

FIFTY LECTURES FOR
AMERICAN MATHEMATICS
COMPETITIONS (VOLUME 1)



英文版

美国高中

数学竞赛五十讲

第1卷

• [美] 陈蚩 [美] 陈三国 主编



哈尔滨工业大学出版社
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内容简介

本书讲述了数学竞赛中常出现的知识点,还包括很多几何问题,每个知识点后配有大量的典型例题,书中的问题有趣,解题思路多样.

本书适合参加数学竞赛的高中生和教练员参考阅读,也适合数学很强的初中生及数学爱好者参考阅读.

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目

录

Chapter 1 Algebra Manipulations //1

Chapter 2 Radicals //23

Chapter 3 Solving Radical Equations //51

Chapter 4 Absolute Values //81

Chapter 5 Solving Absolute Value Equations //111

附 录 1 Review //142

附 录 2 道外教育简报 //147

编辑手记 //151

Algebraic Manipulation

BASIC KNOWLEDGE

Below is a list of useful equations to be aware of and know. They can all be derived through expanding or factoring.

Perfect square trinomial

$$(x + y)^2 = x^2 + 2xy + y^2$$

$$(x + y)^2 = (x - y)^2 + 4xy$$

$$(x - y)^2 = x^2 - 2xy + y^2$$

$$(x - y)^2 = (x + y)^2 - 4xy$$

$$(x + y)^2 + (x - y)^2 = 2(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$(x + y)^2 - (x - y)^2 = 4xy$$

$$(x + y + z)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + 2xy + 2xz + 2yz$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xy - yz - zx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [(x - y)^2 + (y - z)^2 + (z - x)^2]$$

$$(x + y + z + w)^2 = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + w^2 + 2xy + 2xz + 2xw + 2yz + 2yw + 2zw$$

Difference and sum of two squares

$$x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = (x - y)^2 + 2xy$$

$$x^2 - y^2 = (x - y)(x + y)$$

Difference and sum of two cubes

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2)$$

$$x^3 - y^3 = (x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2)$$

$$(x + y)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3$$

$$= x^3 + y^3 + 3xy(x + y)$$

$$(x - y)^3 = x^3 - 3x^2y + 3xy^2 - y^3$$

$$= x^3 - y^3 - 3xy(x - y)$$

$$x^n - y^n = (x - y)(x^{n-1} + x^{n-2}y + \cdots + y^{n-1})$$

for all n

$$x^n - y^n = (x + y)(x^{n-1} - x^{n-2}y + \cdots - y^{n-1})$$

for all even n

$$x^n + y^n = (x + y)(x^{n-1} - x^{n-2}y + \cdots + y^{n-1})$$

for all odd n .

EXAMPLES

Example 1: Find $m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3}$ if $m + \frac{1}{m} = 2$.

Solution: 2.

Method 1: Multiplying both sides of $m + \frac{1}{m} = 2$ by

m yields

$$m^2 + 1 = 2m \Rightarrow m^2 - 2m + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow (m - 1)^2 = 0$$

Solving this equation, we get $m = 1$.

Therefore

$$m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} = 1^3 + \frac{1}{1^3} = 1 + 1 = 2$$

Method 2: We know that

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^3 &= x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3 \\ &= x^3 + y^3 + 3xy(x + y)\end{aligned}$$

So

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)^3 - 3xy(x + y) \quad (1)$$

Substituting in $x = m$ and $y = \frac{1}{m}$ into (1) gives us

$$\begin{aligned}m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} &= \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right)^3 - 3m \cdot \frac{1}{m} \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right) \\ &= 2^3 - 3 \times 2 = 2\end{aligned}$$

Method 3: We know that

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2)$$

Substituting $x = m$ and $y = \frac{1}{m}$ into the above equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned}m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} &= \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right) \left(m^2 - m \cdot \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{m^2}\right) \\ &= 2 \left[\left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 - 3\right] = 2(2^2 - 3) = 2\end{aligned}$$

Method 4: Multiplying both sides of $m + \frac{1}{m} = 2$ by

$$\left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2} - 1\right) \text{ yields}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2} - 1\right) \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right) &= 2 \left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2} - 1\right) \\
 &\Rightarrow m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} \\
 &= 2 \left[\left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 - 2 - 1\right] \\
 &= 2
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2: Find $x^2 + y^2$ if (x, y) is a solution to the system of equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 xy &= 4 \\
 x^2 y + xy^2 + x + y &= 45
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution: 73.

