



Website: contoureducation.com.au | Phone: 1800 888 300

Email: hello@contoureducation.com.au

VCE Mathematical Methods $\frac{3}{4}$
Applications of Differentiation [2.4]
Homework

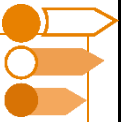
Homework Outline:

Compulsory Questions	Pg 2 - Pg 11
Supplementary Questions	Pg 12 - Pg 20



Section A: Compulsory Questions

Sub-Section [2.4.1]: Find Tangents and Normals



Question 1



Find the equation of the tangent to the graph of $f(x) = 2x^2 + 4x + 3$ at the point $x = 1$.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 2

Let $f : \left(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}\right] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = (3x + 2)^3$. Find the equation of the tangent to the graph of $y = f(x)$ which has a gradient of 9.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 3

Find the equation of the tangent to the graph of $f : (0,5) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = x^2 - 4x$ at the point $x = a$. Hence, obtain the equation of the tangent that passes through the point $(6,3)$.

Question 4 Tech-Active.

Find the equation of the line tangent to $y = 2 \log_e(2x - 1)$ when $x = 1$.

Space for Personal Notes



Sub-Section [2.4.2]: Find Minimum and Maximum

Question 5



Find the maximum and minimum values of the function $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 9x - 10$ with domain $x \in [-3, 2]$.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 6

A farmer is building a rectangular pen for his pigs using 40 metres of fencing.

- a. Write down a function $A(x)$ which gives the area of the pen.

- b. Hence, determine the side lengths of the pen to maximise the area and give this maximum area.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 7

Find the maximum positive rate of change for the function $f(x) = -x^3 + 9x^2 + 6x - 10$

Question 8 Tech-Active.

Find the maximum and minimum values of the function $f(x) = -x^3 + 6x^2 + 4x - 10$ for $x \in [-2, 7]$.

Space for Personal Notes

Sub-Section [2.4.3]: Apply Newton's Method to Find the Approximation of a Root and its Limitations

Question 9



Approximate the root of the equation $x^3 - 5x + 3$ using Newton's method with an initial value of $x_0 = 1$ and a tolerance level of 0.01. Leave your answer correct to two decimal places.

Space for Personal Notes

Question 10


Approximate a solution of the equation $e^x = \sin(x)$ using Newton's method with an initial value of $x_0 = -2$. Use a tolerance level of 0.01 and give your answer correct to two decimal places.

Question 11


Consider the function $f(x) = x^3 - 6x$. Determine two possible initial values which are not suitable to use in Newton's method to approximate the roots of f .

Space for Personal Notes



Sub-Section: The 'Final Boss'

Question 12

A piece of wire is 16 metres long. The wire is cut into two pieces and used to form two squares.

- a. If one piece of wire has length x metres, show that the combined area of the two squares is given by $A = \frac{1}{8}x^2 - 2x + 16 = \frac{1}{8}(x^2 - 16x + 128)$.

- b. Find $\frac{dA}{dx}$.

- c. Find the value of x that minimises A and gives this minimum value.

- d. Find the maximum possible area of the two squares if $x \in [1, 12]$.

Space for Personal Notes

Section B: Supplementary Questions

Sub-Section [2.4.1]: Find Tangents and Normals



Question 13



Find the equation of the normal to the graph of $f(x) = \cos(5x)$ at the point $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Question 14



Find the equation of the normal to the graph of $f(x) = x^2 - 3x - 1$ which has a gradient of $-\frac{1}{5}$.


Question 15

Find the equation of the normal to the graph of $f: (2, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$ at the point $x = a$. Hence by using a CAS, obtain the equation of the normal that passes through the point $(-1, 4)$.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 16

Consider the function given by $f(x) = e^{x^2} - \cos(x)$.

- a. Find the equation of the tangent to the graph of $f(x)$ at the point $x = 1$.

- b. Without needing to do any further differentiation/solving, find the equation of the normal that passes through the point $x = -1$.

Space for Personal Notes



Sub-Section [2.4.2]: Find Minimum and Maximum

Question 17



Find the maximum and minimum values of the function $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 24x + 15$ with domain $x \in [0, 5]$.

Question 18



Find the maximum area of a rectangle with a perimeter equal to 18 m.

