

SL/Derivatives [87 marks]

Let
 $g(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x^2}$, for
 $x > 0$.

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

[4 marks]

Markscheme

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x},$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} x^2 = 2x \text{ (seen anywhere) } \quad \mathbf{A1A1}$$

attempt to substitute into the quotient rule (do **not** accept product rule) $\mathbf{M1}$

e.g.

$$\frac{x^2 \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) - 2x \ln x}{x^4}$$

correct manipulation that clearly leads to result $\mathbf{A1}$

e.g.

$$\frac{x - 2x \ln x}{x^4},$$

$$\frac{x(1 - 2 \ln x)}{x^4},$$

$$\frac{x}{x^4},$$

$$\frac{2x \ln x}{x^4}$$

$$g'(x) = \frac{1-2\ln x}{x^3} \quad \mathbf{AG} \quad \mathbf{NO}$$

[4 marks]

- 1b. The graph of g has a maximum point at A. Find the x -coordinate of A.

[3 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of setting the derivative equal to zero $\mathbf{(M1)}$

e.g.

$$g'(x) = 0,$$

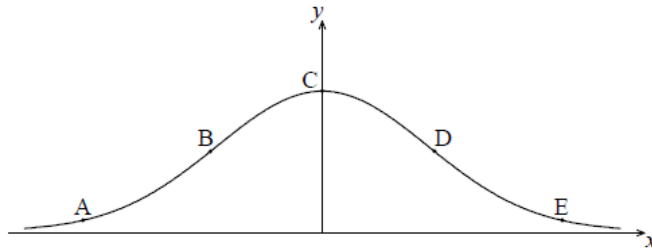
$$1 - 2 \ln x = 0$$

$$\ln x = \frac{1}{2} \quad \mathbf{A1}$$

$$x = e^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[3 marks]

The following diagram shows the graph of
 $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$.



The points A, B, C, D and E lie on the graph of f . Two of these are points of inflexion.

2a. Identify the **two** points of inflexion.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

B, D **A1A1 N2**

[2 marks]

2b. (i) Find
 $f'(x)$.

[5 marks]

(ii) Show that
 $f''(x) = (4x^2 - 2)e^{-x^2}$.

Markscheme

(i)
 $f'(x) = -2xe^{-x^2}$ **A1A1 N2**

Note: Award **A1** for
 e^{-x^2} and **A1** for
 $-2x$.

(ii) finding the derivative of
 $-2x$, i.e.
 -2 **(A1)**

evidence of choosing the product rule **(M1)**

e.g.
 $-2e^{-x^2}$
 $-2x \times -2xe^{-x^2}$
 $-2e^{-x^2} + 4x^2e^{-x^2}$ **A1**

$f''(x) = (4x^2 - 2)e^{-x^2}$ **AG NO**

[5 marks]

2c. Find the x-coordinate of each point of inflexion.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

valid reasoning **R1**

e.g.

$$f''(x) = 0$$

attempting to solve the equation **(M1)**

e.g.

$$(4x^2 - 2) = 0, \text{ sketch of}$$

$$f''(x)$$

$$p = 0.707$$

$$\left(= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right),$$

$$q = -0.707$$

$$\left(= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \quad \mathbf{A1A1 \quad N3}$$

[4 marks]

- 2d. Use the second derivative to show that one of these points is a point of inflexion.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of using second derivative to test values on either side of POI **M1**

e.g. finding values, reference to graph of

f'' , sign table

correct working **A1A1**

e.g. finding any two correct values either side of POI,

checking sign of

f'' on either side of POI

reference to sign change of

$$f''(x) \quad \mathbf{R1 \quad NO}$$

[4 marks]

Consider

$$f(x) = \ln(x^4 + 1).$$

- 3a. Find the value of $f(0)$.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

substitute

0 into

$$f \quad \mathbf{(M1)}$$

eg

$$\ln(0 + 1),$$

$$\ln 1$$

$$f(0) = 0 \quad \mathbf{A1 \quad N2}$$

[2 marks]

- 3b. Find the set of values of x for which f is increasing.