Factor

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^2 y + xy^2 + x + y &= xy(x + y) + (x + y) \\
 &= (4 + 1)(x + y)
 \end{aligned}$$

We are given that the expression above equals 45,

so

$$(4 + 1)(x + y) = 45 \Rightarrow x + y = 9$$

We know that $x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy$. Substituting in 4 for xy and 9^2 for $(x + y)^2$ into this equation, we get

$$x^2 + y^2 = 81 - 8 = 73$$

Example 3: Find $m^4 + \frac{1}{m^4}$ if $m + \frac{1}{m} = 4$.

Solution: 194.

Substituting m^2 for x and $\frac{1}{m^2}$ for y into $x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy$ gives us

$$m^4 + \frac{1}{m^4} = \left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2}\right)^2 - 2 = \left[\left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 - 2\right]^2 - 2$$

$$= (16 - 2)^2 - 2 = 194$$

Example 4: Find $m^8 + \frac{1}{m^8}$ if $m - \frac{1}{m} = 1$.

Solution: 47.

Substituting m^4 as x and $\frac{1}{m^4}$ as y into $x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy$ gives us

$$\begin{aligned} m^4 + \frac{1}{m^4} &= \left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2}\right)^2 - 2 = \left[\left(m - \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 + 2\right]^2 - 2 \\ &= 9 - 2 = 7 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting m^4 as x and $\frac{1}{m^4}$ as y into $x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy$ yields

$$m^8 + \frac{1}{m^8} = \left(m^4 + \frac{1}{m^4}\right)^2 - 2 = 49 - 2 = 47$$

Example 5: Find $m^3 - \frac{1}{m^3}$ if $y = \sqrt{m^2 - m - 1} + \sqrt{m + 1 - m^2}$, where both m and y are real numbers.

Solution: 4.

Since y is given to be a real number, the expressions under the square roots must be greater than or equal to 0. Therefore

$$\begin{cases} m^2 - m - 1 \geq 0 \\ m + 1 - m^2 \geq 0 \Rightarrow m^2 - m - 1 \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Since $m^2 - m - 1$ must be both greater than or equal to 0 and less than or equal to 0

$$m^2 - m - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow m - \frac{1}{m} = 1 \quad (m \neq 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m^3 - \frac{1}{m^3} &= \left(m - \frac{1}{m}\right) \left(m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2} + 1\right) \\
 &= \left(m - \frac{1}{m}\right) \left[\left(m - \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 + 3\right] = 4
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 6: Find $\frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y}$ if $\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} = 3$.

Solution: $\frac{3}{5}$.

Method 1: Since the denominator of a fraction cannot be 0, we know that $x \neq 0$, $y \neq 0$ and $x - 2xy - y \neq 0$.

Dividing each term of $\frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y}$ by xy yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\frac{2}{y} - \frac{2}{x} + 3}{\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{x} - 2} &= \frac{-2\left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y}\right) + 3}{-\left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y}\right) - 2} \\
 &= \frac{-2 \times 3 + 3}{-3 - 2} = \frac{3}{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: Multiplying both sides of $\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} = 3$ by xy gives us $y - x = 3xy$.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y} &= \frac{-2(y-x) + 3xy}{-(y-x) - 2xy} \\
 &= \frac{-6xy + 3xy}{-3xy - 2xy} = \frac{3}{5}
 \end{aligned}$$

Method 3: Solving for x in the equation $\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} = 3$ gives us

$$x = \frac{y}{3y+1}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y} &= \frac{\frac{2y}{3y+1} + \frac{3y^2}{3y+1} - \frac{6y^2+2y}{3y+1}}{\frac{y}{3y+1} - \frac{2y^2}{3y+1} - \frac{3y^2+y}{3y+1}} \\ &= \frac{2y+3y^2-6y^2-2y}{y-2y^2-3y^2-y} \\ &= \frac{-3y^2}{-5y^2} = \frac{3}{5}\end{aligned}$$

Method 4: Let

$$\frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y} = k$$

$$\begin{aligned}2x+3xy-2y &= k(x-2xy-y) \\ \Rightarrow 2x+3xy-2y &= kx-2kxy-ky \\ \Rightarrow 2y-2x-ky+kx &= 3xy+2kxy \\ \Rightarrow (2-k)(y-x) &= (3+2k)xy \quad (2)\end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{y} = 3$, multiplying both sides by xy yields

$$y-x=3xy \quad (3)$$

Dividing equation (3) by equation (2) gives us

$(2) \div (3)$

$$2-k = \frac{3+2k}{3} \Rightarrow k = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$k = \frac{2x+3xy-2y}{x-2xy-y} = \frac{3}{5}$$

Example 7: Find $\frac{2x+\sqrt{xy}+3y}{x+\sqrt{xy}-y}$ if $\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x}+\sqrt{y}) =$

$3\sqrt{y}(\sqrt{x}+5\sqrt{y})$. x and y are positive numbers.

