

# Autograph for AS Core Mathematics: Coordinate Geometry/Algebra

## Straight lines

1. Generate a dynamic  $y = mx + c$

### Questions:

- a. How does  $m$  affect the line?
- b. How does  $c$  affect the line?
- c. For a given  $x$ -value what is the  $y$ -value (or vice-versa)?
- d. Can the line ever be horizontal/vertical?
- e. What does  $m$  tell you about any two points on the line?
- f. Give me an example of a line
  - i. that passes through (2,5).
  - ii. that passes through the origin.
  - iii. that passes through the  $x$ -axis at  $x = 3$ .

2. Generate a line from a point and a gradient using  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$ :

Add a point to the screen.

Select the point and right-click (or use the object menu) and select gradient line.

Enter the gradient as **m**.

With the line selected display the text.

### Questions

- a. Autograph will display the line in the form  $y = mx + c$ . Can you show why this is equivalent to  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$  where  $(x_1, y_1)$  are the coordinates of the point?
- b. What does the equation tell you about other points on the line? Can you find some other points on the line?
- c. Can the line ever be horizontal/vertical?
- d. Give me an example of a line
  - i. that passes through (2,5).
  - ii. that passes through the origin.
  - iii. that passes through the  $x$ -axis at  $x = 3$ .

3. Generate a dynamic  $ax + by = c$ :

Add a point on the  $x$ -axis and a point on the  $y$ -axis.

Create a line between the 2 points.

With the line selected display the text.

### Questions:

- a. Can you rewrite the equation given so that all the coefficients are whole numbers?
- b. Is there only one version of the equation for each pair of points?
- c. How are the intersections with the axes related to the equation?
- d. Is there more than one equation that gives the same line?
- e. Can the line ever be horizontal/vertical?
- f. Find an example of a line in this form:

- i. that passes through (2,5).
- ii. that passes through the origin.
- iii. that passes through the x-axis at  $x = 3$ .
- iv. with negative gradient.

4. Generate a straight line and construct parallel and perpendiculars through a point.

*Questions*

- a. Can you explain the equations?
- b. Why is the gradient of the perpendicular line  $-1/m$ ?
- c. How does this relate to vertical and horizontal lines?
- d. What is the relationship between perpendicular lines in the form  $ax + by = c$ ?

**Quadratics**

5. Generate a dynamic version of  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

*Questions*

- a. What is the effect of varying  $c$ ?
- b. What is the effect of varying  $a$ ?
- c. What is the effect of varying  $b$ ?
- d. Give me an example of a quadratic
  - i. that passes through the origin.
  - ii. that passes through (2,5)
  - iii. that cuts both the positive and negative x-axis.
  - iv. that passes through (1,1) and (2,5).
  - v. that doesn't cut the x-axis.

6. Generate a dynamic version of  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

*Questions*

- a. With  $a = 1$  describe the conditions on  $b$  and  $c$  needed so that:
  - i. The curve crosses the x-axis at two different points.
  - ii. The curve touches the x-axis at a single point.
  - iii. The curve doesn't cross or touch the x-axis?
- b. Vary  $a$ . Describe the conditions the conditions on  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  needed so that:
  - i. The curve crosses the x-axis at two different points.
  - ii. The curve touches the x-axis at a single point.
  - iii. The curve doesn't cross or touch the x-axis?

7. Plot a parabola based on its vertex and find its equation and roots:  
 Create a general point by entering the coordinates **(p, q)**.  
 Enter the equation  **$y = (x - p)^2 + q$** .

*Questions*

- a. What is the equation of the curve in the form  $y = x^2 + bx + c$ ?
- b. Where does the curve cut the x-axis?

- c. Where does the curve cut the  $y$ -axis?
- d. Can you find a parabola in this form that cuts the  $x$ -axis at:
  - i. (0,0) and (2,0)?
  - ii. (2,0) and (8,0)?
- e. Also see: <http://www.furthermaths.org.uk/files/gcseextension/NA1.pdf>

8. Plot  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  and  $y = mx + k$ . Solve  $f(x)=g(x)$  to find their points of intersection.

#### Questions

- a. For a given parabola can you find examples of lines that cut the curve at
  - i. 2 distinct points?
  - ii. 1 point?
  - iii. 0 points?
- b. Can you show why these are the case algebraically?
- c. For a given quadratic can you find examples of lines that cuts the curve at 2 distinct points that are both to the right of the vertex of the parabola?
- d. Add a point to the line. Can you find a parabola where the line is a tangent at the point?

## Circles

9. Create a dynamic circle:  $(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2$

#### Questions

- a. Give an example of values of **a**, **b**, and **c** such that the circle:
  - i. is completely in the top-right quadrant
  - ii. cuts the positive  $x$ -axis twice and the positive  $y$ -axis twice
  - iii. cuts the positive and negative  $x$ -axis and the positive and negative  $y$ -axis.
  - iv. cuts the positive  $x$ -axis twice and touches the  $y$ -axis.
  - v. goes through the origin.
- b. If the scales are ignored how many different cases are there?  
N.B. A *distinct case* is defined by the quadrant/axis that contains the centre and the number of distinct intersections with the positive and negative  $x$  and  $y$  axes
- c. Give values of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $r$  that are an examples of each case

10. Create a dynamic circle:  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$

#### Questions

- a. Can you find a value of  $r$  so that the circle that passes through:
  - i. exactly 4 points with integer coordinates.
  - ii. exactly 8 points with integer coordinates.
  - iii. exactly 12 points with integer coordinates.
  - iv. exactly 16 points with integer coordinates.
  - v. exactly 20 points with integer coordinates.