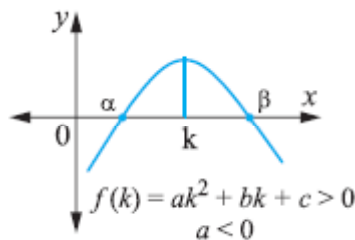
Fig. 1



$$af(k) < 0$$

.....(i)

Fig. 2



$$af(k) < 0$$

.....(ii)

Combining (i) and (ii),  $af(k) < 0$  for  $k$  to lie between roots.

**Note :** For roots to be real,  $D \geq 0$ . There is no need to take this condition as when  $af(k) < 0$ , then  $D$  will always be positive i.e.  $D \geq 0$ . Hence  $af(k) < 0$  is necessary and sufficient condition for  $k$  to lie between roots.

Thus, a number  $k$  lies between the roots of a quadratic equation  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

If  $af(k) < 0$ .

## 6.2 Conditions for both $k_1$ and $k_2$ to lie between the roots of a quadratic equation

If both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  lie between the roots  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of a quadratic equation, then  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , then sign of  $f(k_1)$  and  $f(k_2)$  should be positive or negative depending upon sign of  $a$  as it is evident from figure 3 and 4.

Fig. 3

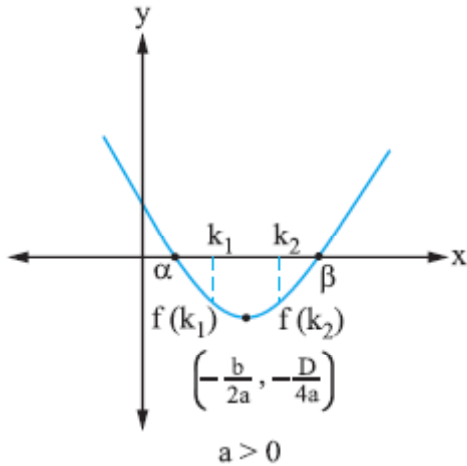
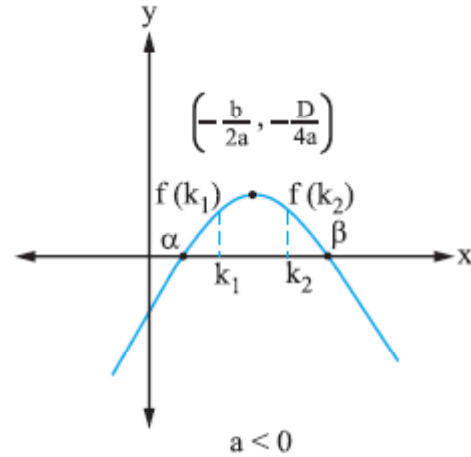


Fig. 4



$$f(k_1) < 0 \text{ and } f(k_2) < 0 \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

$$f(k_1) > 0 \text{ and } f(k_2) > 0 \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Combining (i) and (ii),  $af(k_1) < 0$  and  $af(k_2) < 0$

Hence for  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  to lie between roots,  $af(k_1) < 0$  and  $af(k_2) < 0$ .

## 6.3 Conditions for a number $k$ to be less than Roots of a Quadratic Equation

If a number  $k$  is smaller than the roots of a quadratic equation  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ , then the equation must have real and distinct roots and the sign of  $f(k)$  is same as the sign of ' $a$ ' as is evident from Figs. 5 and 6. Also,  $k$  is less than the x-coordinate of the vertex of the parabola  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  i.e.  $k < -b/2a$ .

Fig. 5

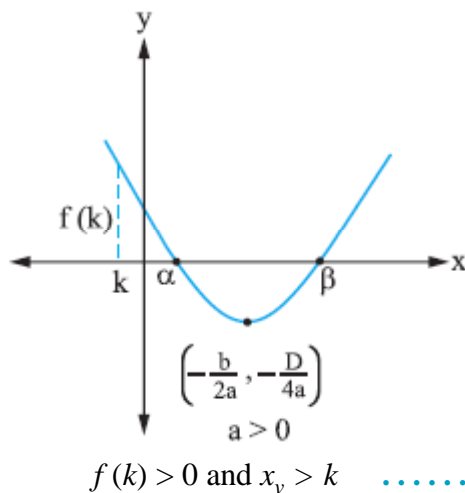
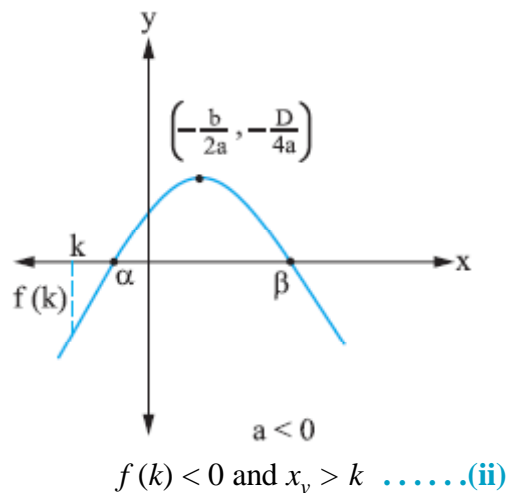


