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VCE Mathematical Methods $\frac{3}{4}$
Polynomials [0.7]
Workshop

Error Logbook:



Mistake/Misconception #1		Mistake/Misconception #2	
Question #:	Page #:	Question #:	Page #:
Notes:		Notes:	
Mistake/Misconception #3		Mistake/Misconception #4	
Question #:	Page #:	Question #:	Page #:
Notes:		Notes:	

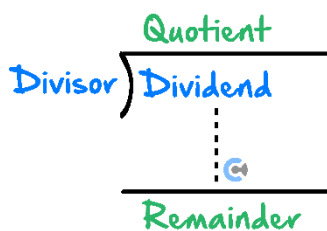
Section A: Recap

Roots of Polynomial Functions



Roots = x-intercepts

Polynomial Long Division



$$\frac{\text{Dividend}}{\text{Divisor}} = \text{Quotient} + \frac{\text{Remainder}}{\text{Divisor}}$$

TIPS:




- Always focus on the highest degree term first.
- Always remember to fill in any missing powers of x in the numerator or denominator with "placeholders" that have a coefficient of 0.

Remainder Theorem



➤ Definition:

-  Find the remainder of the long division without needing long division.

When $P(x)$ is divided by $(x - \alpha)$, the remainder is $P(\alpha)$.

divisor

➤ Steps:

1. Find x -values which make the divisor equal to 0.
2. Substitute it into the dividend function.

Factor Theorem



- For every x -intercept, there is a factor.

If $P(\alpha) = 0$, then $(x - \alpha)$ is a factor of $P(x)$.

remainder = 0

Factorising Cubic Polynomials



Steps:

- Find a single root by trial and error. *$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$ (start small)*
 - (Factor theorem: Substitute into the function and see if we get zero.)
- Use long division to find the quadratic factor.
- Factorise the remaining factor.

Rational Root Theorem

e.g. $x^3 + 4x^2 - 2x + 6$

- Rational root theorem **narrows down** the possible roots.

Potential roots = $\pm \frac{1, 2, 3, 6}{1}$

$$\text{Potential root} = \pm \frac{\text{Factors of constant term } a_0}{\text{Factors of leading coefficient } a_n}$$

- If the roots are rational numbers, the roots can only be $\pm \frac{\text{factors of constant term } a_0}{\text{factors of leading coefficient } a_n}$.

Sum and Difference of Cubes



$$a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$$

$$a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$$

Space for Personal Notes

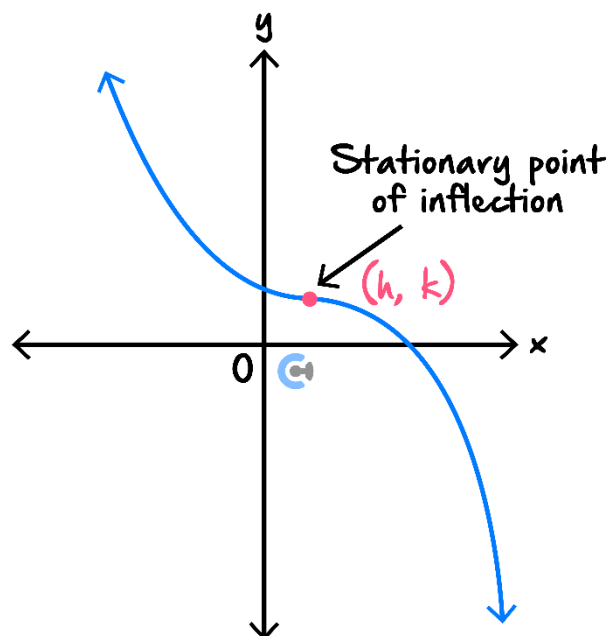
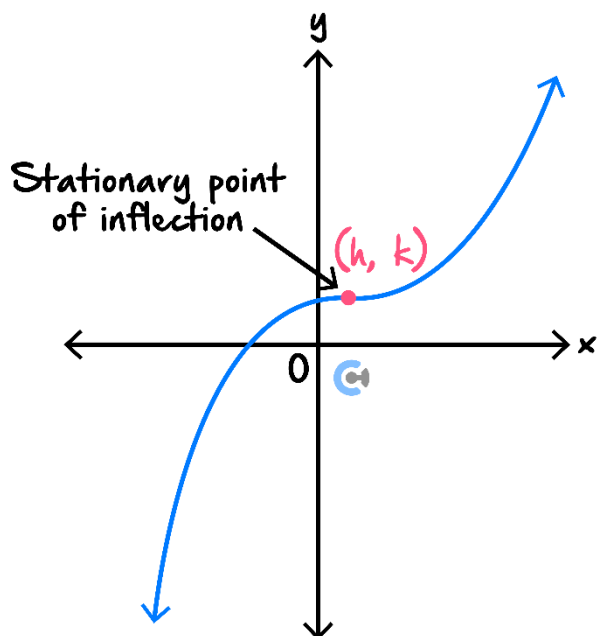
$$(a+b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$

$$(a-b)^3 = a^3 - 3a^2b + 3ab^2 - b^3$$



Graphs of $a(x-h)^n + k$, where n is Odd and Positive

- All graphs look like a "cubic".

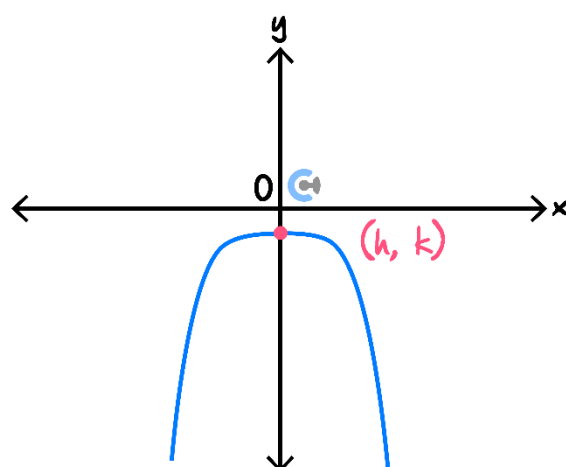
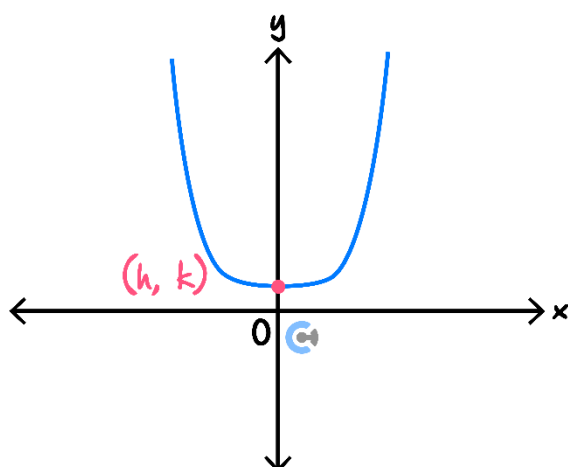


- The point (h, k) gives us the stationary point of inflection.
- n cannot be 1 for this shape to occur!



Graphs of $a(x-h)^n + k$, where n is Even and Positive

- All graphs look like a "quadratic".



