

**MAI**

**EXERCISES [MAI 5.8]**  
**MONOTONY – CONCAVITY – OPTIMIZATION**  
*Compiled by Christos Nikolaidis*

**A. Paper 1 questions (SHORT)**

**MONOTONY AND CONCAVITY**

1. [Maximum mark: 12]

Differentiate the following functions and hence determine whether each function is increasing or decreasing (or neither).

(i)  $f(x) = x^5 + e^x + 1,$                       (ii)  $f(x) = x^3 + \ln x, x > 0$

(iii)  $f(x) = 5 - 3e^{2x}$                       (iv)  $f(x) = \frac{e^x - 1}{e^x + 1}$

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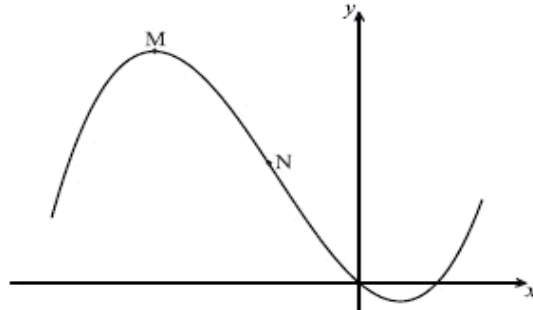
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2. [Maximum mark: 8]

Consider  $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x$ . Part of the graph of  $f$  is shown below. There is a maximum point at M, and a point of inflexion at N.



- (a) Find  $f'(x)$  [2]
- (b) Find the  $x$ -coordinate of M. [2]
- (c) Find the  $x$ -coordinate of N. [3]
- (d) Write down the equation of the normal line at M. [1]

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3. [Maximum mark: 4]

It is given that  $f''(x) = (x - 1)(x - 3)(x - 4)^2$ .

Find the points of inflexion of  $f$ ; justify your answer.

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4. [Maximum mark: 5]

Let  $f'(x) = -24x^3 + 9x^2 + 3x + 1$ .

(a) There are two points of inflexion on the graph of  $f$ . Write down the  $x$ -coordinates of these points. [3]

(b) Let  $g(x) = f''(x)$ . Explain why the graph of  $g$  has no points of inflexion. [2]

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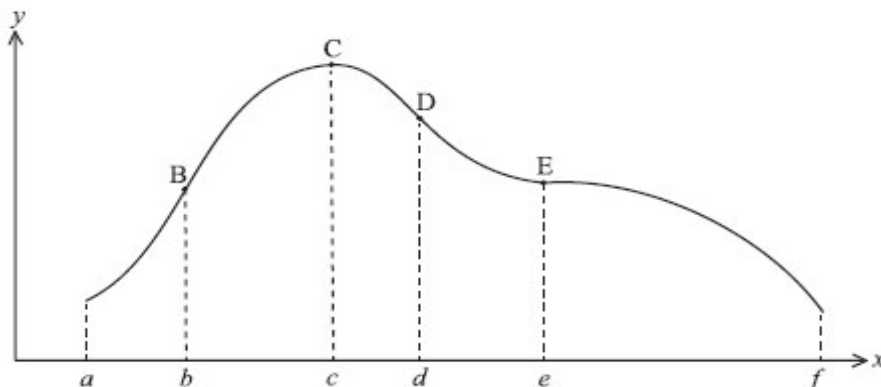
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5. [Maximum mark: 8]

The graph of a function  $g$  is given in the diagram below.



The gradient of the curve has its maximum value at point B and its minimum value at point D. The tangent is horizontal at points C and E.

- (a) Complete the table below, by stating whether the first derivative  $g'$  is positive or negative, and whether the second derivative  $g''$  is positive or negative.

Interval	$g'$	$g''$
$a < x < b$		
$e < x < f$		

[4]

- (b) Complete the table below by noting the points on the graph described by the following conditions.

Conditions	Point
$g'(x) = 0, g''(x) < 0$	
$g'(x) < 0, g''(x) = 0$	

[2]

- (c) Write down the values of  $g'(e)$  and  $g''(e)$ .

[1]

- (d) Write down the number of points of inflexion for this curve.