[5 marks]

Markscheme

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{x^4+1} \times 4x^3 \text{ (seen anywhere) } \quad \mathbf{A1A1}$$

Note: Award **A1** for

$$\frac{1}{x^4+1} \text{ and } \mathbf{A1} \text{ for } 4x^3.$$

recognizing

f increasing where

$$f'(x) > 0 \text{ (seen anywhere) } \quad \mathbf{R1}$$

eg

$$f'(x) > 0, \text{ diagram of signs}$$

attempt to solve

$$f'(x) > 0 \quad \mathbf{(M1)}$$

eg

$$4x^3 = 0,$$

$$x^3 > 0$$

f increasing for

$$x > 0 \text{ (accept}$$

$$x \geq 0) \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N1}$$

[5 marks]

The second derivative is given by

$$f''(x) = \frac{4x^2(3-x^4)}{(x^4+1)^2}.$$

The equation

$f''(x) = 0$ has only three solutions, when

$$x = 0,$$

$$\pm\sqrt[4]{3}$$

$$(\pm 1.316\dots).$$

- 3c. (i) Find $f''(1)$.

[5 marks]

- (ii) **Hence**, show that there is no point of inflexion on the graph of f at $x = 0$.

Markscheme

(i) substituting

$x = 1$ into

$$f'' \quad \mathbf{A1}$$

eg

$$\frac{4(3-1)}{(1+1)^2},$$

$$\frac{4 \times 2}{4}$$

$$f''(1) = 2 \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

(ii) valid interpretation of point of inflexion (seen anywhere) **R1**

eg no change of sign in

$f''(x)$, no change in concavity,

f' increasing both sides of zero

attempt to find

$f''(x)$ for

$$x < 0 \quad \mathbf{M1}$$

eg

$$f''(-1),$$

$$\frac{4(-1)^2(3-(-1)^4)}{((-1)^4+1)^2}, \text{ diagram of signs}$$

correct working leading to positive value **A1**

eg

$f''(-1) = 2$, discussing signs of numerator **and** denominator

there is no point of inflexion at

$$x = 0 \quad \mathbf{AG} \quad \mathbf{NO}$$

[5 marks]

3d. There is a point of inflexion on the graph of

f at

$$x = \sqrt[3]{3}$$

$$(x = 1.316\dots).$$

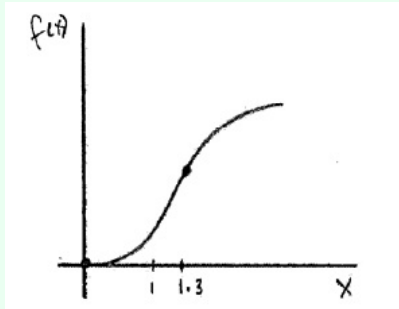
Sketch the graph of

f , for

$$x \geq 0.$$

[3 marks]

Markscheme



A1A1A1 N3

Notes: Award **A1** for shape concave up left of POI and concave down right of POI.

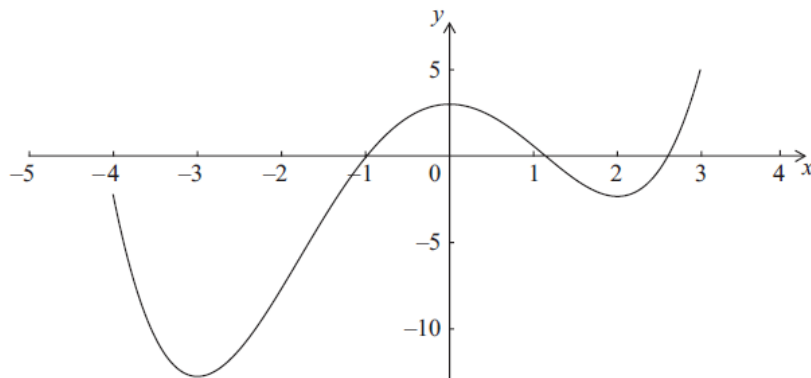
Only if this **A1** is awarded, then award the following:

A1 for curve through (0, 0), **A1** for increasing throughout.

Sketch need not be drawn to scale. Only essential features need to be clear.