- The point (h, k) gives us the turning point.



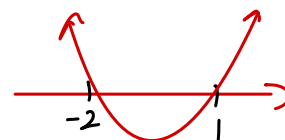
Graphs of Factorised Polynomials

Steps:

1. Plot x -intercepts.
2. Determine whether the polynomial is positive or negative.
3. Use the repeated factors to deduce the shape:

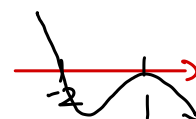
➤ **Non-repeated:** Only x -intercept.

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



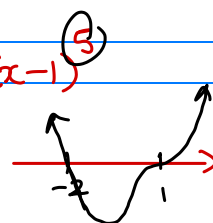
➤ **Even repeated:** x -intercept and a turning point.

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

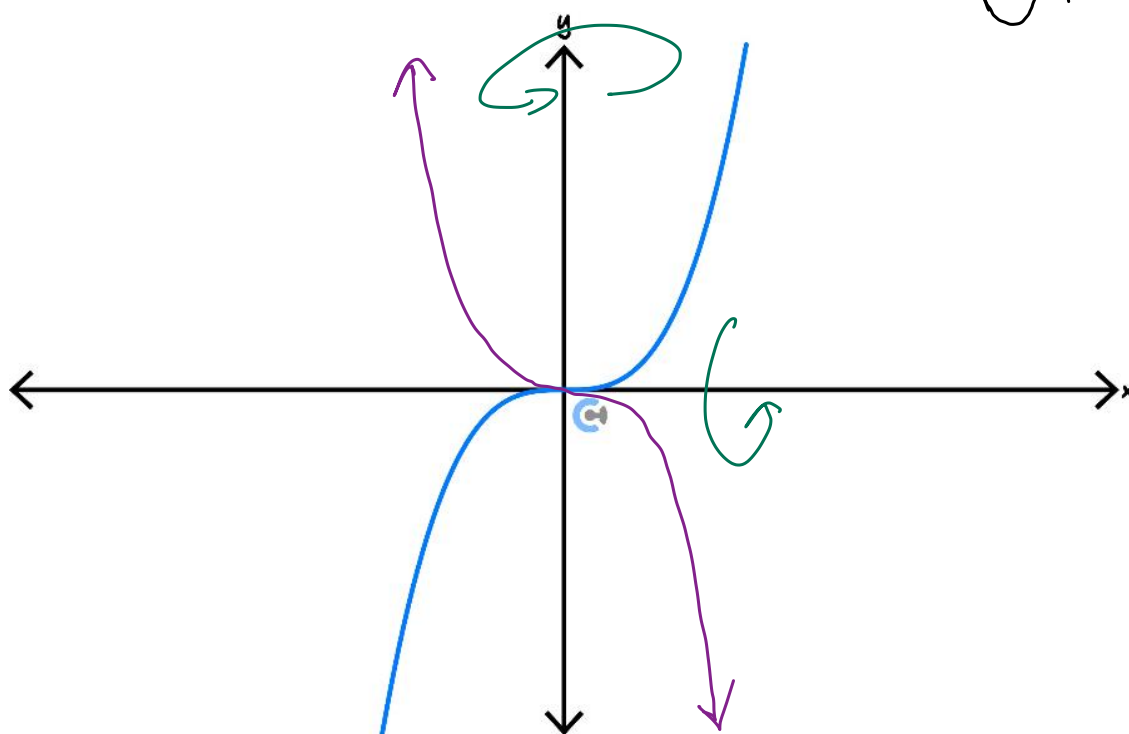


➤ **Odd repeated:** x -intercept and a stationary point of inflection.

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



Odd Functions



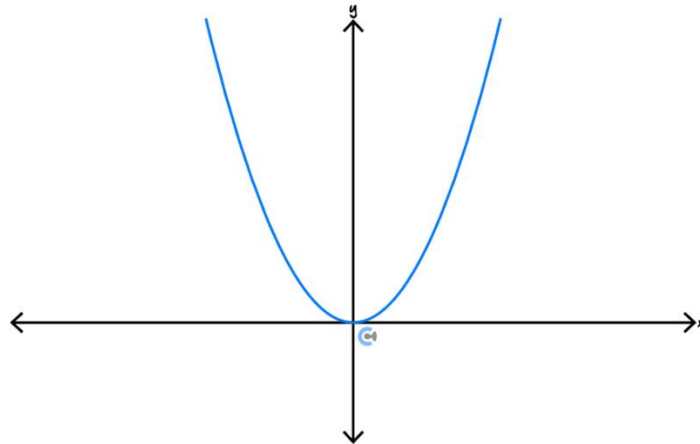
➤ E.g., $x^3, x^5, x^7 - x^3$. They are all odd powers.

$$f(-x) = -f(x)$$

➤ Property: Reflecting around the y -axis is the same as reflecting around the x -axis.



Even Functions



- E.g., $x^2, x^4, -x^{10}, x^4 - 4$. They are all **even powers**.

$$f(-x) = f(x)$$

- Property: It is **symmetrical** around the y-axis.



Power Functions

$$y = x^{\frac{n}{m}}$$

- **m**: Dictates the number of **tails**.

❏ **Odd m = Two tails.** e.g. $y = x^{\frac{1}{3}}$

❏ **Even m = One tail.** e.g. $y = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

- **n**: Dictates the **range**.

❏ **Odd n**: The range could be all real. *above or below x-axis*

❏ **Even n**: The range must be non-negative.

- $\frac{n}{m}$ (**Power**): *on/above x-axis*

❏ **Power > 1**: Looks like a polynomial function. e.g. $\frac{6}{5}, \frac{11}{8}$

❏ **Power < 1**: Looks like a root function. e.g. $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{8}$

Section B: Warm Up

Question 1

- a. Find the remainder of the division $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ where $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 2$ and $g(x) = x - 1$. ①

$$f(1) = 1^3 + 3(1)^2 + 2$$

$$= 1 + 3 + 2$$

$$= 6 \leftarrow \text{remainder}$$

- b. Use polynomial long division to write $f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x + 2}{x + 2}$ in the form $f(x) = Q(x) + \frac{a}{x + 2}$ for quadratic function Q and integer a .

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{ } \overline{) \begin{array}{r} x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x + 2 \\ -(x^3 + 2x^2) \quad \downarrow \downarrow \\ 0 + 3x + 2 \\ -(3x + 6) \\ \hline -4 \end{array}} \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = x^2 + 3 + \frac{-4}{x + 2}$$

c.