Fig. 6



Combining (i) and (ii) we get :  $af(k) > 0, x_v > k$  i.e.  $-\frac{b}{2a} > k$  and  $D \geq 0$

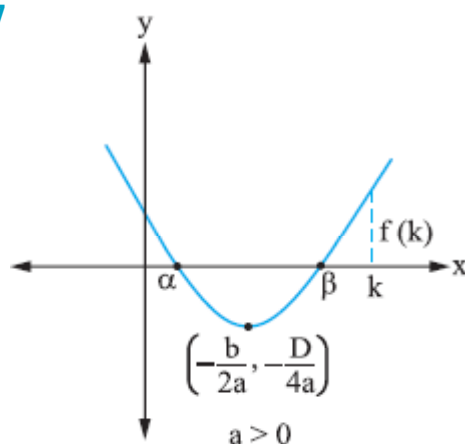
Thus, a number  $k$  is smaller than the roots of a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , if

- (i)  $D \geq 0$       (ii)  $af(k) > 0$       (iii)  $k < x_v = -b/2a$ .

## 6.4 Conditions for a number $k$ to be more than the roots of a quadratic equation

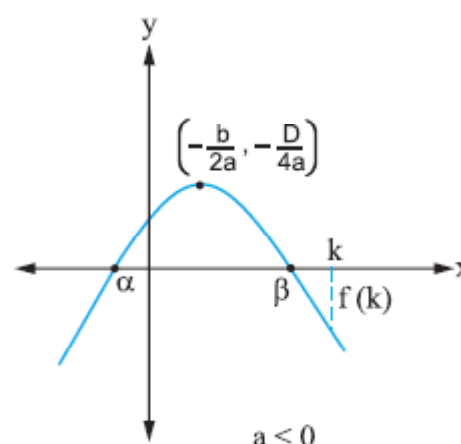
If a number  $k$  is larger than the roots of a quadratic equation  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ , then the equation must have real and distinct roots and the sign of  $f(k)$  is same as the sign of ' $a$ ' as is evident from Figs. 7 and 8. Also,  $k$  is greater than the x-coordinate of the vertex of the parabola  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  i.e.  $k > -b/2a$ .

Fig. 7



$$f(k) > 0 \text{ and } x_v < k \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

Fig. 8



$$f(k) < 0 \text{ and } x_v < k \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Combining (i) and (ii) we get :  $af(k) > 0, x_v < k$  i.e.  $-\frac{b}{2a} < k$  and  $D \geq 0$

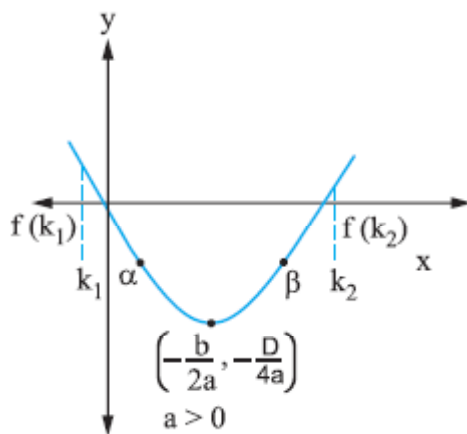
Thus, a number  $k$  is smaller than the roots of a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , if

- (i)  $D \geq 0$       (ii)  $af(k) > 0$       (iii)  $k > -b/2a$ .

## 6.5 Condition for both the roots of a quadratic equation to lie between numbers $k_1$ and $k_2$

If both these roots  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of a quadratic equation  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , lie between number  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , then equation must have real roots, signs of  $f(k_1)$  and  $f(k_2)$  are same as sign of ' $a$ ' is evident from fig 9. and 10. Also  $x_v = -\frac{b}{2a}$  must be between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$

Fig. 9

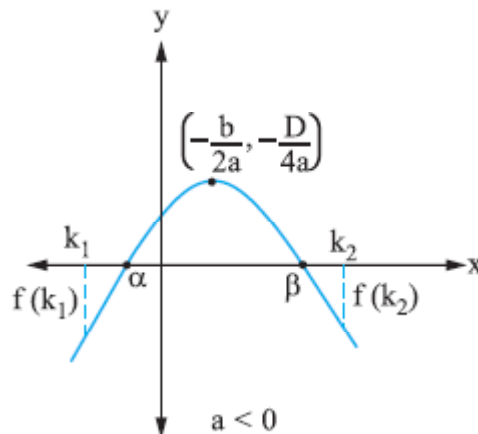


$$f(k_1) > 0,$$

$$f(k_2) > 0,$$

$$k_1 < x_v < k_2 \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

Fig. 10



$$f(k_1) < 0,$$

$$f(k_2) < 0,$$

$$k_1 < x_v < k_2 \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Combining (i) and (ii) we get :  $af(k_1) > 0$ ,  $af(k_2) > 0$ ,  $k_1 < x_v < k_2$  and  $D \geq 0$

If both the roots of a quadratic equation lie between numbers  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , then