[1]

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6. [Maximum mark: 7]

Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{3x-2}{2x+5}$ .

The graph of this function has a vertical and a horizontal asymptote.

- (a) Write down the equations of the asymptotes [2]
- (b) Find  $f'(x)$ , simplifying the answer as much as possible. [2]
- (c) Write down the number of stationary points of the graph. Justify your answer. [2]
- (d) Write down the number of points of inflection of the graph. [1]

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7. [Maximum mark: 5]

A function  $f$  has its first derivative given by  $f'(x) = (x-3)^3$ .

- (a) Find the second derivative. [2]
- (b) Find  $f'(3)$  and  $f''(3)$ . [1]
- (c) Explain why the point P on the graph with  $x$ -coordinate 3 is not a point of inflexion. [2]

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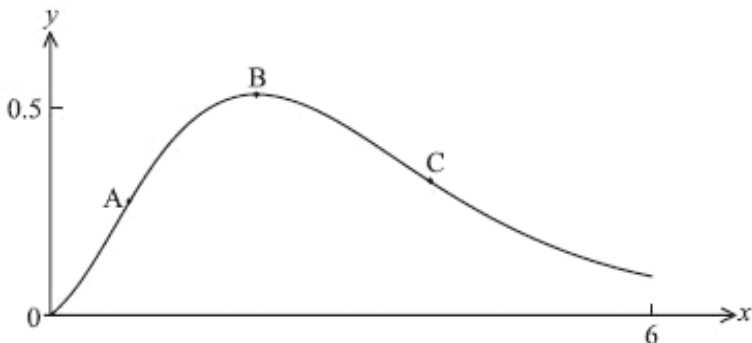
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8. [Maximum mark: 8]

The diagram below shows the graph of  $f(x) = x^2e^{-x}$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 6$ . There are points of inflexion at A and C and there is a maximum at B.



- (a) Using the product rule for differentiation, find  $f'(x)$ . [2]
- (b) Find the **exact** value of the **y-coordinate** of B. [2]
- (c) (i) Show that  $f''(x) = (x^2 - 4x + 2)e^{-x}$ .  
(ii) **Hence**, find the **exact** value of the **x-coordinate** of C.

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9. [Maximum mark: 6]

Let  $g(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x^2}$ , for  $x > 0$ . The graph of  $g$  has a maximum point at A

(a) Use the quotient rule to show that  $g'(x) = \frac{1 - 2 \ln x}{x^3}$ . [3]

(b) Find the  $x$ -coordinate of A in the form  $e^a$  [3]

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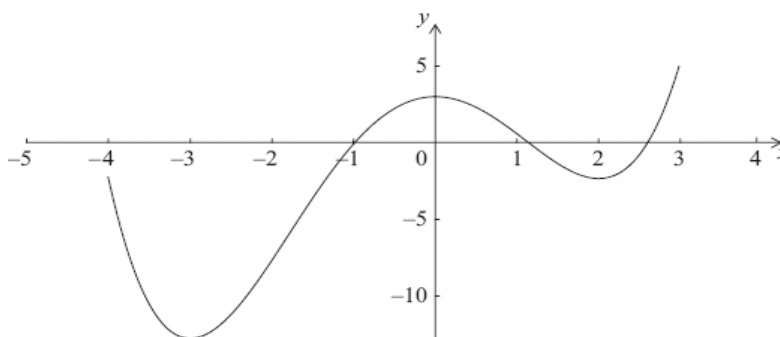
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10. [Maximum mark: 6]

A function  $f$  is defined for  $-4 \leq x \leq 3$ . The graph of  $f$  is given below.



The graph has a local maximum when  $x = 0$ , and local minima when  $x = -3$ ,  $x = 2$ .