- i. Find all the roots of $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2$.

$$x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 = 0$$

$$x^2(x-2) - (x-2) = 0$$

$$(x^2-1)(x-2) = 0$$

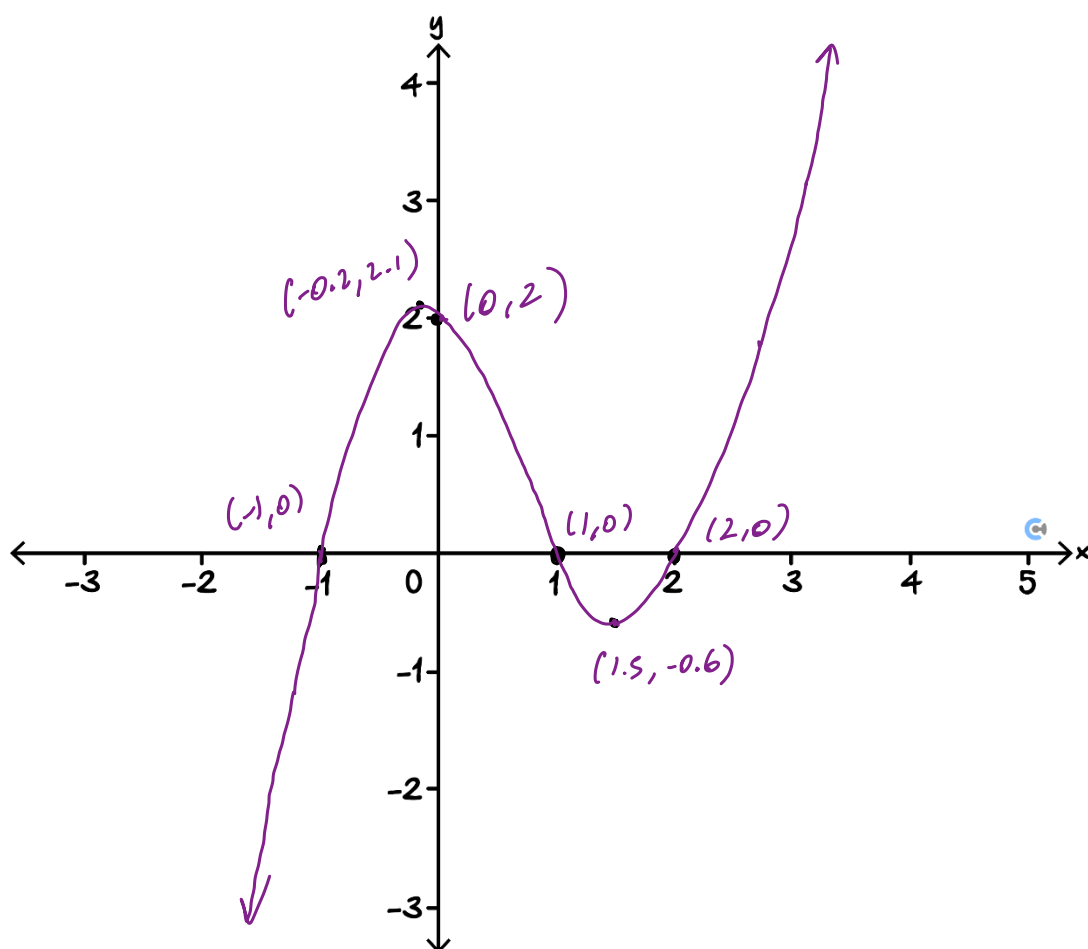
factorise by grouping

$$x^2-1=0 \quad x-2=0$$

$$x = \pm 1 \quad x = 2$$

Try: $x = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$

- ii. Sketch the graph of $y = f(x)$ on the axes below. Turning points occur at approximately $(-0.2, 2.1)$ and $(1.5, -0.6)$.



d. Factorise the expression $x^3 + 27$.

$$= x^3 + 3^3$$

$$= (x+3)(x^2 - 3x + 9)$$

e. Expand the expression $(x - 2)^3$.

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

$$= \underline{x^3 - 6x^2 + 12x - 8}$$

f. Show that the function $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$ is odd.

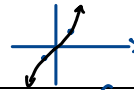
want: $f(x) = -f(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS: } f(-x) &= (-x)^3 - 3(-x) \\ &= -x^3 + 3x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS: } -f(x) &= -(x^3 - 3x) \\ &= -x^3 + 3x \end{aligned}$$

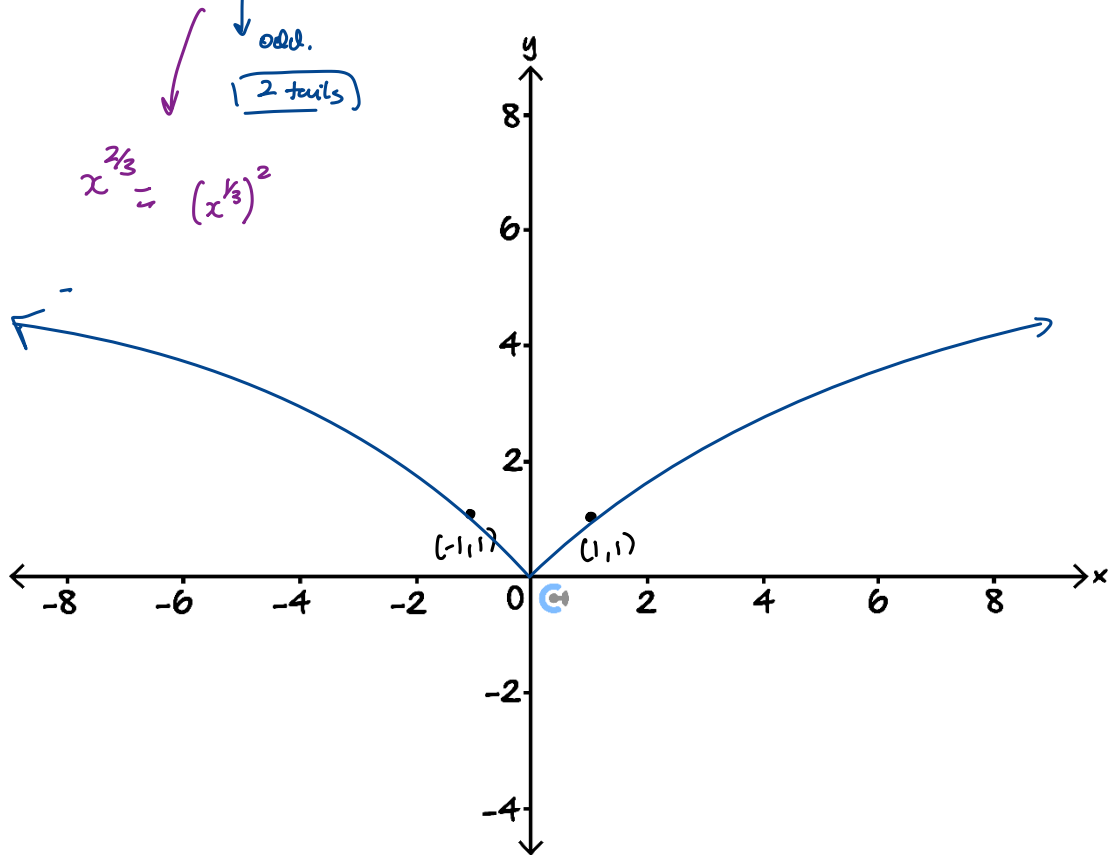
$$\therefore f(-x) = -f(x)$$

f is odd function!



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

g. Sketch the graph of $y = x^{\frac{2}{3}}$ on the axes below.



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Section C: Exam 1 (20 Marks)

INSTRUCTION: 20 Marks. 25 Minutes Writing.