(i)  $D \geq 0$

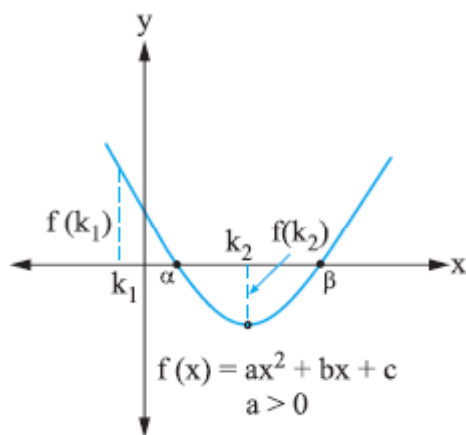
(ii)  $af(k_1) > 0, af(k_2) > 0$

(iii)  $k_1 < -\frac{b}{2a} < k_2$

## 6.6 Condition for exactly one root of a quadratic equation to lie in the interval $(k_1, k_2)$ , where $k_1 < k_2$

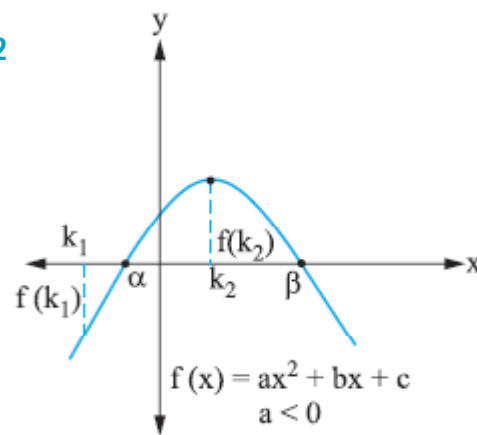
If exactly one root of the equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  lies in the interval  $(k_1, k_2)$ , then  $f(k_1)$  and  $f(k_2)$  must be of opposite sign as shown in Figs. 11 and 12.

Fig. 11



$$f(k_1) > 0 \text{ and } f(k_2) < 0$$

Fig. 12



$$f(k_1) < 0 \text{ and } f(k_2) > 0$$

.....(i)

.....(i)

Combining (i) and (ii), we get :  $f(k_1)f(k_2) < 0$

**Note :** Exactly one root lie between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ . Therefore graph of quadratic polynomial will cross x-axis once between  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ . This implies signs of  $f(k_1)$  and  $f(k_2)$  would be different. Hence  $f(k_1)f(k_2) < 0$

Thus, exactly one root of the equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  lies in the interval  $(k_1, k_2)$  if

(i)  $f(k_1)f(k_2) < 0$

## 6.7 Some More Result on Roots of Quadratic Equation

- Both roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are negative,  
if sum of the roots  $< 0$ , product of the roots  $> 0$  and  $D \geq 0$

i.e.  $-\frac{b}{a} < 0, \frac{c}{a} > 0, b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$

- Both roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are positive,  
if sum of the roots  $> 0$ , product of the roots  $> 0$  and  $D \geq 0$

i.e.  $-\frac{b}{a} > 0, \frac{c}{a} > 0, b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$

- Roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are opposite in sign,  
if product of the roots  $< 0$  i.e.  $\frac{c}{a} < 0$

**Illustration - 26** If the roots of the equations  $x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + a - 3 = 0$  are real and less than 3, then :

- (A)  $a > 2$       (B)  $2 \leq a \leq 3$       (C)  $3 < a \leq 4$       (D)  $a > 4$

**SOLUTION : (A)**

Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + a - 3$

As both roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are less than 3, we can take  $f(3) > 0$ ,  $-b/2a < 3$  and  $D \geq 0$

[Using section 6.4]

Consider  $af(3) > 0$  :

$$\Rightarrow 1[9 - 6a + a^2 + a - 3] > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a^2 - 5a + 6 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in (-\infty, 2) \cup (3, \infty) \quad \dots\dots\dots (i)$$

Consider  $-b/2a < 3$  :  $\frac{-(-2a)}{3} < 3$

$$\Rightarrow a < 3 \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{(ii)}$$

$$\text{Consider } D \geq 0 : 4a - 4(a^2 + a - 3) \geq 0 \Rightarrow -4(a - 3) \geq 0 \Rightarrow a - 3 \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in (-\infty, 3] \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{(iii)}$$

Combining (i), (ii) and (iii) on the number line, we get :  $a \in (-\infty, 2)$

**Illustration - 27** The values of  $p$  for which the roots of the equation  $(p - 3)x^2 - 2px + 5p = 0$  are real and positive are:

(A)  $p \in [2, 3]$     (B)  $p \in \left(3, \frac{15}{4}\right]$     (C)  $p \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (3, \infty)$     (D)  $p \in \left(2, \frac{15}{4}\right)$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

The roots are real and positive if  $D \geq 0$ , sum of the roots  $> 0$  and product of the roots  $> 0$ .

