

## What is possible and what is impossible for quadratic polynomials?

Let  $Q(x)=ax^2+bx+c$ , where  $a\neq 0$ , be a quadratic with real coefficients.

1. Can all the values of  $Q(x)$  be positive if  $b>a+c$ ?
2. **a)** For each even integer  $x$  the value  $Q(x)$  is an integer. Can value for  $Q(x)$  be noninteger for some odd integer?  
**b)** For each positive integer  $x$  the value  $Q(x)$  is an integer. Can value for  $Q(x)$  be noninteger for some negative integer?
3. Can the whole graph of the equation  $y=Q(x)$  lie higher than the graph of the equation  $y=x^4$ ?
4. Given are 2 reduced quadratic polynomials. Can their graphs divide the plane into more than 4 parts? (A quadratic  $Q$  is *reduced* if  $a=1$ ).
5. **a)** Can equation  $Q(x)=\sqrt{x}$  have more than 2 roots ?  
**b)** Can equation  $Q(x)=\sqrt{x}$  have more than 4 roots?
6. **a)** Can all the values  $Q(1), Q(2), Q(3), \dots, Q(40)$  be different prime numbers?  
**b)** Can all the values of  $Q(x)$  for  $x$  integer be prime numbers?

### Credit problems

**QP1.** One increased both coefficients of the equation  $x^2 + px + q = 0$  by 1 and got a new equation. Repeating the operation 8 times more one got 8 extra equations. For each of 10 equations, can both roots be integers?

**QP2.** Given are 10 quadratic polynomials, each has two roots. For any two of the polynomials consider a new polynomial equal to their sum. Can it happen that each of the new polynomials has no roots at all?

**QP3.** Call a positive integer *unitary* if all digits in its decimal expression are 1 (e.g. 1, 111, 1111 are unitary). Is there  $Q$  such that for any unitary  $x$ , the value  $Q(x)$  is also unitary?

**QP4.** Given are integers  $p$  and  $q$  such that for any integer  $x$  the value  $Q(x)=x^2+px+q$  is positive. Can  $Q(x)$  be negative for some noninteger  $x$ ?

**QP5.** In the equation  $x^2+px+q=0$ , both coefficients were changed (increased or decreased) by less than 0,001. Can the larger root of the equation be changed with more than 1000?

**QP6.** Can all the values of  $Q(x)$  be rational for any rational  $x$  and irrational for any irrational  $x$ ?

[www.ashap.info/Uroki/eng/NYUAD18/index.html](http://www.ashap.info/Uroki/eng/NYUAD18/index.html)