

Binomial Expansion Questions involving Partial Fractions SOLUTIONS

1)a) $9x - 14 \equiv A(x - 1)^2 + B(x + 4)(x - 1) + C(x + 4)$
 $x = -4 \Rightarrow -50 = 25A \Rightarrow A = -2$
 $x = 1 \Rightarrow -5 = 5C \Rightarrow C = -1$
 coeffs of $x^2 \Rightarrow 0 = A + B \Rightarrow B = 2$

b)

$$f(x) = \frac{-2}{x+4} + \frac{2}{x-1} - \frac{1}{(x-1)^2}$$

$$\frac{-2}{4+x} = \frac{\frac{-2}{4} + \frac{2}{4}}{1 + \frac{x}{4}}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{2}{4}}{1 + \frac{x}{4}}$$

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

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

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \frac{x}{4} + \frac{x^2}{16} \right]$$

$$\frac{-2}{x+4} = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{x}{8} - \frac{x^2}{32}$$

$$\frac{2}{x-1} = \frac{-2}{1-x}$$

$$= -2(1-x)^{-1}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$= - (1 + 2x + 3x^2)$$

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

So $f(x) = \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{x}{8} - \frac{x^2}{32} \right) + (-2 - 2x - 2x^2) + (-1 - 2x - 3x^2)$

$$= -\frac{7}{2} - \frac{31x}{8} - \frac{161x^2}{32}$$

c) Valid for $|x| < 1$

2).a) $A = 0, B = 4, C = 3$

b) $4 + \frac{39x^2}{4}$

3).

$$\mathbf{a} \quad \frac{2-11x}{1-5x+4x^2} \equiv \frac{A}{1-x} + \frac{B}{1-4x}$$

$$2-11x \equiv A(1-4x) + B(1-x)$$

$$x=1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -9 = -3A \quad \Rightarrow \quad A=3$$

$$x = \frac{1}{4} \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4}B \quad \Rightarrow \quad B = -1$$

$$\mathbf{b} \quad \frac{2-11x}{1-5x+4x^2} \equiv \frac{3}{1-x} - \frac{1}{1-4x}$$

$$\frac{3}{1-x} = 3(1-x)^{-1} = 3\left[1 + (-1)(-x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}(-x)^2 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)}{3 \times 2}(-x)^3 + \dots\right]$$

$$= 3 + 3x + 3x^2 + 3x^3 + \dots, \quad |-x| < 1 \quad \therefore |x| < 1$$

$$\frac{1}{1-4x} = (1-4x)^{-1} = 1 + (-1)(-4x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}(-4x)^2 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)}{3 \times 2}(-4x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + 4x + 16x^2 + 64x^3 + \dots, \quad |-4x| < 1 \quad \therefore |x| < \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\therefore \frac{2-11x}{1-5x+4x^2} = (3 + 3x + 3x^2 + 3x^3 + \dots) - (1 + 4x + 16x^2 + 64x^3 + \dots)$$

$$= 2 - x - 13x^2 - 61x^3 + \dots, \quad \text{valid for } |x| < \frac{1}{4}$$

4).

$$\mathbf{a} \quad \frac{4-17x}{(1+2x)(1-3x)^2} \equiv \frac{A}{1+2x} + \frac{B}{1-3x} + \frac{C}{(1-3x)^2}$$

$$4-17x \equiv A(1-3x)^2 + B(1+2x)(1-3x) + C(1+2x)$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{25}{2} = \frac{25}{4}A \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = 2$$

$$x = \frac{1}{3} \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{5}{3} = \frac{5}{3}C \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = -1$$

$$\text{coeffs of } x^2 \Rightarrow 0 = 9A - 6B \quad \Rightarrow \quad B = 3$$

$$\therefore f(x) \equiv \frac{2}{1+2x} + \frac{3}{1-3x} - \frac{1}{(1-3x)^2}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \quad \frac{2}{1+2x} = 2(1+2x)^{-1} = 2\left[1 + (-1)(2x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}(2x)^2 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)}{3 \times 2}(2x)^3 + \dots\right]$$

$$= 2 - 4x + 8x^2 - 16x^3 + \dots$$

$$\frac{3}{1-3x} = 3(1-3x)^{-1} = 3\left[1 + (-1)(-3x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}(-3x)^2 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)}{3 \times 2}(-3x)^3 + \dots\right]$$

$$= 3 + 9x + 27x^2 + 81x^3 + \dots$$

$$\frac{1}{(1-3x)^2} = (1-3x)^{-2} = 1 + (-2)(-3x) + \frac{(-2)(-3)}{2}(-3x)^2 + \frac{(-2)(-3)(-4)}{3 \times 2}(-3x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + 6x + 27x^2 + 108x^3 + \dots$$

$$f(x) = (2 - 4x + 8x^2 - 16x^3 + \dots) + (3 + 9x + 27x^2 + 81x^3 + \dots) - (1 + 6x + 27x^2 + 108x^3 + \dots)$$

$$= 4 - x + 8x^2 - 43x^3 + \dots$$