Solution: 2.

We are given that

$$\sqrt{x}(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}) = 3\sqrt{y}(\sqrt{x} + 5\sqrt{y})$$

Expanding both sides gives us

$$x + \sqrt{xy} = 3\sqrt{xy} + 15y \Rightarrow x - 2\sqrt{xy} - 15y = 0$$

Factoring gives us

$$(\sqrt{x} - 5\sqrt{y})(\sqrt{x} + 3\sqrt{y}) = 0$$

Since $\sqrt{x} + 3\sqrt{y} \neq 0$, because $x > 0, y > 0$, $(\sqrt{x} - 5\sqrt{y}) \cdot$

$(\sqrt{x} + 3\sqrt{y})$ can only equal 0 if and only if

$$\sqrt{x} - 5\sqrt{y} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 25y$$

Substituting in $25y$ as x into $\frac{2x + \sqrt{xy} + 3y}{x + \sqrt{xy} - y}$ gives us

$$\frac{2x + \sqrt{xy} + 3y}{x + \sqrt{xy} - y} = \frac{2 \times 25y + 5y + 3y}{25y + 5y - y} = \frac{58}{29} = 2$$

Example 8: Find the value of $\frac{3}{2}x^2 - x + 1$ if the value of $3x^2 - 2x + 6$ is 8.

Solution: 2.**Method 1:**

Since

$$3x^2 - 2x + 6 = 8, \quad 3x^2 - 2x = 2$$

$$\frac{3}{2}x^2 - x + 1 = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 2x) + 1 = \frac{1}{2} \times 2 + 1 = 2$$

Method 2:

We are given that $3x^2 - 2x + 6 = 8$

or

$$3x^2 - 2x + 2 = 4 \quad (4)$$

Dividing both sides of (4) by 2 gives us the answer

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

Example 9: Calculate $(2+1) \cdot (2^2+1) \cdot (2^4+1) \cdot \dots \cdot (2^{32}+1) + 1$.

Solution: 2^{64} .

Notice that

$$(2-1)(2+1) = 2^2 - 1$$

We multiply the given expression by $1 = 2 - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} & [(2-1)(2+1)](2^2+1)(2^4+1)\cdots(2^{32}+1) + 1 \\ &= [(2^2-1)(2^2+1)](2^4+1)\cdots(2^{32}+1) + 1 \\ &= [(2^8-1)(2^8+1)(2^{16}+1)\cdots(2^{32}+1)] + 1 \\ &= (2^{32}-1)(2^{32}+1) + 1 = 2^{64} - 1 + 1 = 2^{64} \end{aligned}$$

Example 10: (AMC) The expression $x^2 - y^2 - z^2 + 2yz + x + y - z$ has().

(A) no linear factor with integer coefficients and integer exponents

(B) the factor $-x + y + z$

(C) the factor $x - y - z + 1$

(D) the factor $x + y - z + 1$

(E) the factor $x - y + z + 1$

Solution: (E).

Method 1: (official solution)

$$\begin{aligned} & x^2 - y^2 - z^2 + 2yz + x + y - z \\ &= x^2 - (y^2 - 2yz + z^2) + x + y - z \\ &= x^2 - (y-z)^2 + x + y - z \\ &= (x+y-z)(x-y+z) + x + y - z \\ &= (x+y-z)(x-y+z+1) \end{aligned}$$

Method 2: (our solution)

Let

$$x^2 - y^2 - z^2 + 2yz + x + y - z = 0$$

Rearrange the terms to give us the quadratic

$$y^2 - (2z + 1)y + z + z^2 - x^2 - x = 0$$

Applying the quadratic formula, we get the roots

$$y_{1,2} = \frac{(2z + 1) \pm \sqrt{[-(2z + 1)]^2 - 4 \times 1 \times (z + z^2 - x^2 - x)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{(2z + 1) \pm \sqrt{(2x + 1)^2}}{2} = \frac{2z + 1 \pm 2x + 1}{2}$$

$$y_1 = \frac{2z + 1 + 2x + 1}{2} = z + x + 1$$

and

$$y_2 = \frac{2z + 1 - 2x - 1}{2} = z - x$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & x^2 - y^2 - z^2 + 2yz + x + y - z \\ &= (y - (z + x + 1))(y - (z - x)) \\ &= (x + y - z)(x - y + z + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Example 11: Both a and b are real numbers with

$$\left(m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} - a\right)^2 + \left(m + \frac{1}{m} - b\right)^2 = 0$$

Prove: $b(b^2 - 3) = a$.