Question 2 (3 marks)



$$f(2) = -4$$

Let $f(x) = x^3 - ax^2 - 5x + b$, where a and b are constants. When $f(x)$ is divided by $x - 2$, the remainder is -4 and when $f(x)$ is divided by $x + 1$, the remainder is 8 . Find the value of a and b .

$$f(-1) = 8$$

$$2^3 - a(2)^2 - 5(2) + b = -4$$

$$(-1)^3 - a(-1)^2 - 5(-1) + b = 8$$

$$8 - 4a - 10 + b = -4$$

$$b - 4a = -2 \quad \text{--- ①}$$

$$-1 - a + 5 + b = 8$$

$$b - a = 4 \quad \text{--- ②}$$

$$\text{①} - \text{②}: \quad -3a = -6, \quad \boxed{a = 2}$$

$$\boxed{b = 6}$$

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Question 3 (5 marks)

Consider the function given by $f(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 11x + 6$.

- a. Find all x -intercepts of $f(x)$. (3 marks)



$$f(3) = 2(3)^3 - 3(3)^2 - 11(3) + 6$$

$$= 54 - 27 - 33 + 6$$

$$= 0 \quad \therefore (x-3) \text{ is a factor}$$

Try: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3$

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{2x^2 + 3x - 2} \\ x-3 \overline{) 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 11x + 6} \\ \underline{-(2x^3 - 6x^2)} \\ 3x^2 - 11x + 6 \\ \underline{3x^2 - 9x} \\ -2x + 6 \\ \underline{-2x + 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

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

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

$$f(x) = 0$$

$$x = 3, \frac{1}{2}, -2$$

- b. Hence, find all x -intercepts for $f(g(x))$ where $g(x) = x^2 + 1$. (2 marks)



$$f(g(x)) = 0$$

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

$$f(3) = 0$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$f(-2) = 0$$

$$x^2 + 1 = 3$$

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

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

$$x^2 = 2$$

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

$$x^2 = -3$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{2}$$

no solⁿs

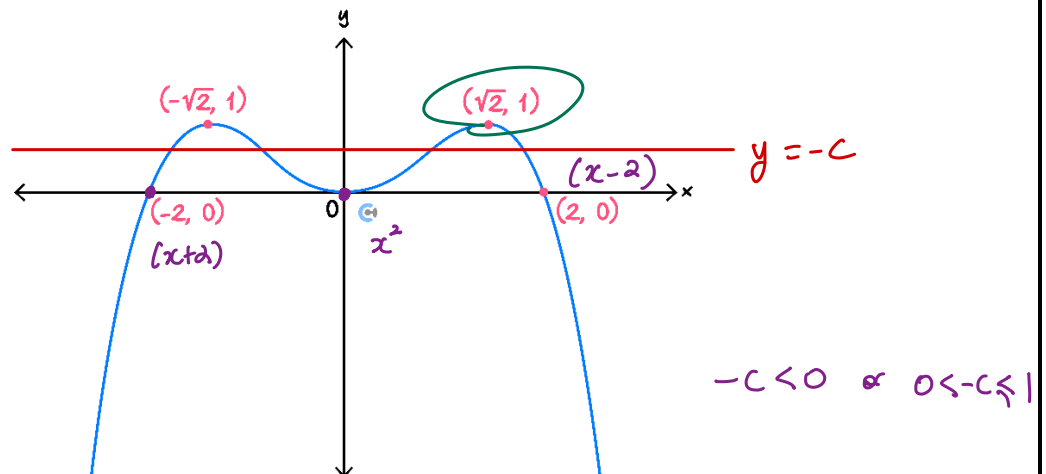
no solⁿs

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Question 4 (3 marks)

The function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x)$ is a polynomial function of degree 4. Part of the graph of f is shown below.

The graph of f touches the x -axis at the origin.



- a. Find the rule of f . (2 marks)



$$f(x) = ax^2(x+2)(x-2)$$

passes $(\sqrt{2}, 1)$:

$$1 = a(\sqrt{2})^2(\sqrt{2}+2)(\sqrt{2}-2)$$

$$1 = 2a(\sqrt{2}^2 - 2^2)$$

$$1 = 2a(2-4)$$

$$1 = 2a \cdot -2, \quad -4a = 1, \quad a = -\frac{1}{4}$$

- b. Find the values of c for which $f(x) + c = 0$, where $c \in \mathbb{R}$, has an even number of real solutions. (1 mark)



$f(x) = -c$

$-c < 0 \text{ or } 0 < -c \leq 1$

$c > 0 \text{ or } 0 > c \geq -1$

$c \in [-1, \infty) \setminus \{0\}$

Question 5 (3 marks)

Consider the function given by $f(x) = x^4 + x^2 + 2$. (2 marks)

- a. Show that $f(x)$ is an even function. *symmetry about y-axis*



$$f(-x) = f(x)$$

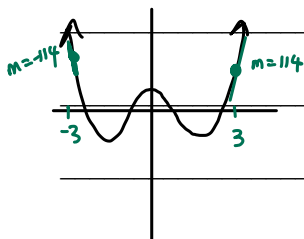
$$f(-x) = (-x)^4 + (-x)^2 + 2$$

$$= x^4 + x^2 + 2$$

$$= f(x)$$

$\therefore f(x)$ is even.

- b. The gradient of f when $x = 3$ is 114. State the gradient of f when $x = -3$. (1 mark)



$$m = -114$$

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Question 6 (6 marks)

Consider the function $h: [-3, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, h(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + \frac{3}{2}x + \frac{9}{2}$.

- a. Given that $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$, write $h(x)$ in the form of $a(x + b)^3 + c$. (3 marks)



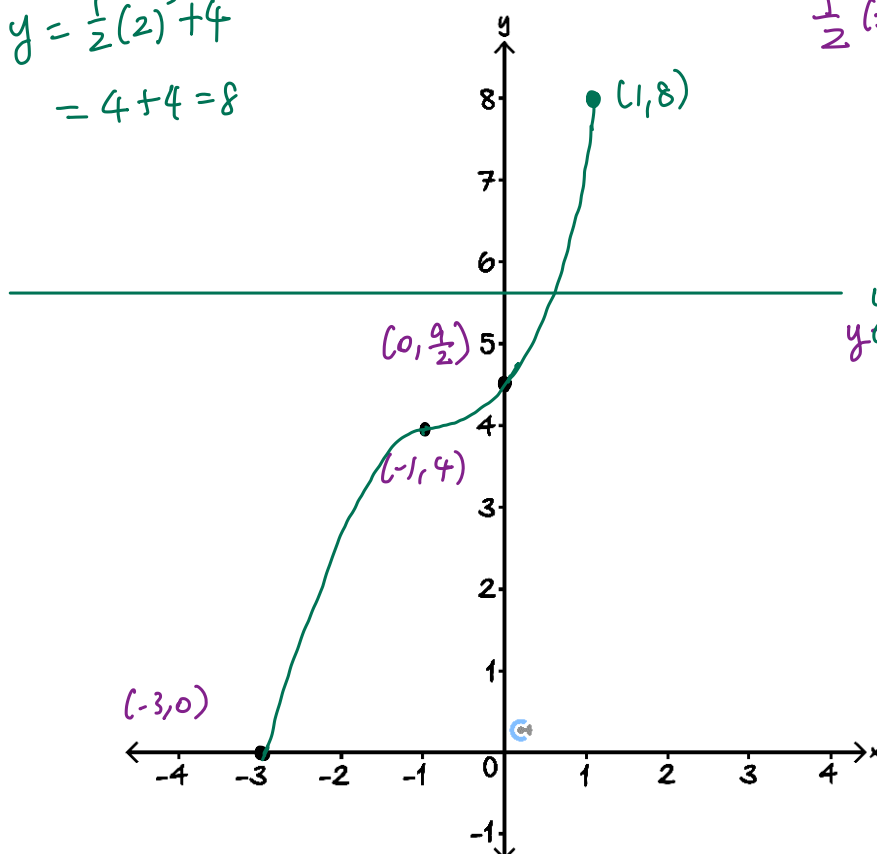
$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= \frac{1}{2}(x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 9) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 + 8) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}((x+1)^3 + 8) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(x+1)^3 + 4 \end{aligned}$$

