

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Mathematics Analysis and Approaches Higher Level

Paper 3 2022 TZ1 Elite Edition

Unlock 7-Scorer Potential

Exclusive IB Exam-Style Solved Problems May 2022 TZ1 Practice Problems | Rishabh's Insight | May 2025 Edition

Mathematics Elevate Academy

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Introduction

Unlock your mathematical potential with **Mathematics Elevate Academy's** exclusive solved problem set IB Math AA HL Paper 3 May 2022 TZ1, crafted for ambitious IB DP Mathematics AA HL students.

This collection provides a *rigorous and enriching* preparation experience tailored for the current syllabus (2021 examinations onward).

This guide empowers you to:

- **Master Elite-Level Challenges:** Enhance your depth of understanding with questions that go beyond the textbook.
- **Understand the IB Marking Scheme:** Step-by-step examiner-style solutions show how to score full marks.
- Avoid Hidden Pitfalls: Efficient strategies and structured thinking save time under pressure.
- **Build a Mathematical Toolkit:** Strengthen your command over high-level problem-solving techniques.

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Contents

Problem 1	4
Solution to Problem 1	6
Alternative Solutions to Problem 1	9
Visualization	9
Plots/Graphs	10
Marking Criteria	10
Error Analysis	11
Key Takeaways	11
Rishabh's Insights	11
Basic Foundational Theory	12
Practice Problems 1	12
Further Problems 1	13
Problem 2	14
Solution to Problem 2	16
Alternative Solutions to Problem 2	19
Visualization	19
Plots/Graphs	20
Marking Criteria	21
Error Analysis	22
Key Takeaways	22
Rishabh's Insights	22
Basic Foundational Theory	23
Practice Problems 2	24
Further Problems 2	25
Conclusion	26

Problem 1

[Total Marks: 27]

Polygonal numbers are integers represented as dots forming regular polygons, such as triangular, square, or pentagonal numbers. For an *r*-sided regular polygon $(r \in \mathbb{Z}^+, r \ge 3)$, the *n*th polygonal number is:

$$P_r(n) = \frac{(r-2)n^2 - (r-4)n}{2}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

- (a) For triangular numbers (r = 3):
 - (i) Verify that $P_3(n) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$. [2 marks]
 - (ii) Determine which triangular number is 351. [2 marks]

(b) For triangular numbers:

- (i) Show that $P_3(n) + P_3(n+1) = (n+1)^2$. [2 marks]
- (ii) Describe what part (b)(i) implies about consecutive triangular numbers.[1 mark]
- (iii) For n = 4, sketch a diagram illustrating part (b)(ii). [1 mark]
- (c) Prove that $8P_3(n) + 1$ is the square of an odd number for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. [3 marks]
- (d) The *n*th pentagonal number is given by the series $P_5(n) = 1+4+7+\ldots+(3n-2)$. Show that $P_5(n) = \frac{n(3n-1)}{2}$. [3 marks]
- (e) Find the smallest positive integer greater than 1 that is both a triangular and a pentagonal number. [5 marks]
- (f) Prove using mathematical induction that $P_r(n) = \frac{(r-2)n^2 (r-4)n}{2}$ for the series $\sum_{m=1}^{n} [1 + (m-1)(r-2)].$ [4 marks]

Solution to Problem 1

Solution to Problem 1(a)(i)

For triangular numbers, r = 3:

$$P_3(n) = \frac{(3-2)n^2 - (3-4)n}{2} = \frac{n^2 + n}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$P_3(n) =$	n(n+1)
	2

Solution to Problem 1(a)(ii)

Solve:

$$\frac{n(n+1)}{2} = 351 \implies n^2 + n - 702 = 0$$

Quadratic formula:

$$n = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 4 \cdot 702}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{2809}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm 53}{2}$$
$$n = 26 \quad \text{or} \quad n = -27$$

Since $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, n = 26. Verify: $P_3(26) = \frac{26 \cdot 27}{2} = 351$.

26th triangular number, n = 26

Solution to Problem 1(b)(i)

$$P_3(n) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}, \quad P_3(n+1) = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$$
$$P_3(n) + P_3(n+1) = \frac{n(n+1) + (n+1)(n+2)}{2} = \frac{(n+1)(n+n+2)}{2} = \frac{(n+1)(2n+2)}{2} = (n+1)^2$$

$$P_3(n) + P_3(n+1) = (n+1)^2$$

Solution to Problem 1(b)(ii)

The sum of the *n*th and (n + 1)th triangular numbers equals the (n + 1)th square number.