(a) Write down the  $x$ -intercepts of the graph of the **derivative** function,  $f'$ . [2]

(b) Write down all values of  $x$  for which  $f'(x)$  is positive. [2]

(c) At point D on the graph of  $f$ , the  $x$ -coordinate is  $-0.5$ . Explain why  $f''(x) < 0$  at D. [2]

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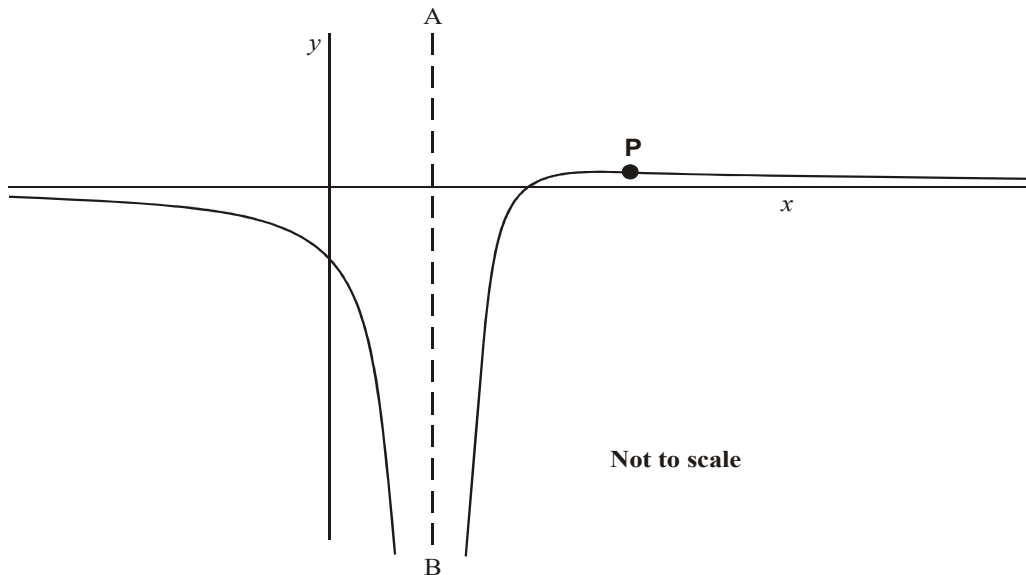
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11. [Maximum mark: 8]

Consider the function  $h: x \mapsto \frac{x-2}{(x-1)^2}, x \neq 1$ .

A sketch of part of the graph of  $h$  is given below.



The line (AB) is a vertical asymptote. The point P is a point of inflexion.

- (a) Write down the **equation** of the vertical asymptote. [1]
- (b) Find  $h'(x)$  writing your answer in the form  $\frac{a-x}{(x-1)^n}$  [4]
- (c) Given that  $h''(x) = \frac{2x-8}{(x-1)^4}$ , calculate the coordinates of P. [3]

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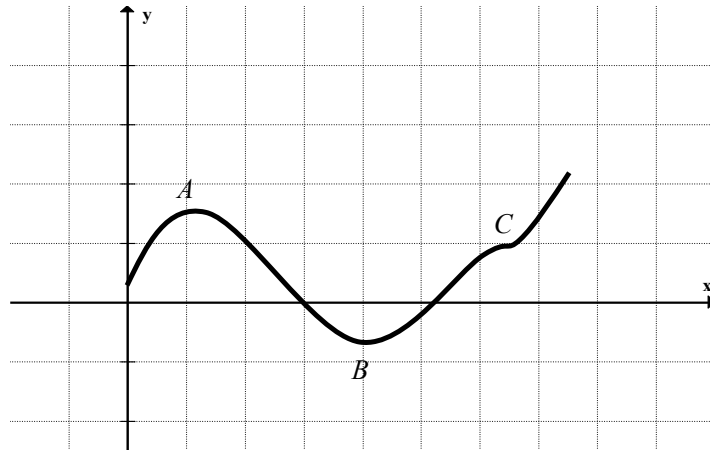
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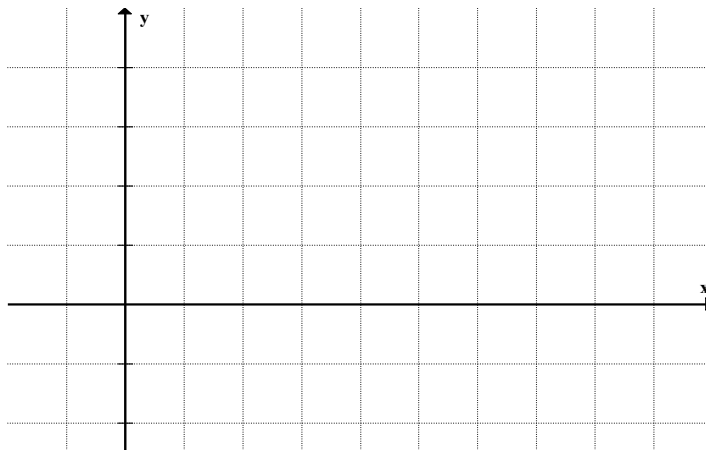
**GRAPH OF  $f'$**