$(-1, 4)$ P.O.I

- b. Sketch $y = h(x)$ on the axes below. Label any endpoints, axes, intercepts, and stationary points. (2 marks)



$$\begin{aligned} x=1: y &= \frac{1}{2}(2)^3 + 4 \\ &= 4 + 4 = 8 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}(x+1)^3 + 4 &= 0 \\ (x+1)^3 &= -8 \\ x+1 &= -2 \\ x &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

$y = h$
 $y_{\text{int}}:$
 $\frac{1}{2}(0+1)^3 + 4 = \frac{9}{2}$

c. How many solution(s) will $h(x) = k$ always have for $k \in [0, 8]$? (1 mark)



1

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Section D: Tech Active Exam Skills



Calculator Commands: Factor and Expand

➤ All the technologies have a "factor" and "expand" function.

➤ The general syntax is **factor(expr)**, or **expand(expr)**.

menu → 3 → 2, 3

➤ **Example:** Factorise the expression $2x^3 - 23x^2 + 33x + 108$ and expand the expression $(x + 1)^5(x - 2)^3$.

➤ **TI:**

$$\text{factor}(2 \cdot x^3 - 23 \cdot x^2 + 33 \cdot x + 108)$$

$$(x-9) \cdot (x-4) \cdot (2 \cdot x+3)$$

$$\text{expand}((x+1)^5 \cdot (x-2)^3)$$

$$x^8 - x^7 - 8 \cdot x^6 + 2 \cdot x^5 + 25 \cdot x^4 + 11 \cdot x^3 - 26 \cdot x^2 - 28 \cdot x - 8$$

➤ **Casio:**

$$\text{factor}(2x^3 - 23x^2 + 33x + 108)$$

$$(x-4) \cdot (x-9) \cdot (2 \cdot x+3)$$

$$\text{expand}((x+1)^5 (x-2)^3)$$

$$x^8 - x^7 - 8 \cdot x^6 + 2 \cdot x^5 + 25 \cdot x^4 + 11 \cdot x^3 - 26 \cdot x^2 - 28 \cdot x - 8$$

□

➤ **Mathematica:**

$$\text{In}[7]:= \text{Factor}[108 + 33 x - 23 x^2 + 2 x^3]$$

$$\text{Out}[7]= (-9 + x) (-4 + x) (3 + 2 x)$$

$$\text{In}[8]:= \text{Expand}[(x + 1)^5 (x - 2)^3]$$

$$\text{Out}[8]= -8 - 28 x - 26 x^2 + 11 x^3 + 25 x^4 + 2 x^5 - 8 x^6 - x^7 + x^8$$

Space for Personal Notes



Calculator Commands: Turning Point

- ALWAYS sketch the graph first to get an idea of the nature of the turning point.
- The turning points for a function $f(x)$ can be found by solving $f'(x) = 0$ and subbing the result into f .
- **Example:** Find the turning point for $f(x) = e^{-x^2+2x}$.
- **TI:**

Define $f(x) = e^{-x^2+2 \cdot x}$	<i>Done</i>
solve($\frac{d}{dx}(f(x)) = 0, x$)	$x=1$
$f(1)$	e

- **Casio:**

define f(x) = e^{-x^2+2x}	done
solve($\frac{d}{dx}(f(x)) = 0, x$)	{x=1}
f(1)	e

- **Mathematica:**

```
In[4]:= f[x_] := Exp[-x^2 + 2 x]
In[5]:= Solve[f'[x] == 0 && y == f[x], Reals]
Out[5]= {{x -> 1, y -> e}}
```



► **TI NUFF:** We can use the analyse function.

► Analyse a Function

$$\text{analysed}\left(\frac{x^4 - 2 \cdot x^3 - 3 \cdot x^2 + 3 \cdot x + 1}{-3 \cdot x^3 - 6 \cdot x^2 - x + 1}, x, -5, 5\right)$$

► Start Point: $\left[-5 \quad \frac{262}{77}\right]$

► End Point: $\left[5 \quad \frac{-316}{529}\right]$

► Maximal Domain:

$x \neq -1.68469$ and

$x \neq -0.629579$ and

$x \neq 0.314273$ and

$-5 \leq x \leq 5$

► Asymptotes: (4)

$x = -1.68469$ (Vertical)

$x = -0.629579$ (Vertical)

$x = 0.314273$ (Vertical)

$y = \frac{4}{3}x - \frac{x}{3}$ (Oblique)

► x -Intercepts: (4)

$[-1.3772 \quad 0], [-0.273891 \quad 0],$

$[1 \quad 0], [2.65109 \quad 0]$

► Vertical Intercept: $[0 \quad 1]$

► Derivative:

$$\frac{-(3 \cdot x^6 + 12 \cdot x^5 - 26 \cdot x^3 - 24 \cdot x^2 - 6 \cdot x - 4)}{(3 \cdot x^3 + 6 \cdot x^2 + x - 1)^2}$$

► Inflection Points: (2)

$[-1.11377 \quad 1.48672]$ (Increasing)

$[-0.11198 \quad 0.604642]$ (Increasing)

► Stationary Points: (2)

$[-3.45719 \quad 3.17894]$ (Local min.)

$[1.6173 \quad 0.124612]$ (Local max.)

Done

► Overview:

► This program will find for a given function:

- Coordinates of endpoints.
- The maximal domain.
- The equations of straight-line asymptotes.
- The rule of the derivative.
- Inflection points and their nature.
- Stationary points and their nature.

► There are two analysis programs:

- Analyse which analyses a function over the domain R or the maximal domain.
- Analysed which analyses over a domain with specified start and end points.
- Both are found in the methods_func library. You can switch between the two on the calculator page by adding/removing the 'd' to reference the appropriate program.

► Input:

analyse(< function >, < variable >)

analysed(< function >, < variable >, < lower bound >, < upper bound >)

Other notes:

- It is recommended to use the analysed program when working with trigonometric functions.
- Be careful when using functions with parameters since some parts of the programs may not be able to give a solution. :/
- If at least one of the bounds is "?", the asymptote finder will be disabled and the program will analyse over the maximal domain.