[Using result 6.7]  $D \geq 0$  :

$$\Rightarrow 4p^2 - 20p(p - 3) \geq 0 \Rightarrow -4p^2 + 15p \geq 0 \Rightarrow 4p^2 - 15p \leq 0 \Rightarrow p \in [0, 15/4] \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

**Sum of the roots  $> 0$  :**

$$\frac{2p}{p - 3} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{p}{p - 3} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow p(p - 3) > 0 \Rightarrow p \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (3, \infty) \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{(ii)}$$

**Product of the roots  $> 0$  :**

$$\frac{5p}{p - 3} > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{p}{p - 3} > 0 \Rightarrow p(p - 3) > 0 \Rightarrow p \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (3, \infty) \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{(iii)}$$

Combining (i), (ii) and (iii) on the number line, we get :

$$p \in (3, 15/4].$$

**Illustration - 28** The values of  $a$  for which  $2x^2 - 2(2a + 1)x + a(a + 1) = 0$  may have one root less than  $a$  and other root greater than ' $a$ ' are given by

(A)  $1 > a > 0$     (B)  $-1 < a < 0$     (C)  $a \geq 0$     (D)  $a > 0$  or  $a < -1$

**SOLUTION : (D)**

The given condition suggests that  $a$  lies between the roots. Let  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 2(2a + 1)x + a(a + 1)$ . For  $a$  to lie between the roots, we must have  $f(a) < 0$

$$\Rightarrow 2a^2 - 2a(2a + 1) + a(a + 1) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -a^2 - a < 0 \Rightarrow a^2 + a > 0 \Rightarrow a > 0 \text{ or } a < -1$$

**Illustration - 29** The values of 'a' for which both the roots of  $x^2 - 4ax + 2a^2 - 3a + 5 = 0$  is greater than 2, are :

- (A)  $a \in (1, \infty)$       (B)  $a = 1$       (C)  $a \in (-\infty, 1)$       (D)  $a \in (9/2, \infty)$

**SOLUTION : (D)**

Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 4ax + 2a^2 - 3a + 5$ . The conditions for both the roots to exceed 2 are

- (i)  $D \geq 0$       (ii)  $f(2) > 0$  and      (iii)  $x_v > 2$

Now consider  $D \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow 16a^2 - 4(2a^2 - 3a + 5) \geq 0 \Rightarrow 2a^2 + 3a - 5 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2a + 5)(a - 1) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in (-\infty, 5/2] \cup [1, \infty) \quad \dots\dots(i)$$

Now consider  $f(2) > 0$

$$\Rightarrow 4 - 8a + (2a^2 - 3a + 5) > 0 \Rightarrow 2a^2 - 11a + 9 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2a - 9)(a - 1) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a \in (-\infty, 1) \cup \left(\frac{9}{2}, \infty\right) \quad \dots\dots(ii)$$

Now consider  $x_v > 2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4a}{2} > 2 \quad \text{constant}$$

$$\Rightarrow a > 1 \quad \dots\dots(iii)$$

On combining (i), (ii) and (iii), we get :  $a \in \left(\frac{9}{2}, \infty\right)$



★★

## TRANSFORMATION OF EQUATIONS

## Section - 7

### 7.1. Transformation of an equation into another equation whose roots are the reciprocals of the roots of the given equation

Let  $f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1}x + a_n = 0$  ..... (i)

be the given equation. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be respectively the roots of given equation and that of the transformed equation.

Then,  $y = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{y}$

Putting  $x = \frac{1}{y}$  in (i), we get :

$$\frac{a_0}{y^n} + \frac{a_1}{y^{n-1}} + \frac{a_2}{y^{n-2}} + \dots + \frac{a_{n-1}}{y} + a_n = 0 \Rightarrow a_n y^n + a_{n-1} y^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 y + a_0 = 0$$

This is the required equation.

**Note :** Thus, to obtain an equation whose roots are reciprocals of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $1/x$  in the given equation.

**Illustration - 30** Find the condition that the roots of the equation  $x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$  be in H.P.

(A)  $27r^2 + 9pqr + 2q^3 = 0$

(B)  $27r^2 - 9pqr + 2q^3 = 0$

(C)  $27r^2 + 9pqr + q^3 = 0$

(D)  $27r^2 - 9pqr + q^3 = 0$

**SOLUTION : (B)**

The equation whose roots are reciprocals of the roots of the given equation is given by

$$\frac{1}{x^3} - \frac{p}{x^2} + \frac{q}{x} - r = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad rx^3 - qx^2 + px - 1 = 0 \quad \dots\dots (i)$$

Since the roots of the given equation are in H.P. so, the roots of this equation are in A.P. Let its roots be  $a - d$ ,  $a$  and  $a + d$ . Then,  $(a - d) + a + (a + d) = -\left(-\frac{q}{r}\right) \Rightarrow 3a = \frac{q}{r} \Rightarrow a = \frac{q}{3r}$

$-d$ ,  $a$  and  $a + d$ . Then,  $(a - d) + a + (a + d) = -\left(-\frac{q}{r}\right) \Rightarrow 3a = \frac{q}{r} \Rightarrow a = \frac{q}{3r}$

Since  $a$  is a root of (i), so,

$$ra^3 - qa^2 + pa - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow r\left(\frac{q}{3r}\right)^3 - q\left(\frac{q}{3r}\right)^2 + p\left(\frac{q}{3r}\right) - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{q^3}{27r^2} - \frac{q^3}{9r^2} + \frac{pq}{3r} - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow q^3 - 3q^3 + 9pqr - 27r^2 = 0 \Rightarrow 27r^2 - 9pqr + 2q^3 = 0$$