12. [Maximum mark: 6]

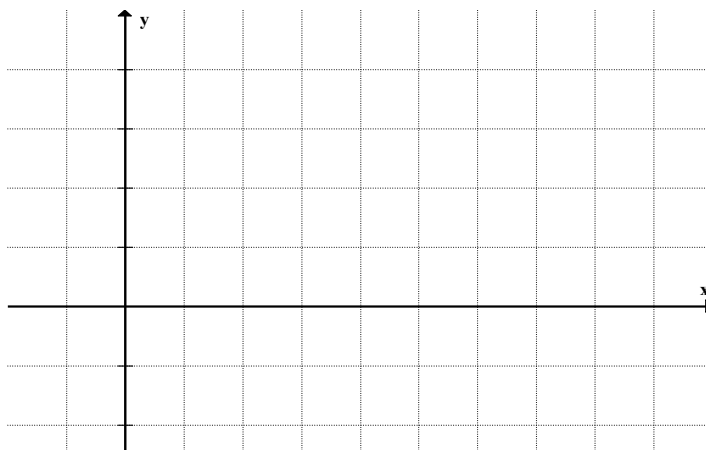
The diagram below shows the graph of  $y = f(x)$ . The tangent lines on this curve at points  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  are parallel to the  $x$ -axis.



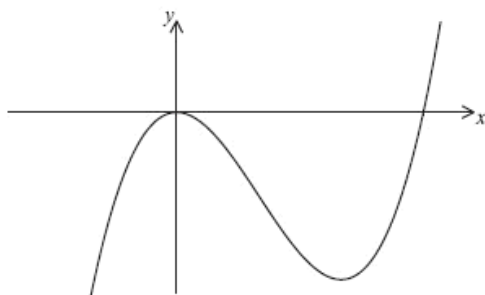
(a) Sketch the graph of the function  $y = f'(x)$ , by indicating the  $x$ -intercepts. [3]



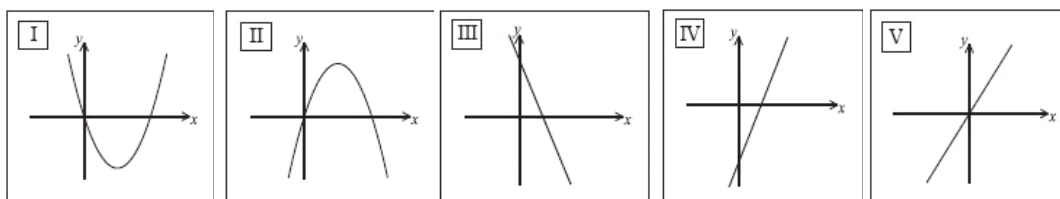
(b) Sketch the graph of the function  $y = f''(x)$ , by indicating the  $x$ -intercepts. [3]



13. [Maximum mark: 4]  
The following diagram shows the graph of a function  $f$ .



Consider the following diagrams.

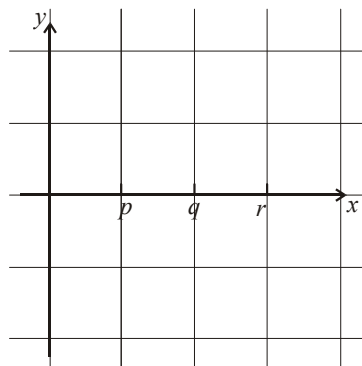
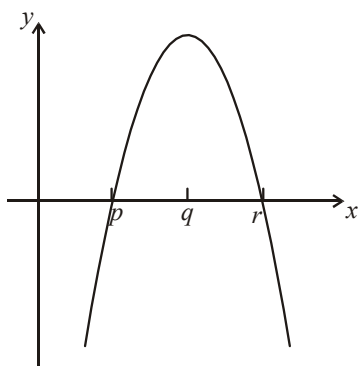


Complete the table below, noting the corresponding diagram for  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$ :

Graph	$f'(x)$	$f''(x)$
Diagram		

14. [Maximum mark: 6]  
The first diagram below shows part of the graph of the **gradient** function  $y = f'(x)$ .