Sum is the (n + 1)th square number

Solution to Problem 1(b)(iii)

For n = 4: - $P_3(4) = \frac{4 \cdot 5}{2} = 10$. - $P_3(5) = \frac{5 \cdot 6}{2} = 15$. - $P_3(4) + P_3(5) = 10 + 15 = 25 = 5^2$.

The diagram shows a 5×5 grid of dots, with a triangular arrangement of 10 dots and an L-shaped region of 15 dots forming a square.

Diagram shows triangles summing to a square

Solution to Problem 1(c)

$$8P_3(n) + 1 = 8 \cdot \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + 1 = 4n(n+1) + 1 = 4n^2 + 4n + 1 = (2n+1)^2$$

Since 2n + 1 is odd for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $8P_3(n) + 1$ is the square of an odd number.

$$(2n+1)^2$$

Solution to Problem 1(d)

The series is 1, 4, 7, ..., 3n - 2, with first term $u_1 = 1$, common difference d = 3, and nth term $u_n = 3n - 2$. Sum:

$$P_5(n) = \frac{n}{2}(u_1 + u_n) = \frac{n}{2}(1 + (3n - 2)) = \frac{n(3n - 1)}{2}$$

$$P_5(n) = \frac{n(3n-1)}{2}$$

Solution to Problem 1(e)

Solve $P_3(n) = P_5(m)$:

$$\frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{m(3m-1)}{2} \implies n(n+1) = m(3m-1)$$

Test values: -n = 20: $P_3(20) = \frac{20 \cdot 21}{2} = 210$. -m = 12: $P_5(12) = \frac{12(36-1)}{2} = 210$. Smaller values: -n = 1: $P_3(1) = 1 = P_5(1)$, but 1 is not > 1. -n = 3: $P_3(3) = 6$, not pentagonal. -m = 5: $P_5(5) = 35$, not triangular.

210

Solution to Problem 1(f)

Induction: - ******Base Case (n = 1)******:

$$P_r(1) = 1, \quad \frac{(r-2)\cdot 1^2 - (r-4)\cdot 1}{2} = \frac{r-2-r+4}{2} = 1$$

- ******Assumption******: True for n = k:

$$P_r(k) = \frac{(r-2)k^2 - (r-4)k}{2}$$

- **Inductive Step**:

$$P_r(k+1) = P_r(k) + [1+k(r-2)] = \frac{(r-2)k^2 - (r-4)k + 2 + 2k(r-2)}{2}$$
$$= \frac{(r-2)(k^2 + 2k + 1) - (r-4)(k+1)}{2}$$

$$P_r(n) = \frac{(r-2)n^2 - (r-4)n}{2}$$

Alternative Solutions to Problem 1

Alternative Solution to Problem 1(a)(ii)

Use a table of triangular numbers to find *n* such that $P_3(n) = 351$, confirming n = 26.

Alternative Solution to Problem 1(e)

Solve the quadratic equation n(n+1) = m(3m-1) numerically, testing integer pairs.

Strategy for Polygonal Numbers

- 1. **Understand Formula**: Use $P_r(n)$ for specific r.
- 2. Verify Identities: Substitute and simplify.
- 3. **Solve Equations**: Use quadratic formulas or tables.
- 4. **Visualize**: Draw dot patterns for geometric insight.
- 5. **Induction**: Prove general formulas systematically.

Visualization



 $P_3(4)$ in red, $P_3(5)$ in blue (L-shape)

Explanation: For n = 4, a 5×5 grid shows $P_3(4) = 10$ (red triangle) and $P_3(5) = 15$ (blue L-shape), summing to $25 = 5^2$.

Plots/Graphs

See Visualization above.

Marking Criteria

Marking Criteria

Polygonal Numbers:

- (a)(i): A1 for r = 3. A1 for $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$.
- (a)(ii): M1 for quadratic. A1 for n = 26.
- (b)(i): M1 for summing. A1 for $(n + 1)^2$.
- (b)(ii): A1 for square number statement.
- (b)(iii): A1 for correct diagram.
- (c): A1 for $8P_3(n) + 1$. M1 for expanding. A1 for $(2n + 1)^2$.
- (d): M1 for series sum. A1 A1 for terms and form.
- (e): M1 M1 for equation. A1 A1 A1 for n = 20, m = 12, 210.
- (f): R1 for base case. M1 for assumption. M1 A1 for inductive step.