## 7.2 Transformation of an equation into another equation whose roots are negatives of the given equation.

Let the given equation be

$$f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1}x + a_n = 0$$

**Note :** Let  $x$  be root of the given equation and  $y$  be a root of the transformed equation. Then  $y = -x$  or  $x = -y$ .  
Thus the transformed equation is obtained by putting  $x = -y$  in  $f(x) = 0$  and is therefore  $f(-y) = 0$   
or  $a_0y^n - a_1y^{n-1} + a_2y^{n-2} + \dots + (-1)^n a_n = 0$

### Illustrating the Concepts :

The equation whose roots are negative of the roots of the equation :  $x^3 - 5x^2 - 7x - 3 = 0$

$$(-x)^3 - 5(-x)^2 - 7(-x) - 3 = 0 \text{ or } -x^3 - 5x^2 + 7x - 3 = 0 \text{ or } x^3 + 5x^2 - 7x + 3 = 0.$$

## 7.3 Transformation of an equation of another whose roots are square of the roots of a given equation

Let  $x$  be a root of the given equation and  $y$  be that of the transformed equation. Then,

$$y = x^2 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{y}.$$

**Note :** Thus, an equation whose roots are squares of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $\sqrt{x}$  in the given equation

### Illustrating the Concepts :

Form an equation whose roots are squares of the roots of the equation :  $x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = 0$ .

Replacing  $x$  by  $\sqrt{x}$  in the given equation, we get :

$$\begin{aligned} (\sqrt{x})^3 - 6(\sqrt{x})^2 + 11\sqrt{x} - 6 &= 0 \Rightarrow x^{3/2} + 11\sqrt{x} = 6x + 6 \Rightarrow \sqrt{x}(x + 11) = 6(x + 1) \\ &\Rightarrow x(x + 11)^2 = 36(x + 1)^2 \Rightarrow x^3 - 14x^2 + 49x - 36 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

## 7.4 Transformation of an equation into another equation whose roots are cubes of the roots of the given equation.

Let  $x$  be a root of the given equation and  $y$  be that of the transformed equation. Then,  $y = x^3 \Rightarrow x = y^{1/3}$

**Note :** Thus, an equation whose roots are cubes of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $x^{1/3}$  in the given equation

### Illustrating the Concepts :

Form an equation whose roots are cubes of the roots of equation :  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$ .

Replacing  $x$  by  $x^{1/3}$  in the given equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} a(x^{1/3})^3 + b(x^{1/3})^2 + c(x^{1/3}) + d &= 0 & \Rightarrow & ax + d = -(bx^{2/3} + cx^{1/3}) \\ \Rightarrow (ax + d)^3 &= -(bx^{2/3} + cx^{1/3})^3 \\ \Rightarrow a^3 x^3 + 3a^2 dx^2 + 3ad^2 x + d^3 &= -\{b^3 x^2 + c^3 x + 3bcx(bx^{2/3} + cx^{1/3})\} \\ \Rightarrow a^3 x^3 + 3a^2 dx^2 + 3ad^2 x + d^3 &= -\{b^3 x^2 + c^3 x - 3bcx(ax + d)\} \\ \Rightarrow a^3 x^3 + x^2(3a^2 d - 3abc + b^3) + x(3ad^2 - 3bcd + c^3) + d^3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is the required equation.

## 7.5 Relations between Roots and Coefficients

If  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$  are roots of the equation

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

$$f(x) = a_0 (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2)(x - \alpha_3) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$$

$$\therefore a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + a_2 x^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1} x + a_n = a_0 (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2) \dots (x - \alpha_n)$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $x^{n-1}$  on both sides, we get :

$$S_1 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n = \sum \alpha_i = \frac{-a_1}{a_0} \quad \text{or,} \quad S_1 = -\frac{\text{coeff. of } x^{n-1}}{\text{coeff. of } x^n}$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $x^{n-2}$  on both sides, we get :

$$S_2 = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 + \alpha_1 \alpha_3 + \dots = \sum_{i \neq j} \alpha_i \alpha_j = (-1)^2 \frac{a_2}{a_0} \quad \text{or,} \quad S_2 = \frac{(-1)^2 \text{coeff. of } x^{n-2}}{\text{coeff. of } x^n}$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $x^{n-3}$  on both sides, we get :

$$S_3 = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 + \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \alpha_4 + \dots = \sum_{i \neq j \neq k} \alpha_i \alpha_j \alpha_k = (-1)^3 \frac{a_3}{a_0}$$

$$\text{or, } S_3 = \frac{(-1)^3 \text{coeff. of } x^{n-3}}{\text{coeff. of } x^n}$$

## Quadratic Equations & Inequations

$$S_n = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \alpha_3 \dots \alpha_n = (-1)^n \frac{a_n}{a_0} = (-1)^n \frac{\text{const term}}{\text{coeff of } x^n}$$

Here,  $S_k$  denotes the sum of the products of the roots taken  $k$  at a time.

