

5.7 If roots of the equation $ax^2+bx+c=0$ are α and β , find the equation whose roots are.

(i) $\frac{1}{\alpha}, \frac{1}{\beta}$ (ii) $-\alpha, -\beta$ (iii) $\frac{1-\alpha}{1+\alpha}, \frac{1-\beta}{1+\beta}$

Solution: Here in all cases functions of α and β are symmetric.

(i) Let $\frac{1}{x} = y \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{y}$

Now α is a root of the equation $ax^2+bx+c=0$

$$\Rightarrow a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{y^2} + \frac{b}{y} + c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow cy^2 + by + a = 0.$$

Hence, the required equation is $cx^2+bx+a=0$. We get the same equation if we start with $1/\beta$.

(ii) Let $-x = y \Rightarrow x = -y$

Now α is root of the equation $ax^2+bx+c=0$

$$\Rightarrow a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a(-y)^2 + b(-y) + c = 0$$

Hence, the required equation is $ax^2 - bx + c = 0$

(iii) Let $\frac{1-x}{1+x} = y \Rightarrow x = \frac{1-y}{1+y}$

Now α is root of the equation $ax^2+bx+c=0$

$$\Rightarrow a\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a\left(\frac{1-y}{1+y}\right)^2 + b\left(\frac{1-y}{1+y}\right) + c = 0$$

Hence required equation is $a(1-x^2) + b(1-x^2) + c(1+x)^2 = 0$.