Calculator Commands: Using Sliders/Manipulate on CAS

Mathematica

`Manipulate[Plot[function, {x, xmin, xmax}],
{unknown, lowerbound, upperbound}]`

- NOTE:** The function **must** be typed out instead of using its saved name.

TI-Nspire

☐ $f1(x)=\text{function with unknown}$

Create Sliders

Create a slider for:

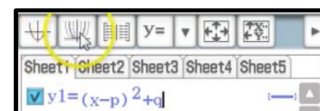
☒ unknown

OK

Cancel

unknown = type any num
-5.00000 5.00000

Casio Classpad



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Calculator Commands: Finding the equation of a polynomial that passes through points.

➤ Given n points, we can find a degree $n - 1$ polynomial that passes through all these points.

➤ **Example:** Find the equation of the quadratic function that passes through the points $(0,6)$, $(2,2)$, and $(3,3)$.

➤ **TI:**

menu → 3 → 7 (solve system of equations)

*multiple eqns
solving for
multi. variables*

Define $f(x) = a \cdot x^2 + b \cdot x + c$	Done
solve($f(0)=6$ and $f(2)=2$ and $f(3)=3, a, b, c$)	$a=1$ and $b=-4$ and $c=6$
$f(x) a=1$ and $b=-4$ and $c=6$	$x^2 - 4 \cdot x + 6$

➤ **Casio:**

define $f(x) = a \cdot x^2 + b \cdot x + c$

$\begin{cases} f(0)=6 \\ f(2)=2 \\ f(3)=3 \end{cases} | a, b, c$

$f(x) | \{a=1, b=-4, c=6\}$

□

done

$\{a=1, b=-4, c=6\}$

$x^2 - 4 \cdot x + 6$

➤ **Mathematica:**

In[9]:= $f[x_] := a x^2 + b x + c$

In[10]:= $\text{Solve}[f[0] == 6 \ \&\& \ f[2] == 2 \ \&\& \ f[3] == 3]$

Out[10]= $\{\{a \rightarrow 1, b \rightarrow -4, c \rightarrow 6\}\}$

In[11]:= $f[x] /. \{a \rightarrow 1, b \rightarrow -4, c \rightarrow 6\}$

Out[11]= $6 - 4 x + x^2$

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Section E: Exam 2 (27 Marks)

INSTRUCTION: 27 Marks. 34 Minutes Writing.



Question 7 (1 mark)

Let $f(x) = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 2$. It is known that $\frac{f(x)}{4-x}$ has a remainder of 20, and f has a factor of $3x - 1$. Find the values of a and b .

A. $a = -\frac{97}{66}$ and $b = -\frac{371}{66}$.

B. $a = -\frac{17}{6}$ and $b = -\frac{1}{6}$.

C. $a = \frac{7}{2}$ and $b = -\frac{13}{2}$.

D. $a = \frac{259}{78}$ and $b = -\frac{563}{78}$.

$f(4) = 20$ $f(\frac{1}{3}) = 0$

$\text{solve } \begin{cases} f(4) = 20 \\ f(\frac{1}{3}) = 0 \end{cases}, \{a, b\}$

Question 8 (1 mark)

Consider the following quadratic $y = (x+1)^2(x^2 + 2kx + 10)$. It is known that the quadratic has three distinct x -intercepts. What are the possible value(s) of k ?

A. $k < -2\sqrt{10} \cup k > 2\sqrt{10}$.

B. $k = \pm 2\sqrt{10}$.

C. $k = \pm\sqrt{10}$.

D. $k < -\sqrt{10} \cup k > \sqrt{10}$.

$\{ \pm \frac{11}{2} \}$

1 sol^n 2 sol^n

$(-1)^2 + 2k(-1) + 10 \neq 0$
 $1 - 2k + 10 \neq 0$
 $2k \neq -11$
 $k \neq -\frac{11}{2}$

$\Delta > 0$
 $4k^2 - 4(1)(10) > 0$

Question 9 (1 mark)

The function $f(x) = x^5 + (k-1)x^4 + 3x^3 + x$ is an odd function when:

A. $k \in \mathbb{R}$.

B. $k = -1$.

C. $k = 1$.

D. $k \leq 0$.

$\text{solve } (f(-x) = -f(x), k)$

$$\underline{x = -1}$$

$$(x+1)^2 (x^2 + 2x + 10)^2$$

} 3 solⁿ

1 solⁿ

2 solⁿ

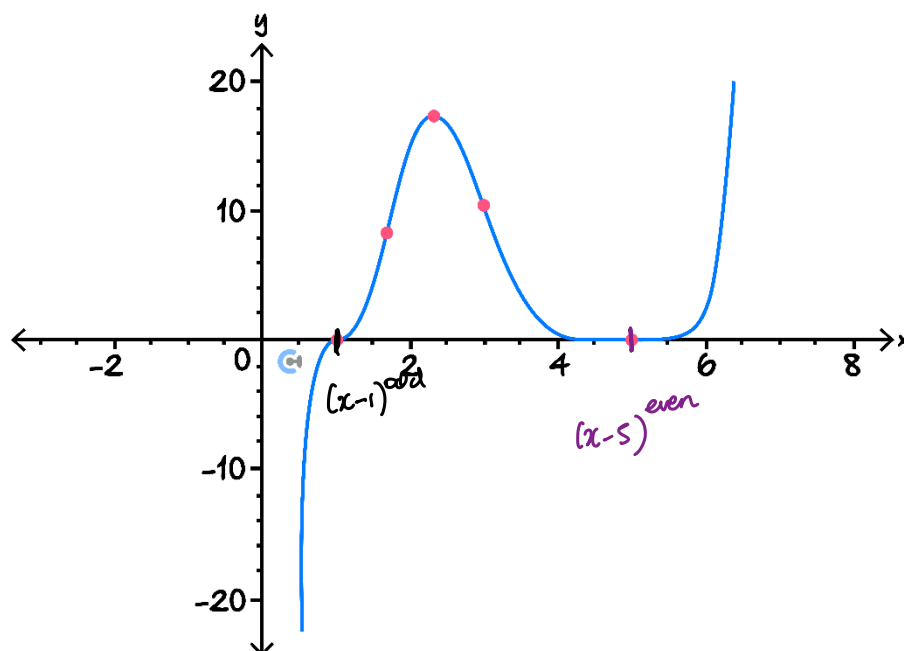


$$\Delta > 0$$



Question 10 (1 mark)

Given that $a < 0$, which one of the following equations can correspond to the given graph?