Total [27 marks]

Error Analysis: Common Mistakes and Fixes for Polygonal Num-

bers

Mistake	Explanation	How to Fix It
Incorrect	Wrong r in $P_r(n)$.	Verify $r = 3$ for triangular,
formula		r = 5 for pentagonal.
Quadratic	Accepting negative <i>n</i> .	Ensure $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.
error		
Missing sim-	Not factoring in (b)(i).	Combine terms to $(n + 1)^2$.
plification		
Induction	Omitting base case.	Test $n = 1$ explicitly.
flaw		

Key Takeaways

- Polygonal numbers follow a quadratic formula based on *r*.
- Triangular numbers have geometric and algebraic properties (e.g., sums to squares).
- Series sums require arithmetic progression formulas.
- Induction proves general formulas for sequences.

Rishabh's Insights - Shortcuts & Tricks

- **Time-Saver**: For (a)(ii), use a triangular number table.
- **IB Tip**: Visualize (b)(iii) with dot patterns to confirm sums.

- **Shortcut**: In (e), test small *n*, *m* values systematically.
- **Verification**: Check induction with specific r (e.g., r = 3).

Basic Foundational Theory

- **Polygonal Numbers**: General formula $P_r(n)$ for *r*-sided polygons.
- Arithmetic Series: Sum of *n* terms: $\frac{n}{2}$ (first + last).
- Quadratic Equations: Solve for positive integer roots.
- Mathematical Induction: Base case and inductive step for proofs.

Practice Problems 1

Practice Problem 1: Square Numbers

Verify $P_4(n) = n^2$ for square numbers.

[2 marks]

Solution to Practice Problem 1

$$P_4(n) = \frac{(4-2)n^2 - (4-4)n}{2} = \frac{2n^2}{2} = n^2$$

$$P_4(n) = n^2$$

Practice Problem 2: Triangular Sum

Show $P_3(n) + P_3(n+2) = n^2 + 2n + 2$.

[2 marks]

Solution to Practice Problem 2

$$P_3(n+2) = \frac{(n+2)(n+3)}{2}$$

$$P_3(n) + P_3(n+2) = \frac{n(n+1) + (n+2)(n+3)}{2} = \frac{2n^2 + 4n + 2}{2} = n^2 + 2n + 2$$

$$\boxed{n^2 + 2n + 2}$$

Further Problems 1

Further Problem 1: Next Common Number

Find the next triangular and pentagonal number after 210. [5 marks]

Solution to Further Problem 1

Solve n(n + 1) = m(3m - 1) for n > 20, m > 12. Next solution: n = 119, m = 70, $P_3(119) = P_5(70) = 7140$.

7140

Further Problem 2: Hexagonal Numbers

Show
$$P_6(n) = n(2n-1)$$
.

Solution to Further Problem 2

$$P_6(n) = \frac{(6-2)n^2 - (6-4)n}{2} = \frac{4n^2 - 2n}{2} = 2n^2 - n = n(2n-1)$$

$$n(2n-1)$$

[3 marks]

Problem 2

[Total Marks: 28]

Consider the cubic polynomial $g(x) = (x - r)(x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + b^2)$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$, and the equation $(z - r)(z^2 - 2az + a^2 + b^2) = 0$ for $z \in \mathbb{C}$, with roots $r, a \pm bi$ ($r, a \in \mathbb{R}, b > 0$). For parts (a) to (c), let r = 1, a = 4, b = 1.

(a) For
$$(z-1)(z^2-8z+17)=0$$
:

- (i) Given roots 1 and 4 + i, find the third root. [1 mark]
- (ii) Verify that the mean of the complex roots is 4. [1 mark]
- (b) Show that y = x 1 is tangent to $y = (x 1)(x^2 8x + 17)$ at (4,3). [4 marks]
- (c) Sketch the curve and tangent, showing where the tangent crosses the *x*-axis.[2 marks]
- (d) For general g(x):

(i) Show
$$g'(x) = 2(x - r)(x - a) + x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + b^2$$
. [2 marks]