Space for Personal Notes

Question 19

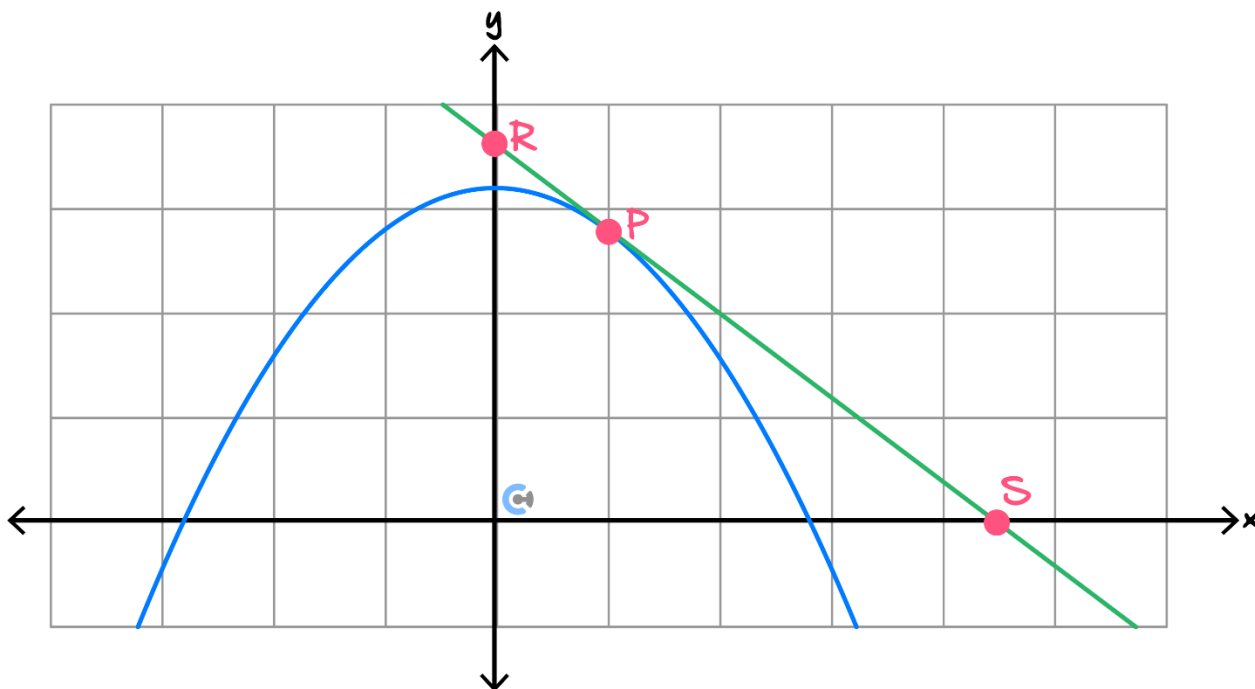

Find the maximum rate of change of the function $f(x) = -x^3 + 6x^2 + 10x - 5$.

Space for Personal Notes



Question 20 Tech-Active.

The diagram below shows the graph of the function $f(x) = 16 - 2x^2$.



The graph of the tangent to the curve at the point $P(p, f(p))$, where $p \in \left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right]$ is also shown.

Determine the equation of the tangent line in terms of p .

Space for Personal Notes

Sub-Section [2.4.3]: Apply Newton's Method to Find the Approximation of a Root and its Limitations

Question 21



Approximate the root of the equation $x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x - 6$ using Newton's method with an initial value of $x_0 = 1.2$ and a tolerance level of 0.01. Leave your answer correct to two decimal places.

Question 22



Approximate a solution of the equation $e^x = \cos(2x - 1)$ using Newton's method with an initial value of $x_0 = -2$. Use only one iteration for your approximation.


Question 23

Consider the function $f(x) = \sin(x) - e^{2x}$. Explain why it would be unsuitable to choose an initial value that solves the equation $\cos(x) - 2e^{2x}$.

Space for Personal Notes


Question 24

An issue that can arise when using Newton's method is that the derivative may not be easy to calculate.

- a. Explain why Newton's method is impractical for approximating the roots of $f(x) = \sin^{-1}(x^2 - \frac{\pi}{2})$ within the context of VCE Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4.

- b. Nevertheless, we can try to use a similar method known as the secant method with an initial guess of $x_0 = 1.5$. Approximate the tangent to $x_0 = 1.5$ by finding the equation of secant (i.e. the straight line) passing through the points $(1.5, 0.7467)$ and $(1.51, 0.7885)$. Your answer should be given to two decimal places.

- c. Hence, obtain an approximation for a root of $f(x) = \sin^{-1}(x^2 - \frac{\pi}{2})$ based on the line obtained above.

Note that this method approximates the root which is $x = \sqrt{\pi/2} \approx 1.2533$.

Space for Personal Notes



Website: contoureducation.com.au | Phone: 1800 888 300 | Email: hello@contoureducation.com.au

VCE Mathematical Methods $\frac{3}{4}$

Free 1-on-1 Support



Be Sure to Make The Most of These (Free) Services!

- Experienced Contour tutors (45+ raw scores, 99+ ATARs).
- For fully enrolled Contour students with up-to-date fees.
- After school weekdays and all-day weekends.

<u>1-on-1 Video Consults</u>	<u>Text-Based Support</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Book via bit.ly/contour-methods-consult-2025 (or QR code below).➤ One active booking at a time (must attend before booking the next).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Message +61 440 138 726 with questions.➤ Save the contact as "Contour Methods".

[Booking Link for Consults](https://bit.ly/contour-methods-consult-2025)
bit.ly/contour-methods-consult-2025



[Number for Text-Based Support](tel:+61440138726)
[+61 440 138 726](tel:+61440138726)