[3 marks]

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 $x = -3$, $x = 2$.

- 4a. Write down the x -intercepts of the graph of the **derivative** function, f' .

[2 marks]

Markscheme

x -intercepts at $-3, 0, 2$ **A2 N2**

[2 marks]

- 4b. Write down all values of x for which $f'(x)$ is positive.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

$-3 < x < 0$,
 $2 < x < 3$ **A1A1 N2**

[2 marks]

- 4c. At point D on the graph of f , the x -coordinate is -0.5 . Explain why $f''(x) < 0$ at D.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

correct reasoning **R2**

e.g. the graph of f is **concave-down** (accept convex), the first derivative is decreasing

therefore the second derivative is negative **AG**

[2 marks]

Consider the function f with second derivative

$f''(x) = 3x - 1$. The graph of f has a minimum point at $A(2, 4)$ and a maximum point at

$B\left(-\frac{4}{3}, \frac{358}{27}\right)$.

- 5a. Use the second derivative to justify that B is a maximum.

[3 marks]

Markscheme

substituting into the second derivative **M1**

e.g.

$$3 \times \left(-\frac{4}{3}\right) - 1$$

$$f''\left(-\frac{4}{3}\right) = -5 \quad \mathbf{A1}$$

since the second derivative is negative, B is a maximum **R1 NO**

[3 marks]

- 5b. Given that $f'(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 - x + p$, show that $p = -4$.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

setting

$f'(x)$ equal to zero (M1)

evidence of substituting

$x = 2$ (or

$x = -\frac{4}{3}$) (M1)

e.g.

$f'(2)$

correct substitution A1

e.g.

$\frac{3}{2}(2)^2 - 2 + p$,

$\frac{3}{2}\left(-\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 - \left(-\frac{4}{3}\right) + p$

correct simplification

e.g.

$6 - 2 + p = 0$,

$\frac{8}{3} + \frac{4}{3} + p = 0$,

$4 + p = 0$ A1

$p = -4$ AG N0

[4 marks]

- 5c. Find $f(x)$.

[7 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of integration (M1)

$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 4x + c$ A1A1A1

substituting (2, 4) or

$\left(-\frac{4}{3}, \frac{358}{27}\right)$ into their expression (M1)

correct equation A1

e.g.

$\frac{1}{2} \times 2^3 - \frac{1}{2} \times 2^2 - 4 \times 2 + c = 4$,

$\frac{1}{2} \times 8 - \frac{1}{2} \times 4 - 4 \times 2 + c = 4$,

$4 - 2 - 8 + c = 4$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 4x + 10$ A1 N4

[7 marks]

Consider

$$f(x) = x^2 + \frac{p}{x},$$

$x \neq 0$, where p is a constant.

- 6a. Find $f'(x)$.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

$$f'(x) = 2x - \frac{p}{x^2} \quad \mathbf{A1A1 \quad N2}$$

Note: Award **A1** for

$2x$, **A1** for

$$-\frac{p}{x^2} .$$

[2 marks]

- 6b. There is a minimum value of $f(x)$ when $x = -2$. Find the value of p .

[4 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of equating derivative to 0 (seen anywhere) **(M1)**

evidence of finding

$$f'(-2) \text{ (seen anywhere) } \quad \mathbf{(M1)}$$

correct equation **A1**

e.g.

$$-4 - \frac{p}{4} = 0 ,$$

$$-16 - p = 0$$

$$p = -16 \quad \mathbf{A1 \quad N3}$$

[4 marks]

Let

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

- 7a. There are two points of inflexion on the graph of f . Write down the x -coordinates of these points.