- (ii) Prove the tangent at (a, g(a)) intersects the *x*-axis at (r, 0). [6 marks]
- (e) Deduce that the complex roots are $a \pm i \sqrt{g'(a)}$. [1 mark]
- (f) For $y = (x + 2)(x^2 6x + 25)$, with tangent at (a, 80) intersecting the *x*-axis at (-2, 0):
 - (i) Find the roots of the corresponding complex equation. [4 marks]
 - (ii) State the coordinates of $C_2(a, -\sqrt{g'(a)})$. [1 mark]

(g) For
$$a \neq r$$
, $b > 0$:

- (i) Show the inflection point's *x*-coordinate is $\frac{2a+r}{3}$. [2 marks]
- (ii) Describe the horizontal position of the inflection point relative to (r, 0)and (a, g(a)). [1 mark]

(h) For a = r = 1, b = 2:

(i) Sketch the curve.	[2 marks]
(ii) State the coordinates of the inflection point and $(a, g(a))$.	[1 mark]

Solution to Problem 2

Solution to Problem 2(a)(i)

Roots are 1, 4 + i, and the conjugate 4 - i (real coefficients).

4 -	i
-----	---

Solution to Problem 2(a)(ii)

Mean of complex roots:

$$\frac{(4+i)+(4-i)}{2}=\frac{8}{2}=4$$

4

Solution to Problem 2(b)

For $f(x) = (x - 1)(x^2 - 8x + 17)$: - Derivative:

$$f'(x) = (x-1)(2x-8) + (x^2 - 8x + 17) = 3x^2 - 18x + 25$$

At x = 4:

$$f'(4) = 3 \cdot 16 - 18 \cdot 4 + 25 = 48 - 72 + 25 = 1$$

- Tangent: $y - 3 = 1(x - 4) \implies y = x - 1$. - Verify: $f(4) = 3 \cdot 1 = 3$.

$$y = x - 1$$

Solution to Problem 2(c)

Cubic has x-intercept at x = 1, critical points (solve $3x^2 - 18x + 25 = 0$), tangent y = x - 1 at (4, 3), crossing x-axis at (1, 0).

Cubic with tangent at (1,0)

Solution to Problem 2(d)(i)

$$g'(x) = (x - r)(2x - 2a) + (x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + b^2) = 2(x - r)(x - a) + x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + b^2$$

$$2(x-r)(x-a) + x^2 - 2ax + a^2 + b^2$$

Solution to Problem 2(d)(ii)

At x = a:

$$g(a) = (a - r)b^2, \quad g'(a) = b^2$$

Tangent: $y = b^2(x - r)$. Set y = 0: x = r.

(r, 0)	(r,	0)
--------	-----	----

Solution to Problem 2(e)

$$g'(a) = b^2 \implies b = \sqrt{g'(a)}$$

Roots: $a \pm i \sqrt{g'(a)}$.

$$a\pm i\sqrt{g'(a)}$$

Solution to Problem 2(f)(i)

$$80 = (a+2)(a^2 - 6a + 25), \quad r = -2$$

 $g'(a) = b^2 = 16 \implies a^2 + 16 = 25 \implies a = 3$

Roots: $-2, 3 \pm 4i$.

$$-2, 3+4i, 3-4i$$

Solution to Problem 2(f)(ii)

$$C_2 = (3, -\sqrt{16}) = (3, -4)$$

$$(3, -4)$$

Solution to Problem 2(g)(i)

$$g''(x) = 6x - 2r - 4a = 0 \implies x = \frac{2a + r}{3}$$

2a	+	r
3		

Solution to Problem 2(g)(ii)

$$\frac{2a+r}{3} = \frac{a+a+r}{3}$$

Two-thirds from r to a.

$$\frac{2}{3}$$
 from r to a

Solution to Problem 2(h)(i)

For a = r = 1, b = 2:

$$y = (x - 1)(x^2 - 2x + 5)$$

No critical points (g'(x) > 0). Inflection at x = 1.

Positive cubic with inflection

Solution to Problem 2(h)(ii)

Inflection: x = 1, y = 0. g(1) = 0.

(1,0),(1,0)

Alternative Solutions to Problem 2

Alternative Solution to Problem 2(b)

Verify tangency by substituting y = x - 1 into f(x) and checking the double root at x = 4.

Alternative Solution to Problem 2(f)(i)

Use numerical methods to solve $80 = (a+2)(a^2 - 6a + 25)$.