A. $y = -a(x + 1)^3(x - 5)^2$.

B. $y = a(5 - x)(x - 1)$. ✗

C. $y = a(5 - x)^4(x - 1)$. ✗

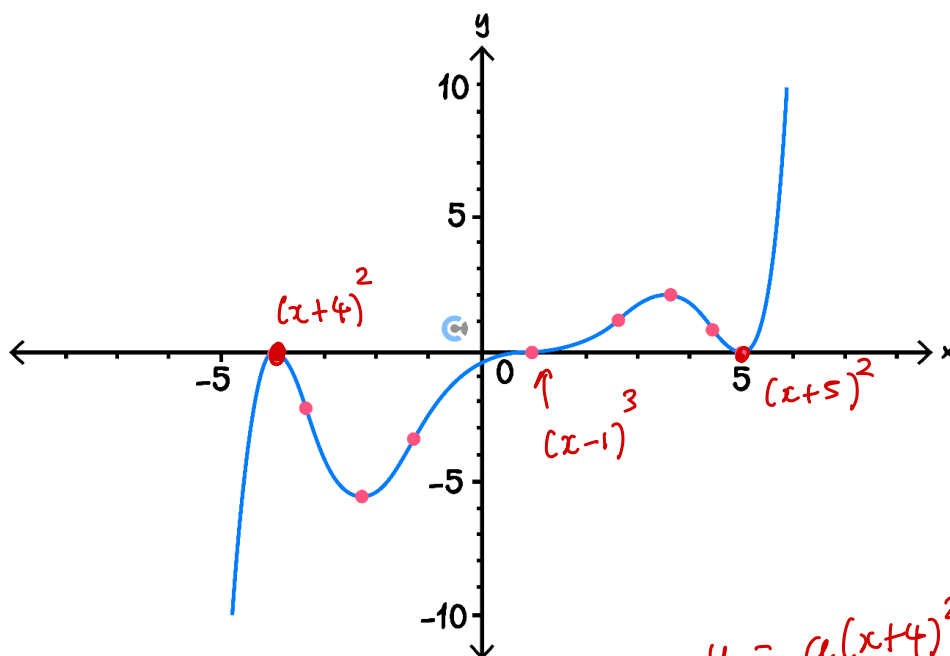
D. $y = -a(5 - x)^6(x - 1)^3$.

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Question 11 (1 mark)

What is the minimum degree of the following polynomial?



$$y = a(x+4)^2(x-1)^3(x+5)^2$$

A. 5.

B. 6.

C. 7.

D. 8.

Question 12 (1 mark)

$$w^3 - 9x^2 + 15x = -w$$



The equation $x^3 - 9x^2 + 15x + w = 0$ has only one solution for x when:

A. $-7 < w < 25$.

B. $w \leq -7$.

C. $w \geq 25$.

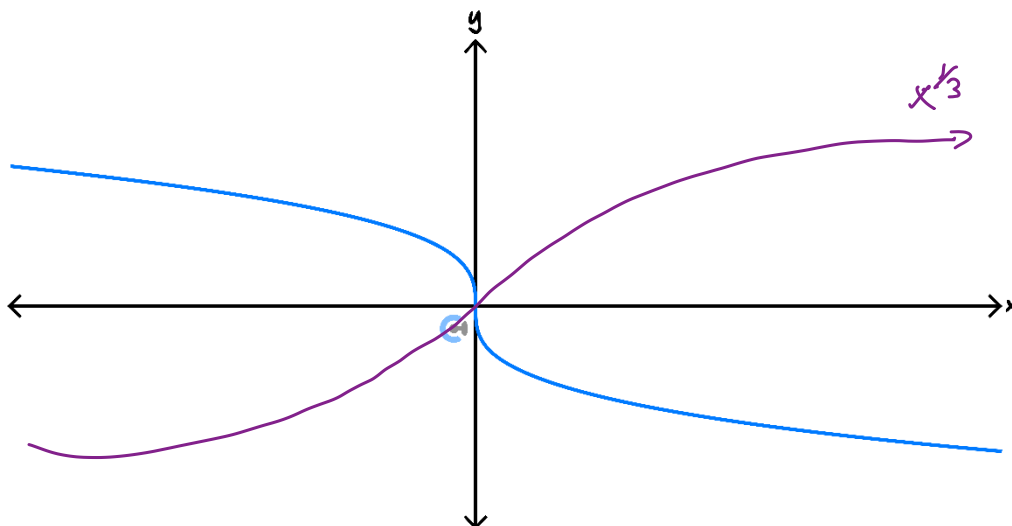
D. $w < -7$ or $w > 25$.

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Question 13 (1 mark)



The following graph could have a rule:



- A. $y = x^{1/3}$.
- B. $y = x^{2/3}$.
- C. $y = -x^{2/3}$.
- D. $y = -x^{1/3}$.

Question 14 (1 mark)

$\frac{p}{q} < 1$



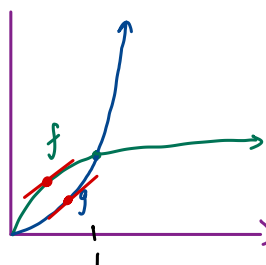
$\frac{m}{n} > 1$



Consider the function $f: R^+ \rightarrow R, f(x) = x^{\frac{p}{q}}$ and $g: R^+ \rightarrow R, g(x) = x^{\frac{m}{n}}$, where p, q, m , and n are positive integers, and $\frac{p}{q}$ and $\frac{m}{n}$ are fractions in simplest form.

If $\{x: f(x) > g(x)\} = (0, 1)$ and $\{x: g(x) > f(x)\} = (1, \infty)$, which of the following must be **false**?

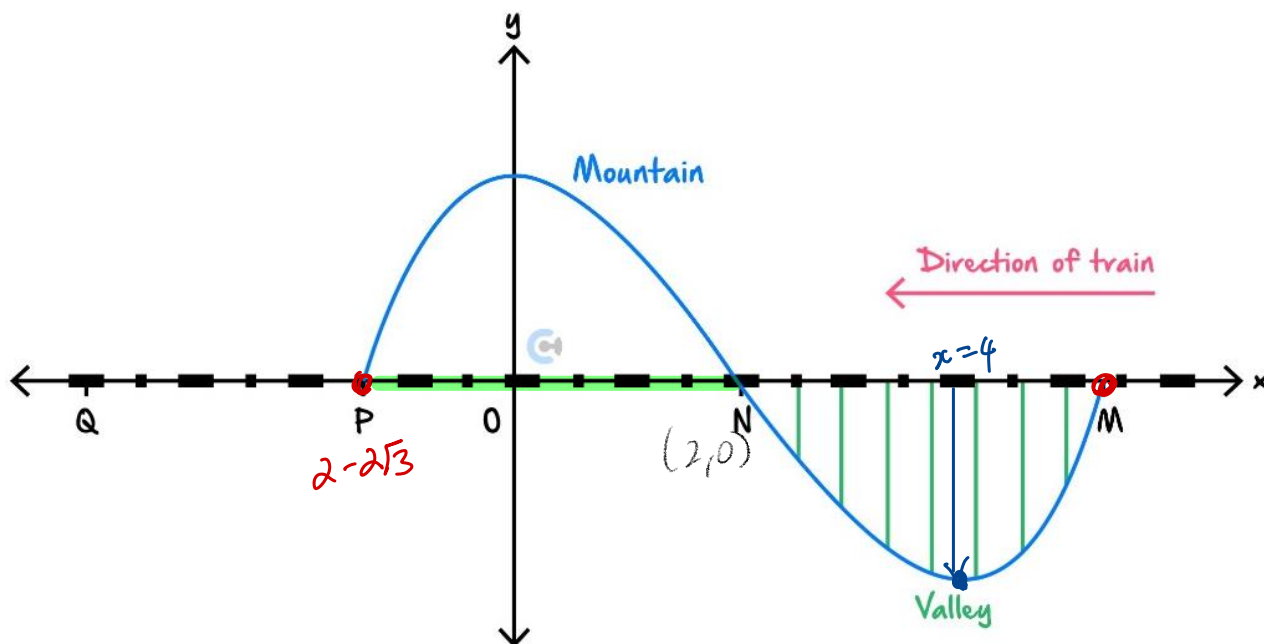
- A. $m > p$ and $q = n$.
- B. $pn < qm$.
- C. $f'(c) = g'(c)$ for some $c \in (0, 1)$.
- D. $f'(d) = g'(d)$ for some $d \in (1, \infty)$.



