

One of the roots of the cubic equation

$$x^3 + kx - 80 = 0,$$

where k is real, is $-2 + 4i$. Find the other two roots and the value of k .

(5 marks)

Q	Solution	Marks	Total	Comments
1	$-2 - 4i$ is a root Sum of roots = 0 $\rightarrow -2 + 4i - 2 - 4i + j = 0$ $j = 4$ $f(4) = 4^3 + 4k - 80 = 0$ $k = 4$ Alternative $(x - (-2 + 4i))(x - (-2 - 4i)) = x^2 + 4x + 20$ either multiply or divide subsequently $\gamma = 4 \quad k = 4$ Substitution of $-2 + 4i$ into equation unless complete and correct	B1 M1 A1✓ M1 A1✓ (B1) (M1) (A1✓A1✓) (M0)	5	O.E. $\sum \alpha = k, \sum \alpha\beta = 80$ M0 k must be real
Total			5	

The cubic equation

$$x^3 + 2px^2 - 8 = 0, \quad \text{where } p \text{ is real,}$$

has roots α , β and $\alpha + \beta$.

(a) Show that:

(i) $\alpha + \beta = -p;$ (2 marks)

(ii) $\alpha\beta = -\frac{8}{p}.$ (2 marks)

(b) Show that $p = 2.$ (5 marks)

Q	Solution	Marks	Total	Comments
1 (a)(i)	$\alpha + \beta + (\alpha + \beta) = -2p$	M1	2	Must show some evidence of how the result is arrived at
	$\alpha + \beta = -p$	A1		
	(ii) Product of roots $\alpha\beta\gamma = \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta) = 8$	M1	2	Must show some evidence of how the result is arrived at
	$\alpha\beta = \frac{8}{-p} = -\frac{8}{p}$	A1		
	(b) $\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = \alpha\beta + \beta(\alpha + \beta) + \alpha(\alpha + \beta) = 0$	M1A1		
$0 = \alpha\beta + (\alpha + \beta)^2$	A1F	could be a mixture of α, β and p e.g. $-\frac{8}{p} - p\alpha - p\beta$		
$-\frac{8}{p} = -(-p)^2$	M1	for an equation in p only		
	$p = 2$	A1	5	AG
	Total		9	

The roots of the cubic equation

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 4px - p^2 = 0$$

are $\beta - k$, β and $\beta + k$.

(a) Show that

(i) $\beta = 2$, (2 marks)

(ii) $k^2 = 4(3 - p)$, (3 marks)

(iii) $k^2 = 4 - \frac{1}{2}p^2$. (2 marks)

(b) Hence find

(i) the value of p , (3 marks)

(ii) the two non-real roots of the cubic equation giving your answers in the form $a + ib$, where a and b are real. (3 marks)

Q	Solution	Marks	Total	Comments
6 (a)(i)	$\beta - k + \beta + \beta + k = -(-6)$, $\beta = 2$	M1A1	2	AG
(ii)	$2(2+k) + 2(2-k) + (2+k)(2-k) = 4p$ $k^2 = 4(3-p)$	M1A1 A1	3	Allow M1 if there is a sign error AG
(iii)	$(2-k)2(2+k) = p^2$ $k^2 = 4 - \frac{1}{2}p^2$	M1 A1	2	AG
(b)(i)	Elimination of k , or substitution of 2 into cubic $p^2 - 8p + 16 = 0$ $(p-4)^2 = 0$, $p = 4$	M1 A1 A1F	3	
(ii)	$k = \pm 2i$ Roots $2 \pm 2i$	M1A1 A1F	3	allow B1 for single answer $2 + 2i$ f.t. if k is complex
Total			13	

(a) (i) Express $(1 - i)(3 - i)$ in the form $a + ib$, where a and b are real. (2 marks)

(ii) Show that

$$(1 - i)^3 = -2 - 2i. \quad (2 \text{ marks})$$

(b) (i) Show that $1 - i$ is a root of the cubic equation

$$z^3 + iz^2 - (3 - i)z + 2(1 - i) = 0. \quad (3 \text{ marks})$$

(ii) Given that the other two roots of the cubic equation are α and β , show that

$$\alpha + \beta = -1$$

and find $\alpha\beta$. (3 marks)

(c) Hence solve the cubic equation completely. (3 marks)

2 (a)(i)	$(1 - i)(3 - i) = 2 - 4i$	M1 A1	2	for attempt to multiply or use $i^2 = -1$
(ii)	$(1 - i)^3 = (1 - 3i + 3i^2 - i^3) = -2 - 2i$	M1 A1	2	for any complete method
(b)(i)	$(1 - i)^3 + i(1 - i)^2 - (3 - i)(1 - i) + 2 - 2i = 0$ shown	M1A1√ A1	3	CAO
(ii)	$\alpha + \beta + 1 - i = -i \quad \therefore \alpha + \beta = -1$ $\alpha\beta(1 - i) = -2(1 - i)$ $\alpha\beta = -2$	B1 M1 A1	3	allow if sign error
(c)	Equation for α, β is $z^2 + z - 2 = 0$ Roots are $(1 - i), 1, -2$	M1A1√ A1√	3	
Total			13	