- (a) On the grid on the right, sketch a graph of  $f''(x)$ ; indicate the  $x$ -intercept.



[2]

- (b) Complete the table, for the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

	Maximum point on $f$	Inflexion point on $f$
$x$ -coordinate		

[2]

- (c) Justify your answer to part (b) (ii).

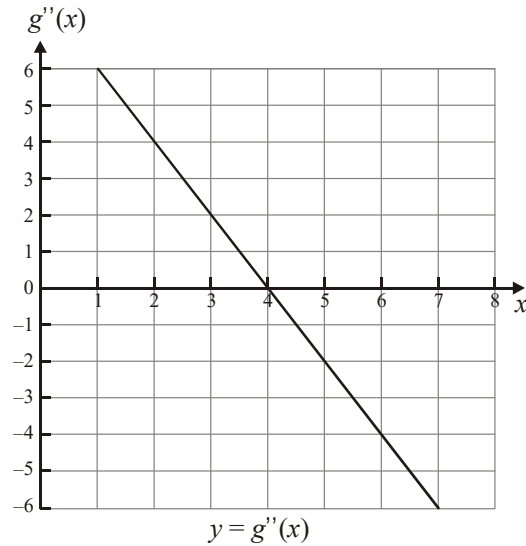
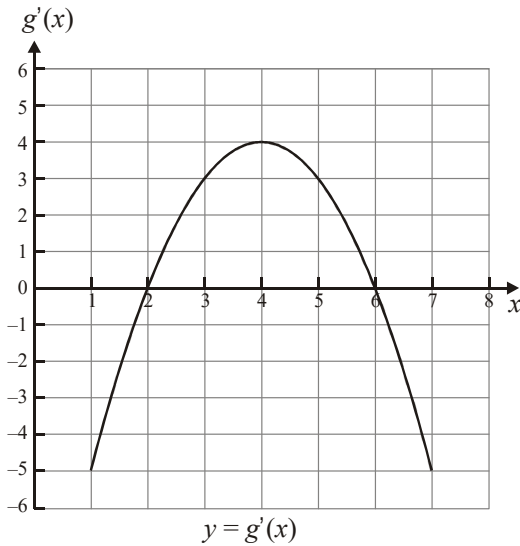
[2]

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15. [Maximum mark: 8]

Let  $y = g(x)$  be a function of  $x$  for  $1 \leq x \leq 7$ . The graph of  $g$  has an inflexion point at P, and a minimum point at M.

Partial sketches of the curves of  $g'$  and  $g''$  are shown below.



Use the above information to answer the following.

- (a) Write down the  $x$ -coordinate of P; justify your answer. [2]
- (b) Write down the  $x$ -coordinate of M; justify your answer. [2]
- (c) Given that  $g(4) = 0$ , sketch the graph of  $g$ . Mark the points P and M. [4]

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**OPTIMIZATION**

16. [Maximum mark: 7]

Consider all rectangles of constant perimeter  $4a$ .

Find the dimensions of the rectangle of maximum area and **hence** the maximum area.

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17. [Maximum mark: 7]

Consider all rectangles of constant area  $A = a^2$ .

Find the rectangle of minimum perimeter and justify your answer.

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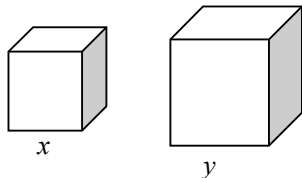
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18. [Maximum mark: 9]

Two cubes of edges  $x$  and  $y$  respectively respectively are shown below.

The total surface area of two cubes is  $300 \text{ cm}^2$ .



