

### 2016.3 Question 3

1. We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{e^x P(x)}{Q(x)} &= \frac{Q(x) [e^x P'(x) + e^x P(x)] - Q'(x) e^x P(x)}{Q(x)^2} \\ &= e^x \frac{[Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)]}{Q(x)^2} \\ &= e^x \frac{x^3 - 2}{(x+1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{[Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)]}{Q(x)^2} &= \frac{x^3 - 2}{(x+1)^2} \\ (x+1)^2 [Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)] &= Q(x)^2 (x^3 - 2). \end{aligned}$$

If we plug in  $x = -1$  on both sides, we have LHS = 0 and RHS =  $Q(-1)^2 \cdot (-3)$ .

Therefore,  $Q(-1)^2 = 0$ ,  $Q(-1) = 0$ .

Since  $Q(x) \in \mathbb{P}[x]$ , we must have

$$(x+1) \mid Q(x)$$

as desired.

Therefore,  $\deg Q \geq 1$ ,  $\deg \text{RHS} = 3 + 2 \deg Q$ .

If  $\deg P = -\infty$ ,  $P(x) = 0$ , LHS = 0 which is impossible.

If  $\deg P = 0$ ,  $P(x) = C \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , LHS =  $C(x+1)^2 Q(x)$ ,  $\deg \text{LHS} = \deg q + 2$ , which is impossible.

Therefore, we have  $\deg P' = \deg P - 1$ . Hence,

$$\deg Q(x)P'(x) = \deg P'(x)Q(x) = \deg P + \deg Q - 1,$$

and

$$\deg Q(x)P(x) = \deg P + \deg Q.$$

Therefore,

$$\deg \text{LHS} = 2 + \deg P + \deg Q = \deg \text{RHS},$$

which gives

$$\deg P = \deg Q + 1,$$

as desired.

When  $Q(x) = x + 1$ , let  $P(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a \neq 0$ . We have  $P'(x) = 2ax + b$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} (x+1)^2 [Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)] &= Q(x)^2 (x^3 - 2) \\ Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x) &= x^3 - 2 \\ (x+1)(2ax+b) + (x+1)(ax^2+bx+c) - (ax^2+bx+c) &= x^3 - 2 \\ (x+1)(2ax+b) + x(ax^2+bx+c) &= x^3 - 2 \\ ax^3 + (2a+b)x^2 + (2a+b+c)x + b &= x^3 - 2. \end{aligned}$$

This solves to  $(a, b, c) = (1, -2, 0)$ . Therefore,  $P(x) = x^2 - 2x$ .

2. In this case, we must have that

$$(x+1) [Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)] = Q(x)^2.$$

Therefore,  $Q(x) = (x+1)R(x)$  for some  $R(x) \in \mathbb{P}[x]$ . We may assume  $P(-1) \neq 0$ .

Hence,  $Q'(x) = (x+1)R'(x) + R(x)$

Plugging this in gives us

$$(x+1)R(x)P'(x) + (x+1)R(x)P(x) - [(x+1)R'(x) + R(x)]P(x) = (x+1)R(x)^2,$$

which simplifies to

$$(x+1)[R(x)P'(x) + R(x)P(x) - R'(x)P(x)] - R(x)P(x) = (x+1)R(x)^2.$$

Let  $x = -1$ , and we can see  $x+1$  divides  $R(x)$ , since  $x+1$  can't divide  $P(x)$ .

Therefore, let  $R(x) = (x+1)S(x)$ , therefore  $R'(x) = S(x) + (x+1)S'(x)$ .

This gives

$$(x+1)S(x)[P'(x) + P(x)] - [S(x) + (x+1)S'(x)]P(x) - S(x)P(x) = (x+1)^2S(x)^2,$$

which simplifies to

$$(x+1)[S(x)P'(x) + S(x)P(x) - S'(x)P(x)] - 2S(x)P(x) = (x+1)^2S(x)^2.$$

Therefore, we can see that  $x+1$  divides  $S(x)$  by similar reasons.

Repeating this, we can conclude that there are arbitrarily many factors of  $x+1$  in  $Q(x)$  (proof by infinite descent), which is impossible.

Formally speaking, let  $Q(x) = (x+1)^n T(x)$  where  $T(-1) \neq 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q'(x) &= n(x+1)^{n-1}T(x) + (x+1)^n T'(x) \\ &= (x+1)^{n-1} [nT(x) + (x+1)T'(x)]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$(x+1)[Q(x)P'(x) + Q(x)P(x) - Q'(x)P(x)] = Q(x)^2$$

simplifies to

$$(x+1)^{n+1}T(x)[P'(x) + P(x)] - (x+1)^n [nT(x) + (x+1)T'(x)]P(x) = (x+1)^{2n}T(x)^2,$$

which further simplifies to

$$(x+1)[T(x)P'(x) + T(x)P(x) - T'(x)P(x)] - nT(x)P(x) = (x+1)^n T(x)^2.$$

Now, let  $x = -1$ , we have that  $nT(-1)P(-1) = 0$ . But  $n \neq 0$ ,  $T(-1) \neq 0$ ,  $P(-1) \neq 0$ , which gives a contradiction.

Therefore, such  $P$  and  $Q$  do not exist.