### Particular Cases :

**Quadratic Equation :** If  $\alpha, \beta$  are roots of the quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , then

$$\alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$$

**Cubic Equation :** If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are roots of a cubic equation

$$ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0, \quad \text{then} \quad \alpha + \beta + \gamma = -b/a, \quad \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = (-1)^2 \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{a}$$

and  $\alpha\beta\gamma = (-1)^3 \frac{d}{a} = -\frac{d}{a}.$

**Biquadratic Equation :** If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  are roots of the biquadratic equation  $ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e = 0$ , then

$$S_1 = \alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta = -\frac{b}{a}$$

$$S_2 = \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\delta + \beta\delta + \gamma\delta = (-1)^2 \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{a}$$

or,  $S_2 = (\alpha + \beta)(\gamma + \delta) + \alpha\beta + \gamma\delta = \frac{c}{a}$

$$S_3 = \alpha\beta\gamma + \beta\gamma\delta + \gamma\delta\alpha + \alpha\beta\delta = (-1)^3 \frac{d}{a} = -\frac{d}{a}$$

or,  $S_3 = \alpha\beta(\gamma + \delta) + \gamma\delta(\alpha + \beta) = -\frac{d}{a} \quad \text{and,} \quad S_4 = \alpha\beta\gamma\delta = (-1)^4 \frac{e}{a} = \frac{e}{a}.$

**Illustration - 31** If the sum of two roots of the equation  $x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$  is zero, then

- (A)  $pq = r$       (B)  $pr = q$       (C)  $qr = p$       (D) None of these

**SOLUTION : (A)**

Let the roots of the given equation be  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  such that  $\alpha + \beta = 0$ . Then,

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -\frac{(-p)}{1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha + \beta + \gamma = p \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma = p \quad [\because \alpha + \beta = 0]$$

But  $\gamma$  is a root of the given equation. Therefore,

$$\gamma^3 - p\gamma^2 + q\gamma - r = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad p^3 - p^3 + qp - r = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad pq = r$$

**Illustration - 32** Find the condition that the roots of the equation  $x^3 - px^2 + qx - r = 0$  may be in A.P.

(A)  $2p^3 + 9pq + 27r = 0$       (B)  $p^3 + 9pq + 27r = 0$

(C)  $2p^3 - 9pq + 27r = 0$       (D)  $p^3 - 9pq + 27r = 0$

**SOLUTION : (C)**

Let the roots of the given equation be  $a - d, a, a + d$ .

Then,

$$(a - d) + a + (a + d) = \frac{-(-p)}{1} \Rightarrow a = p/3$$

Since  $a$  is a root of the given equation. Therefore,

$$a^3 - pa^2 + qa - r = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{p^3}{27} - \frac{p^3}{9} + \frac{qp}{3} - r = 0 \Rightarrow 2p^3 - 9pq + 27r = 0$$

This is the required condition.

**THINGS TO REMEMBER**

1. If  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  is a quadratic equation and  $\alpha, \beta$  are its roots then

Roots of a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  ( $a \neq 0, a, b, c \in R$ ) are given by:  $\alpha, \beta = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

- Sum of the roots  $= \alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a}$
- Product of roots  $= \alpha \beta = \frac{c}{a}$
- $ax^2 + bx + c = a(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$ .

2. If  $S$  be the sum and  $P$  be the product of roots, then quadratic equation is:  $x^2 - Sx + P = 0$

3. **Nature of Quadratic Equation :**

- (a) If  $D < 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ ), then the roots of the quadratic equation are non-real i.e. complex root.
- (b) If  $D = 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ ), then the roots are real and equal.  

$$\text{Equal root} = -\frac{b}{2a}$$
- (c) If  $D > 0$  ( $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ ), then the roots are real and unequal.
- If  $D$  i.e. ( $b^2 - 4ac$ ) is a perfect square and  $a, b$  and  $c$  are rational, roots are rational.

## Quadratic Equations & Inequalities

- If  $D$  i.e.  $(b^2 - 4ac)$  is not a perfect square and  $a, b$  and  $c$  are rational, then roots are of the form  $m + \sqrt{n}$  &  $m - \sqrt{n}$ .
- If  $a = 1, b, c \in I$  and the roots are rational numbers, then the roots must be integer.
- If a quadratic equation in  $x$  has more than two roots, then it is an identity in  $x$  (i.e. true for all real values of  $x$ ) and  $a = b = c = 0$ .

### 4. Condition of Common Roots :

Consider two quadratic equations :

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a'x^2 + b'x + c' = 0$$

(a) For two common roots :  $\frac{a}{a'} = \frac{b}{b'} = \frac{c}{c'}$

(b) For one common root :  $\Rightarrow (bc' - b'c)(ab' - a'b) = (a'c - ac')^2$

### 5. How to draw quadratic polynomial $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

Graph of a Quadratic Polynomial

$$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c \quad (a \neq 0)$$

To draw the graph of  $f(x)$ , proceed according to following steps :

I. The shape of the curve  $y = f(x)$  is **parabolic**.

II. For  $a > 0$ , the parabola opens upwards.

For  $a < 0$ , the parabola opens downwards.