[3 marks]

Markscheme

valid approach **R1**

e.g.

$$f''(x) = 0 , \text{ the max and min of}$$

f' gives the points of inflexion on f

$$-0.114, 0.364 \text{ (accept ($$

$$-0.114, 0.811) \text{ and ($$

$$0.364, 2.13)) \quad \mathbf{A1A1 \quad N1N1}$$

[3 marks]

- 7b. Let $g(x) = f''(x)$. Explain why the graph of g has no points of inflexion.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1

graph of g is a quadratic function **R1 N1**

a quadratic function does not have any points of inflexion **R1 N1**

METHOD 2

graph of g is concave down over entire domain **R1 N1**

therefore no change in concavity **R1 N1**

METHOD 3

$$g''(x) = -144 \quad \mathbf{R1 \ N1}$$

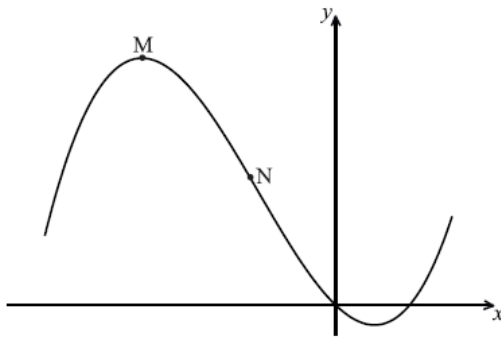
therefore no points of inflexion as

$$g''(x) \neq 0 \quad \mathbf{R1 \ N1}$$

[2 marks]

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.



- 8a. Find $f'(x)$.

[3 marks]

Markscheme

$$f'(x) = x^2 + 4x - 5 \quad \mathbf{A1A1A1 \ N3}$$

[3 marks]

- 8b. Find the x -coordinate of M.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

evidence of attempting to solve

$$f'(x) = 0 \quad (M1)$$

evidence of correct working **A1**

e.g.

$$\frac{(x+5)(x-1)}{-4 \pm \sqrt{16+20}}, \text{ sketch}$$

$$x = -5,$$

$$x = 1 \quad (A1)$$

so

$$x = -5 \quad A1 \quad N2$$

[4 marks]

- 8c. Find the x-coordinate of N.

[3 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1

$$f''(x) = 2x + 4 \text{ (may be seen later)} \quad A1$$

evidence of setting second derivative = 0 **(M1)**

e.g.

$$2x + 4 = 0$$

$$x = -2 \quad A1 \quad N2$$

METHOD 2

evidence of use of symmetry **(M1)**

e.g. midpoint of max/min, reference to shape of cubic

correct calculation **A1**

e.g.

$$\frac{-5+1}{2}$$

$$x = -2 \quad A1 \quad N2$$

[3 marks]

- 8d. The line L is the tangent to the curve of f at $(3, 12)$. Find the equation of L in the form $y = ax + b$.

[4 marks]

Markscheme

attempting to find the value of the derivative when

$$x = 3 \quad (M1)$$

$$f'(3) = 16 \quad A1$$

valid approach to finding the equation of a line **M1**

e.g.

$$y - 12 = 16(x - 3),$$

$$12 = 16 \times 3 + b$$

$$y = 16x - 36 \quad A1 \quad N2$$

[4 marks]

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

9a. Find the second derivative.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1

$$f''(x) = 3(x - 3)^2 \quad \mathbf{A2} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

METHOD 2

attempt to expand

$$(x - 3)^3 \quad \mathbf{(M1)}$$

e.g.

$$f'(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 27x - 27$$

$$f''(x) = 3x^2 - 18x + 27 \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N2}$$

[2 marks]

9b. Find
 $f'(3)$ and
 $f''(3)$.

[1 mark]

Markscheme

$$f'(3) = 0,$$

$$f''(3) = 0 \quad \mathbf{A1} \quad \mathbf{N1}$$

[1 mark]

9c. The point P on the graph of f has x -coordinate
3. Explain why P is not a point of inflexion.

[2 marks]

Markscheme

METHOD 1

f'' does not change sign at P $\mathbf{R1}$

evidence for this $\mathbf{R1} \quad \mathbf{N0}$

METHOD 2

f' changes sign at P so P is a maximum/minimum (i.e. not inflexion) $\mathbf{R1}$

evidence for this $\mathbf{R1} \quad \mathbf{N0}$

METHOD 3

finding

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{4}(x - 3)^4 + c \text{ and sketching this function} \quad \mathbf{R1}$$

indicating minimum at

$$x = 3 \quad \mathbf{R1} \quad \mathbf{N0}$$

[2 marks]