

3. QUADRATIC EXPRESSIONS

(1 x 2) + (1 x 4) = 6 Marks

IMP FORMULAS, KEY CONCEPTS

- 1) The **roots** of $ax^2+bx+c=0$ are given by $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$
- 2.1) The **sum** of the roots of $ax^2+bx+c=0$ is given by $\alpha + \beta = \frac{-b}{a} = \frac{-(\text{coefficient of } x)}{\text{coefficient of } x^2}$
- 2.2) The **product** of the roots of $ax^2+bx+c=0$ is given by $\alpha\beta = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{\text{constant term}}{\text{coefficient of } x^2}$
- 3) The quadratic equation with roots α, β is $(x-\alpha)(x-\beta)=0$ i.e., $x^2-(\alpha+\beta)x+\alpha\beta=0$
- 4) The **discriminant** of $ax^2+bx+c=0$ is $\Delta=b^2-4ac$
- 5) The **roots** of $ax^2+bx+c=0$ are **equal** $\Leftrightarrow \Delta=b^2-4ac=0$
- 6.1) If $a>0$ then ax^2+bx+c has the **minimum value** $\frac{4ac-b^2}{4a}$ at $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$
- 6.2) If $a<0$ then ax^2+bx+c has the **maximum value** $\frac{4ac-b^2}{4a}$ at $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$
- 7) Tracing the changes in the signs of the quadratic expression ax^2+bx+c :

Sign of Δ	Sign of the expression	Values of x
$\Delta=b^2-4ac<0$	a and ax^2+bx+c have the same sign	$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$
$\Delta=b^2-4ac=0$	a and ax^2+bx+c have the same sign	$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} - \{-b/2a\}$
$\Delta=b^2-4ac>0$ α, β are roots of $ax^2+bx+c=0, \alpha<\beta$	a and ax^2+bx+c have the same sign	$x<\alpha$ or $x>\beta$
	a and ax^2+bx+c have opposite signs	$\alpha<x<\beta$

8) Quadratic inequalities:

For $a < b$, $(x-a)(x-b) < 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in (a, b)$, $(x-a)(x-b) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in [a, b]$
 $(x-a)(x-b) > 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in (-\infty, a) \cup (b, \infty)$, $(x-a)(x-b) \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow x \in (-\infty, a] \cup [b, \infty)$

9) Useful algebraic formulae:

$$a^2+b^2=(a+b)^2-2ab; \quad a^3+b^3=(a+b)^3-3ab(a+b)=(a+b)((a+b)^2-3ab)$$