

- Plan
1. Repetition (problems from last week)
  2. Polynomial division and factorisation

### 1. Repetition

2m) Solve the eq.  $9x^2 - 6x + 1 = 0$  1:9

$$x^2 - \frac{2}{3}x + \frac{1}{9} = 0$$

Complete the square:  $(x - \frac{1}{3})^2 - \underbrace{(\frac{1}{3})^2 + \frac{1}{9}}_{=0} = 0$

so  $(x - \frac{1}{3})^2 = 0$  so  $x - \frac{1}{3} = 0$

so  $x = \frac{1}{3}$

Alternative solution: Put  $u = 3x$

so  $u^2 = (3x)^2 = 3^2 \cdot x^2 = 9x^2$ .

so the eq. becomes  $u^2 - 2u + 1 = 0$

so  $(u - 1)^2 = 0$

so  $u = 1$

so  $3x = 1$

so  $x = \frac{1}{3}$

3e) Determine the quadratic eq. with the given solutions:

$x = 3 \pm \sqrt{5}$ , that is  $x = 3 + \sqrt{5}$ ,  $x = 3 - \sqrt{5}$

Then  $(x - (3 + \sqrt{5})) \cdot (x - (3 - \sqrt{5}))$

$= x^2 - (3 - \sqrt{5})x - (3 + \sqrt{5})x + (3 + \sqrt{5})(3 - \sqrt{5})$

$= x^2 - 6x + 4$  so  $x^2 - 6x + 4 = 0$  has the given solutions. ①

5c) Determine  $k$  such that

$$\frac{1}{k}x^2 - 14x = 12 \quad \text{has exactly one solution.}$$

Note:  $k \neq 0$ . Multiply BS with  $k$ :

$$x^2 - 14kx = 12k$$

Complete  
the sq:

$$(x - 7k)^2 = 12k + (7k)^2$$

has exactly one solution if and only if  
the RHS = 0, that is

$$12k + 49k^2 = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } k(12 + 49k) = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } k = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 12 + 49k = 0$$

- not allowed!

$$\underline{\underline{k = -\frac{12}{49}}}$$

Parameters: numbers without explicit values - used to describe many situations simultaneously.

(economists: "exogenous variables")

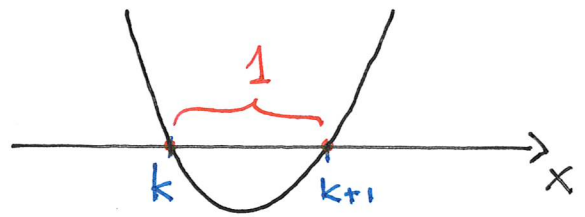
(the  $x$ : "endogenous variable")

Probl 7a All polynomials  $x^2 + bx + c$  which have two zeros of distance 1 from each other

can be written as

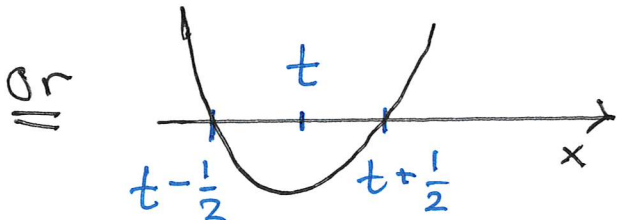
$$(x - k) \cdot (x - (k+1))$$

zero:  $x = k$   
zero:  $x = k+1$



where  $k$  is the smallest zero (root)

Then  $(x - k)(x - (k+1)) = \underline{\underline{x^2 - (2k+1)x + k(k+1)}}$



Get

$$(x - (t - \frac{1}{2})) \cdot (x - (t + \frac{1}{2}))$$

$$= \underline{\underline{x^2 - 2tx + t^2 - \frac{1}{4}}}$$

Infinitely many correct solutions.  
(this was just two of them)

start: 11.01

## 2. Polynomial division and factorisation

Want to divide a polynomial  $f(x)$  with a polynomial  $g(x)$  with a remainder  $r(x)$ .

$$g(x) \cdot \left| \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{g(x)} \quad \text{with } \deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x)) \right.$$

gives  $f(x) = q(x) \cdot g(x) + r(x)$

Ex  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 2x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x - 2$

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{3x^2} + 2x + 1 : \boxed{x-2} = \overset{3x^2 : x}{3x} + \overset{8x : x}{8} + \frac{17}{x-2} \\ - (3x^2 - 6x) \phantom{+ 1} \leftarrow \cdot (x-2) \\ \hline \boxed{8x} + 1 \phantom{+ 1} \leftarrow \cdot (x-2) \\ - (8x - 16) \phantom{+ 1} \leftarrow \cdot (x-2) \\ \hline \textcircled{17} \end{array}$$

$\textcircled{17}$  is called the remainder

So  $q(x) = 3x + 8$  and  $r(x) = 17$

Can check:  $\left( 3x + 8 + \frac{17}{x-2} \right) \cdot (x-2)$

$$= (3x + 8)(x-2) + \frac{17}{x-2} \cdot (x-2)$$
$$= 3x^2 - 6x + 8x - 16 + 17 = 3x^2 + 2x + 1 = f(x)$$

- so ok!

## Two applications of polynomial division

(A) To find asymptotes of rational functions

Ex 
$$\frac{3x^2 + 2x + 1}{x - 2} = 3x + 8 + \frac{17}{x - 2}$$

has a vertical asymptote: the line  $x = 2$

and a non-vertical asymptote: the line  $y = 3x + 8$   
("oblique")

(B) To factorise a polynomial as a product of degree 1 (linear) polynomials.

Ex Factorise  $x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30$  into linear factors.

Solution Three steps.

step I Guess an integer root (zero).

[Note: Has to divide 30]

I try  $x = -3$  and get (check):

$$\begin{aligned} & (-3)^3 - 4 \cdot (-3)^2 - 11 \cdot (-3) + 30 \\ &= -27 - 36 + 33 + 30 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $(x - (-3)) = (x + 3)$  is a factor.

step II Use polynomial division to find a polynomial of lower degree:

$$(x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30) : (x + 3) \stackrel{\text{by poly. division!}}{=} x^2 - 7x + 10$$

Note: Remainder is 0! *poly. division..*



Step III We find the roots of  $x^2 - 7x + 10$

They are  $x = 2$ ,  $x = 5$

so  $x^2 - 7x + 10 = (x - 2)(x - 5)$ .

Then  $x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30 = \underline{\underline{(x - 2)(x - 5)(x + 3)}}$

Note 1 Not always possible to factorise!

Ex  $x^2 + 5$  has no roots!

$x^2 + 2x + 3$  — " —  $(b^2 - 4ac = 2^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 < 0)$

Note 2 It can be difficult to guess roots  
— and roots don't have to be integers.