III. Intersection with axes :

(i) with X-axis

➤ For  $D > 0$

Parabola cuts X-axis in two points.

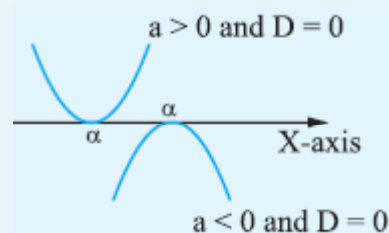
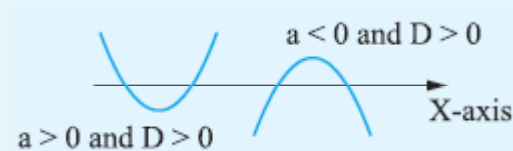
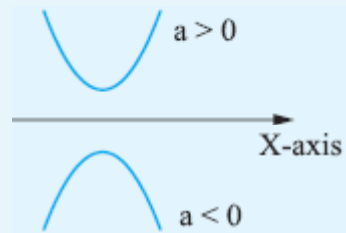
The points of intersection are  $\alpha, \beta = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{D}}{2a}$ .

➤ For  $D = 0$

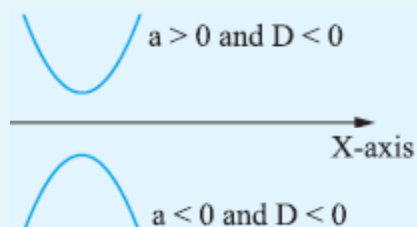
Parabola touches X-axis in one point.

The points of intersection is  $\alpha = \frac{-b}{2a}$ .

➤ For  $D < 0$



Parabola does not cut X-axis at all i.e.  
no point of intersection with X-axis.



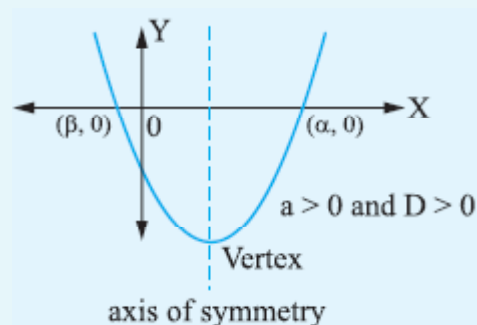
## (ii) with Y-axis

The points of intersection with Y-axis is  $f(0) = c$ . i.e.  $(0, c)$   
{put  $x = 0$  in the quadratic polynomial}

## IV. Obtain V where V is called as vertex of parabola.

The coordinates of  $V \equiv \left( -\frac{b}{2a}, -\frac{D}{4a} \right)$

The line passing through vertex and  
parallel to the Y-axis is called as axis of symmetry.



## 6. Maximum and Minimum value of $f(x)$ :

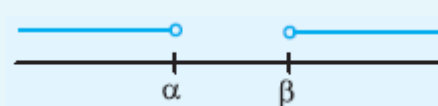
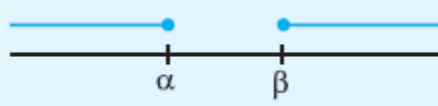
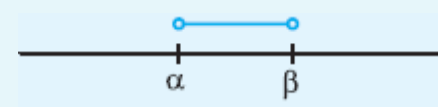
- $f(x)$  has minimum value at vertex if  $a > 0$  and  $f_{\min} = -\frac{D}{4a}$  at  $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$ .
- $f(x)$  has maximum value at vertex if  $a < 0$  and  $f_{\max} = -\frac{D}{4a}$  at  $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$ .

## 7. Quadratic Inequation :

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a, b, c \in R$  and  $a \neq 0$ . To solve the inequations of type :

$$\{f(x) \leq 0 \quad ; \quad f(x) < 0 \quad ; \quad f(x) \geq 0 \quad ; \quad f(x) > 0\}$$

### (a) $D > 0$

- Make the coefficient of  $x^2$  positive
- Factorise the expression and represent the left hand side of inequality in the form  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta)$ .
- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) > 0$ , then  $x$  lies outside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, \alpha) \cup (\beta, \infty)$ 

- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) \geq 0$ , then  $x$  lies on and outside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, \alpha] \cup [\beta, \infty)$ 

- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) < 0$ , then  $x$  lies inside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in (\alpha, \beta)$ 


- If  $(x - \alpha)(x - \beta) \leq 0$ , then  $x$  lies on and inside  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .  
 $\Rightarrow x \in [\alpha, \beta]$



- (b)  $D < 0$  and  $a > 0$  :  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .  
 (c)  $D < 0$  and  $a < 0$  :  $f(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .  
 (d)  $D = 0$  and  $a > 0$  :  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .  
 (e)  $D = 0$  and  $a < 0$  :  $f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .  
 (f)  $D \leq 0$ ,  $a > 0$  :  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .  
 (g)  $D \leq 0$ ,  $a < 0$  :  $f(x) \leq 0$  for all  $x \in R$ .

## 8. Rational Algebraic Inequalities

Consider the following types of rational algebraic inequalities.

$$\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} > 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} < 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \geq 0, \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} \leq 0$$

where  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  are polynomials in  $x$ .