The total surface area of the two cubes is  $300 \text{ cm}^2$ .

- (a) Find an expression of  $y$  in terms of  $x$ . [3]
- (b) Given that there is a minimum value of the total volume of the cubes, find this minimum value and the corresponding dimensions of the two cubes. [6]

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19. [Maximum mark: 9]

A point on the curve  $y = x^2$  has coordinates  $P(a, a^2)$ . The point  $A\left(2, \frac{1}{2}\right)$  does not lie in the curve.

(a) Express the distance  $D$  between  $P$  and  $A$  in terms of  $a$ . [2]

(b) Find  $\frac{dD}{da}$  [3]

(c) Hence find

- (i) the coordinates of the point  $P$  on the line which is closest to  $A$ ;
- (ii) the minimum distance  $D$  between the point  $A$  and the curve  $y = x^2$ . [4]

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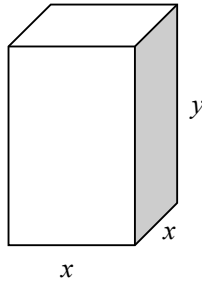
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**20.** [Maximum mark: 9]

The following diagram shows a cuboid of square base of side  $x$  and height  $y$ . The volume of the cuboid is  $125 \text{ cm}^3$



- (a) Express  $y$  in term of  $x$ . [2]
- (b) **Hence**, express the surface area  $S$  of the cuboid in terms of  $x$ . [2]
- (c) Use  $\frac{dS}{dx}$  to find the minimum value of  $S$ ; justify your answer. [5]

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**B. Paper 2 questions (LONG)**

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21. [Maximum mark: 12]

Let  $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx$

(a) Find the first and the second derivative of  $f(x)$ , in terms of  $a, b, c$ . [4]

(b) The graph  
    passes through the point  $P(1,4)$   
    has a local maximum at  $P$   
    has a point of inflection at  $x = 2$ .

Write down three linear equations representing this information. [3]

(c) **Hence** find the values of  $a, b, c$ . [2]

(d) The function has a local minimum at  $x = d$ . Find the value of  $d$  and justify that it is a minimum. [3]

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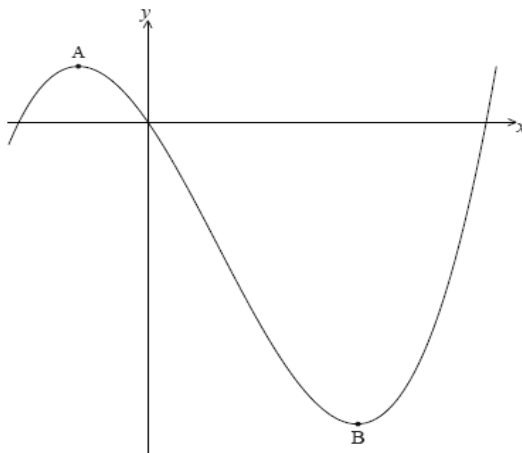






30. [Maximum mark: 12]

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - x^2 - 3x$ . Part of the graph of  $f$  is shown below.



There is a maximum point at A and a minimum point at B(3, -9).

- (a) Find the coordinates of A. [6]
- (b) Write down the coordinates of
  - (i) the image of B after reflection in the  $y$ -axis;
  - (ii) the image of B after translation by the vector  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ ;
  - (iii) the image of B after reflection in the  $x$ -axis followed by a horizontal stretch with scale factor  $\frac{1}{2}$ . [6]

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31. [Maximum mark: 12]

Let  $f(x) = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$ , for  $\sin x \neq 0$ .