Derivative = gradient

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Question 15 (8 marks)



A train is travelling along a straight-level track from M towards Q .

The train will travel along a section of track $MNPQ$.

Section MN passes along a bridge over a valley.

Section NP passes through a tunnel in a mountain.

Section PQ is 6.2 km long.

From M to P , the curve of the valley and the mountain, directly below and above the train track, is modelled by the graph:

$$y = \frac{1}{200}(ax^3 + bx^2 + c) \text{ where } a, b, \text{ and } c \text{ are real numbers.}$$

All measurements are in kilometres.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{200}(a \cdot x^3 + b \cdot x^2 + c)$$

- a. The curve defined from M to P passes through $N(2,0)$. The gradient of the curve at N is -0.06 and the curve has a turning point at $x = 4$.



Gradient = 0

From this information, write down three simultaneous equations in a , b , and c , and hence, show that $a = 1$, $b = -6$, and $c = 16$. (4 marks)

$$f(2) = 0 \rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{200} (8a + 4b + c)$$

$$f'(2) = -0.06 \rightarrow -0.06 = \frac{1}{200} (12a + 4b)$$

$$f'(4) = 0 \rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{200} (48a + 8b)$$

$$8a + 4b + c = 0$$

$$-12 = 12a + 4b$$

$$48a + 8b = 0, \quad 6a + b = 0, \quad b = -6a$$

$$-12 = 12a + 4(-6a)$$

$$-12 = -12a, \quad \boxed{a = 1}$$

$$b = -6(1) = \boxed{-6}$$

$$8(1) + 4(-6) + c = 0$$

$$8 - 24 + c = 0$$

$$\boxed{c = 16}$$

b. Find giving exact values:

i. The coordinates of M and P . (2 marks)



$$f(x) = 0$$

$$x = 2 \pm 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$M(2 + 2\sqrt{3}, 0)$$

$$P(2 - 2\sqrt{3}, 0)$$

ii. The length of the tunnel. (1 mark)



$$\text{Length} = 2 - (2 - 2\sqrt{3})$$

$$= 2\sqrt{3} \text{ km}$$

iii. The maximum depth of the valley below the train track. (1 mark)



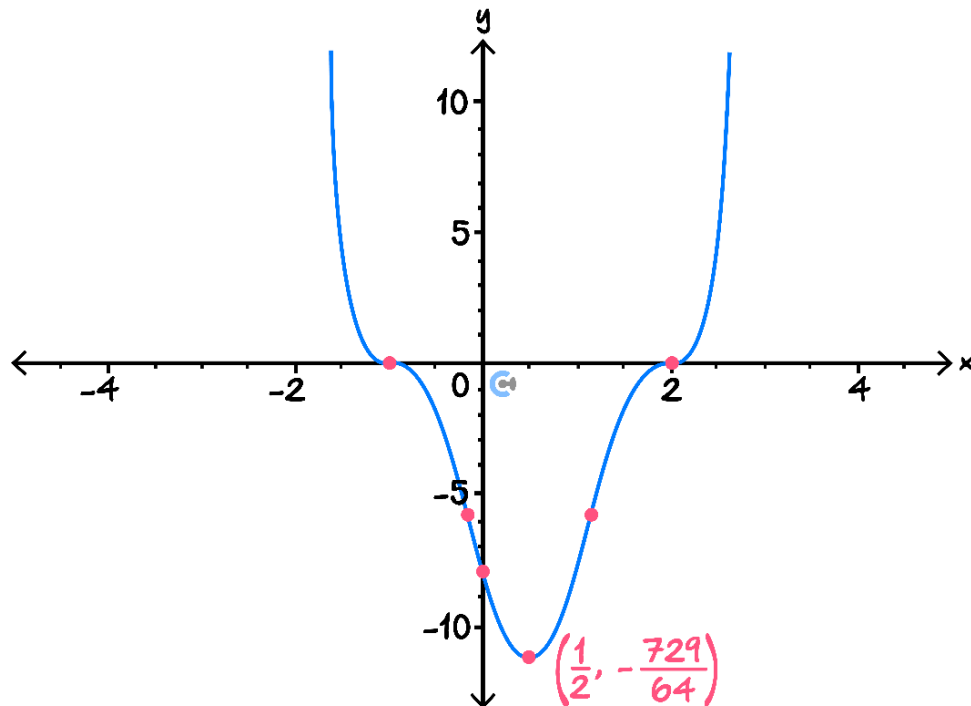
$$f(4) = -0.08$$

$$\text{max depth} = 0.08 \text{ km.}$$

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Question 16 (11 marks)

Consider the following function of the form $f(x) = a(x - b)^3(x - c)^3$ where $b > c$.



The turning point of the graph is given as $(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{729}{64})$.

- a. Find the values of a , b , and c . (3 marks)



$$f(x) = a(x-2)^3(x-(-1))^3$$

$$f(\frac{1}{2}) = -\frac{729}{64}, \text{ solve for } a:$$

$$a = 1$$

$$\boxed{a=1, b=2, c=-1}$$

b.

- i. Show that $f(m+2) = f(-m-1)$ is true for all values of m . (2 marks)



$$\begin{aligned} f(m+2) &= (m+2-2)^3(m+2+1)^3 \\ &= m^3(m+3)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(-m-1) &= (-m-1-2)^3(-m-1+1)^3 \\ &= (-m-3)^3(-m)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -m^3(-(m+3))^3 = -m^3 \cdot -(m+3)^3 \\ &= m^3(m+3)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore f(m+2) = \frac{f(-m-1)}{\text{as req.}}$$

- ii. State the value of r such that $f(r+m) = f(r-m)$ for all values of m . (1 mark)



$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$

c. Consider $g(x) = x + k$.

i. Find the value(s) of k such that there are no negative x -intercepts for $f(g(x))$. (2 marks)



$$f(g(x)) = 0$$

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

$$f(x+k) = 0$$

↑ k left

$$-k-1 \geq 0$$

$$k \leq -1$$

$$[k \leq -1]$$

ii. Find the value(s) of k such that there is only one negative x -intercept for $f(g(x))$. (2 marks)



$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= (x+k-2)^3(x+k+1)^3 \\ &= (x-(2-k))^3(x-(-k-1))^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$2-k \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad -k-1 < 0$$

$$k \leq 2 \quad \text{and} \quad k > -1, \quad [k \in (-1, 2]]$$

iii. Find the value of k such that $f(g(x))$ is an even function. (1 mark)



symmetrical about y -axis.

$$f(g(x)) = f(x+h) \quad k \text{ left.}$$

$$k = \frac{1}{2}$$

move $\frac{1}{2}$ left.

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