Solution: Since the square of a number is always greater than or equal to 0, in order for the sum of two squares to be 0

$$m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} - a = 0, \quad m + \frac{1}{m} - b = 0$$

$$m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} = a, \quad m + \frac{1}{m} = b$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} a &= m^3 + \frac{1}{m^3} = \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right) \left(m^2 - m\left(\frac{1}{m}\right) + \frac{1}{m^2}\right) \\ &= \left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right) \left[\left(m + \frac{1}{m}\right)^2 - 3\right] = b(b^2 - 3) \end{aligned}$$

Example 12: Find the greatest positive integer not exceeding $(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})^6$.

Solution: 7 039.

Let

$$x = \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}, \quad y = \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}$$

$$x + y = (\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}) + (\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}) = 2\sqrt{7}$$

$$xy = (\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}) = 7 - 3 = 4$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy = 20$$

$$x^6 + y^6 = (x^2 + y^2)^3 - 3(x^2 + y^2) \cdot x^2 \cdot y^2 = 7\,040$$

$$(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})^6 + (\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3})^6 = 7\,040$$

$$(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})^6 = 7\,040 - (\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3})^6$$

We know that $0 < \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3} < 1$, so $0 < (\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3})^6 < 1$.

The greatest positive integer not exceeding $(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})^6$ is $7\,040 - 1 = 7\,039$.

Example 13: Determine the largest real number z such that

$$x + y + z = 5$$

$$xy + yz + xz = 3$$

and x, y are also real.

Solution: $\frac{13}{3}$.

Since

$$x + y + z = 5$$

we have

$$x + y = 5 - z$$

Squaring both sides gives us $(x + y)^2 = (5 - z)^2$.

Since $xy + yz + xz = 3$, we have

$$xy = 3 - xz - yz = 3 - z(x + y) = 3 - z(5 - z)$$

$$\begin{aligned}(x - y)^2 &= (x + y)^2 - 4xy \\ &= (5 - z)^2 - 4[3 - z(5 - z)] \\ &= -3z^2 + 10z + 13 = (13 - 3z)(1 + z)\end{aligned}$$

Since $(x - y)^2 \geq 0$, this means that

$$(13 - 3z)(1 + z) \geq 0$$

Solving the inequality gives us

$$-1 \leq z \leq \frac{13}{3}$$

The largest real number z is $\frac{13}{3}$ when $x = y = \frac{1}{3}$.

Example 14: What is the value of m such that $x^2 - x - 1$ is a factor of $mx^7 + nx^6 + 1$? m and n are integers.

Solution: 8.

Using the quadratic formula, we solve the quadratic equation $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ to get the roots

$$x_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad x_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

We can observe that $x_1 + x_2 = 1$ and $x_1 x_2 = -1$.

Thus, $(x_1 + x_2)^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 2x_1 x_2 = 1$ and

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 3 \quad (5)$$

We know that $x^2 - x - 1$ is a factor of $mx^7 + nx^6 + 1$,
 x_1 and x_2 are also the roots of $mx^7 + nx^6 + 1 = 0$.

Therefore we have

$$mx_1^7 + nx_1^6 = -1 \quad (6)$$

and

$$mx_2^7 + nx_2^6 = -1 \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (6) \times x_2^6 &\Rightarrow m x_1^7 x_2^6 + n x_1^6 x_2^6 = -x_2^6 \\ &\Rightarrow m x_1 (-1)^6 + n (-1)^6 = -x_2^6 \\ &\Rightarrow m x_1 + n = -x_2^6 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (7) \times x_1^6 &\Rightarrow m x_2^7 x_1^6 + n x_2^6 x_1^6 = -x_1^6 \\ &\Rightarrow m x_2 + n = -x_1^6 \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$$(8) - (9)$$

$$m(x_1 - x_2) = x_1^6 - x_2^6$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \frac{x_1^6 - x_2^6}{x_1 - x_2} = \frac{(x_1^3 - x_2^3)(x_1^3 + x_2^3)}{x_1 - x_2} \\ &= \frac{(x_1 - x_2)(x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2)(x_1^3 + x_2^3)}{x_1 - x_2} \\ &= (x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2)(x_1^3 + x_2^3) \\ &= (x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2)(x_1 + x_2)(x_1^2 - x_1 x_2 + x_2^2) \\ &= (3 - 1)(1)(3 + 1) = 8 \end{aligned}$$

PROBLEMS

Problem 1: Find $m^2 + \frac{1}{m^2}$ if $m + \frac{1}{m} = 4$.

Problem 2: Find $a^3 + \frac{1}{a^3}$ if $a + \frac{1}{a} = \sqrt{3}$. It