- These inequalities can be solved by the *method of intervals* also known as *sign method* or *wavy curve method*.

### How to solve Rational Algebraic Inequality :

- (a) Factorise  $P(x)$  and  $Q(x)$  into linear factors.  
 (b) Make coefficient of  $x$  positive in all factors.  
 (c) Equate all the factors to zero and find corresponding values of  $x$ . These values are known as critical points.  
 (d) Plot the critical points on a number line.  $n$  critical points will divide the number line  $(n + 1)$  regions.  
 (e) In right most region, the expression bears positive sign and in other regions the expression bears alternate positive and negative signs.

## 9. Maximum and Minimum values of a Rational Function of $x$

**Consider :**  $f(x) = y = \frac{ax^2 + bx + c}{px^2 + qx + r}$  where  $x \in R$ .

We will find maximum and minimum values  $f(x)$  can take by observing the following cases.

**Case - I :**  $y \in [A, B]$

If  $y$  can take values between  $A$  and  $B$ , then,

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = B$ ,



Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = A$ .

**Case - II :**  $y \in (-\infty, A] \cup [B, \infty)$

If  $y$  can take values outside  $A$  and  $B$ , then

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = \infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = -\infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

**Case - III :**  $y \in (-\infty, \infty)$  *i.e.*  $y \in R$

If  $y$  can take all values, then

Maximum value of  $y = y_{\max} = \infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

Minimum value of  $y = y_{\min} = -\infty$  *i.e.* not defined.

## 10. POSITION OF ROOTS OF A QUADRATIC EQUATION $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

**I.** Conditions for a number  $k$  to lie between the Roots of a Quadratic Equation is

(i)  $af(k) < 0$

**II.** Conditions for both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  to lie between the roots of a quadratic equation is

(i)  $af(k_1) < 0$

(ii)  $af(k_2) < 0$ .

**III.** Conditions for a number  $k$  to be less than Roots of a Quadratic Equation is

(i)  $D \geq 0$

(ii)  $af(k) > 0$

(iii)  $k < x_v = -b/2a$ .

**IV.** Conditions for a number  $k$  to be more than the roots of a quadratic equation is

(i)  $D \geq 0$

(ii)  $af(k) > 0$

(iii)  $k > -b/2a$ .

**V.** Condition for both the Roots of a Quadratic Equation to lie between numbers  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  is

(i)  $D > 0$

(ii)  $af(k_1) > 0, af(k_2) > 0$

(iii)  $k_1 < -\frac{b}{2a} < k_2$ .

**VI.** Condition for exactly one root of a quadratic equation to lie in the interval  $(k_1, k_2)$ , where  $k_1 < k_2$  is

(i)  $f(k_1)f(k_2) < 0$

**VII.** Both roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are negative,

(i)  $-\frac{b}{a} < 0$

(ii)  $\frac{c}{a} > 0$

(iii)  $b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$

**VIII.** Both roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are positive,

(i)  $-\frac{b}{a} > 0$

(ii)  $\frac{c}{a} > 0$

(iii)  $b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$

**IX.** Roots of  $f(x) = 0$  are opposite in sign,

(i)  $\frac{c}{a} < 0$

## 11. Transformations of Equation

- I. To obtain an equation whose roots are reciprocals of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $1/x$  in the given equation.
- II. To obtain an equation whose roots are negative of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x = -y$  in  $f(x) = 0$
- III. To obtain an equation whose roots are square of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $\sqrt{x}$  in the given equation.
- IV. To obtain an equation whose roots are cubes of the roots of a given equation is obtained by replacing  $x$  by  $x^{1/3}$  in the given equation.

## 12. Some more Results (Relation between the roots) :

- I. **Quadratic Equation** : If  $\alpha, \beta$  are roots of the quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , then

$$\alpha + \beta = -\frac{b}{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a}$$

- II. **Cubic Equation** : If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are roots of a cubic equation

$$ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0, \quad \text{then} \quad \alpha + \beta + \gamma = -b/a, \quad \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = (-1)^2 \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{a}$$

$$\text{and } \alpha\beta\gamma = (-1)^3 \frac{d}{a} = -\frac{d}{a}.$$

- III. **Biquadratic Equation** : If  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  are roots of the biquadratic equation  $ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e = 0$ , then

$$S_1 = \alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta = -\frac{b}{a}$$

$$S_2 = \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \alpha\delta + \beta\delta + \gamma\delta = (-1)^2 \frac{c}{a} = \frac{c}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } S_2 = (\alpha + \beta)(\gamma + \delta) + \alpha\beta + \gamma\delta = \frac{c}{a}$$

$$S_3 = \alpha\beta\gamma + \beta\gamma\delta + \gamma\delta\alpha + \alpha\beta\delta = (-1)^3 \frac{d}{a} = -\frac{d}{a}$$

$$\text{or, } S_3 = \alpha\beta(\gamma + \delta) + \gamma\delta(\alpha + \beta) = -\frac{d}{a}$$

$$\text{and, } S_4 = \alpha\beta\gamma\delta = (-1)^4 \frac{e}{a} = \frac{e}{a}$$