(a) Use the quotient rule to show that  $f'(x) = \frac{-1}{\sin^2 x}$ . [4]

(b) Find  $f''(x)$ . [3]

In the following table,  $f'(\frac{\pi}{2}) = p$  and  $f''(\frac{\pi}{2}) = q$ . The table also gives approximate

values of  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$  near  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

$x$	$\frac{\pi}{2} - 0.1$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$\frac{\pi}{2} + 0.1$
$f'(x)$	-1.01	$p$	-1.01
$f''(x)$	0.203	$q$	-0.203

(c) Find the value of  $p$  and of  $q$ . [3]

(d) Use information from the table to explain why there is a point of inflexion on the graph of  $f$  where  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . [2]

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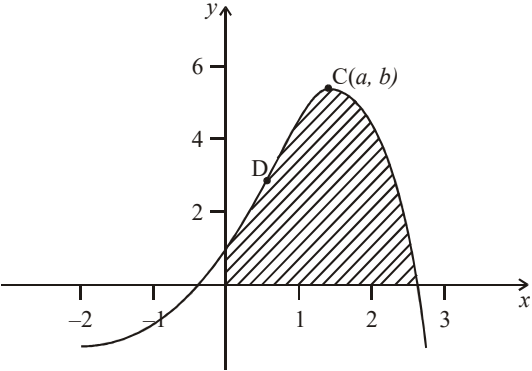
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32. [Maximum mark: 12]

The diagram shows the graph of  $y = e^x (\cos x + \sin x)$ ,  $-2 \leq x \leq 3$ . The graph has a maximum turning point at  $C(a, b)$  and a point of inflexion at  $D$ .



- (a) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ . [3]
- (b) Find the **exact** value of  $a$  and of  $b$ . [4]
- (c) Show that at  $D$ ,  $y = \sqrt{2}e^{\frac{\pi}{4}}$ . [5]

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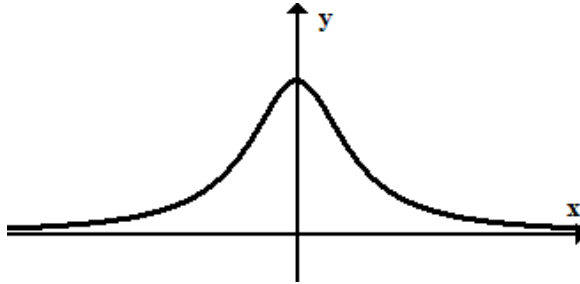
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33. [Maximum mark: 12]

Part of the graph of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$  is shown below.



- (a) Write down the equation of the horizontal asymptote of the graph of  $f$ . [1]
- (b) Find  $f'(x)$ . [3]
- (c) Show that the second derivative is given by  $f''(x) = \frac{6x^2 - 2}{(1+x^2)^3}$ . [4]
- (d) Let A be the point on the curve of  $f$  where the gradient of the tangent is a maximum. Find the  $x$ -coordinate of A. [4]

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34. [Maximum mark: 11]

Consider the function  $f(x) = e^{(2x-1)} + \frac{5}{2x-1}$ ,  $x \neq \frac{1}{2}$ .

- (a) Sketch the curve of  $f$  for  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$ , including any asymptotes. [3]
- (b) Write down the equation of the vertical asymptote of  $f$ . [1]
- (c) Find  $f'(x)$ . [4]
- (d) (i) Write down the value of  $x$  at the minimum point on the curve of  $f$ .  
(ii) The equation  $f(x) = k$  has no solutions for  $p \leq k < q$ . Write down the value of  $p$  and of  $q$ . [3]

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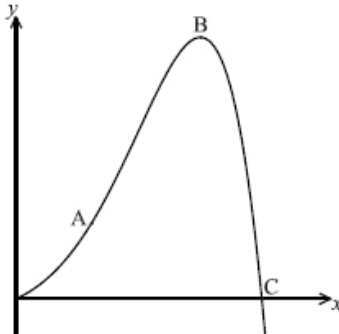
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35. [Maximum mark: 12]

The function  $f$  is defined as  $f(x) = e^x \sin x$ , where  $x$  is in radians. Part of the curve of  $f$  is shown below.



There is a point of inflexion at A, and a local maximum point at B. The curve of  $f$  intersects the  $x$ -axis at the point C.

- (a) Write down the  $x$ -coordinate of the point C. [2]
- (b) (i) Find  $f'(x)$ .  
(ii) Write down the value of  $f'(x)$  at the point B. [4]
- (c) Show that  $f''(x) = 2e^x \cos x$ . [2]
- (d) (i) Write down the value of  $f''(x)$  at A, the point of inflexion.  
(ii) Hence, calculate the coordinates of A. [4]

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