Strategy for Cubic Polynomials

- 1. Roots: Identify real and complex roots.
- 2. **Derivatives**: Compute g'(x), g''(x).
- 3. Tangents: Use point-slope form.
- 4. **Sketch**: Plot intercepts and inflections.
- 5. **Complex Roots**: Relate to g'(a).

Visualization



Explanation: Cubic $y = (x-1)(x^2-8x+17)$ with tangent y = x-1 at (4,3), crossing *x*-axis at (1,0).

Plots/Graphs



Explanation: Cubic $y = (x - 1)(x^2 - 2x + 5)$ for a = r = 1, b = 2, showing inflection at (1, 0).

Marking Criteria

Marking Criteria

Cubic Polynomials:

- (a)(i): A1 for 4 i.
- (a)(ii): A1 for mean = 4.
- (b): M1 A1 A1 A1 for derivative, slope, equation, verification.
- (c): A1 A1 for cubic and tangent.
- (d)(i): M1 A1 for derivative.
- (d)(ii): M1 M1 R1 A1 for tangent, solving, b > 0, x = r.
- (e): R1 for roots.
- (f)(i): A1 M1 A1 A1 for *b*, *a*, roots.
- (f)(ii): A1 for (3, -4).
- (g)(i): M1 A1 for inflection.
- (g)(ii): A1 for position.
- (h)(i): A1 A1 for cubic and inflection.
- (h)(ii): A1 for coordinates.

Total [28 marks]

Error Analysis: Common Mistakes and Fixes for Cubic Polynomi-

als

Mistake	Explanation	How to Fix It
Wrong root	Missing conjugate.	Check real coefficients.
Derivative	Incorrect product rule.	Apply systematically.
error		
Incorrect	Wrong slope.	Verify $f'(x)$ and point.
tangent		
Missing	Not solving $g''(x) = 0$.	Compute second derivative.
inflection		

Key Takeaways

- Cubics have one real and two complex roots (conjugates).
- Tangents at specific points intersect at real roots.
- Inflection points are found via second derivatives.
- Complex roots relate to derivative values.

Rishabh's Insights - Shortcuts & Tricks

- **Time-Saver**: Use conjugate pairs for roots.
- **IB Tip**: Sketch cubics with intercepts and inflections.
- **Shortcut**: For (f)(i), solve g(a) = 80 numerically.
- **Verification**: Check tangent intersections graphically.

Basic Foundational Theory

- **Cubic Polynomials**: One real root, two complex (conjugate pairs).
- **Derivatives**: First for tangents, second for inflections.
- Tangent Lines: Point-slope form and intersections.
- **Complex Numbers**: Modulus and conjugate properties.

Practice Problems 2

Practice Problem 1: Tangent Sketch

Sketch $y = (x - 2)(x^2 - 4x + 5)$, showing the tangent at x = 2. [2 marks]

Solution to Practice Problem 1

$$f'(2) = 1, \quad f(2) = 3$$

Tangent: y = x + 1. Cubic with intercept at x = 2.

Cubic with tangent y = x + 1

Practice Problem 2: Inflection Point

Find the inflection point of $y = (x - r)(x^2 - 4x + 10)$. [2 marks]

Solution to Practice Problem 2

$$g''(x) = 6x - 2r - 8 = 0 \implies x = \frac{r+4}{3}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{r+4}{3}}$$

Further Problems 2

Further Problem 1: Quartic Tangent

Generalize the tangent intersection for quartic polynomials. [4 marks]

Solution to Further Problem 1

Requires specific quartic form; typically, tangents at critical points intersect at roots (needs further specification).

Needs specific form

Further Problem 2: Complex Roots

Find roots of $(z + 1)(z^2 - 4z + 13) = 0$.

Solution to Further Problem 2

 $z = -1, \quad z^2 - 4z + 13 = 0 \implies z = 2 \pm 3i$

$$-1, 2 + 3i, 2 - 3i$$

[3 marks]

Conclusion: Your Path to Mathematical Mastery

This guide has provided you with a powerful toolset for tackling IB Math AA HL Paper 3 challenges. However, true mathematical mastery is an ongoing journey – a blend of understanding, skill, and strategic thinking.

Key Takeaways for Exam Success:

- **Practice with Purpose:** Focus on understanding the *why* behind each solution, not just memorizing the *how*. The more you challenge yourself and solve problems, the easier and better you will do it.
- **Embrace Your Mistakes:** Every mistake is an opportunity to learn. Analyze what worked and what you can improve next time.
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