

IB Maths AA HL Paper 3 Question Bank



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1- The family of curves $y = f(x) = (ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d)^n$, where a, b, c, d , and n are constants, is given.

a) Determine the following:

(i) the domain and range of the function $y = f(x)$ for any non-negative values of n .

The domain of the function $y = f(x)$ is all real numbers because the polynomial is defined for all real values of x . The range of the function $y = f(x)$ is all non-negative real numbers because the power of the polynomial is non-negative.

(ii) Determine the x-intercepts of the function $y = f(x)$ for any non-negative values of n .

To find the x-intercepts of the function, we set $y = 0$ and solve for x . Therefore, we need to find the roots of the polynomial $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$. We can use the factor theorem or the synthetic division to find the roots of the polynomial.

(iii) Determine the y-intercept of the function $y = f(x)$ for any non-negative values of n .

The y-intercept of the function $y = f(x)$ is $(0, d^n)$ since the function is equal to d^n when $x = 0$.

b) For $n = 2$, determine the inflection point of the function $y = f(x)$.

For $n = 2$, the function becomes $y = (ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d)^2$. To find the inflection point, we need to find the second derivative of the function, which is:

$$f''(x) = 6a^2x + 2b$$

Now we need to find the x values where the second derivative is equal to zero.

$$6a^2x + 2b = 0$$

$$x = -b/(3a^2)$$

c) Next, Consider the curve, $y^2 = 2x^3 + x$

(i) Find the derivative of $y^2 = 2x^3 + x$

$$y^2 = 2x^3 + x$$

$$y = \sqrt{(2x^3 + x)}$$

Next, we can take the derivative of this expression using the chain rule. The chain rule states that if we have a function $u(x) = f(g(x))$, then the derivative of $u(x)$ with respect to x is given by:

$$du/dx = df/dg * dg/dx$$

In this case, we have $u(x) = \sqrt{(2x^3 + x)}$ and we have to find the derivative of this function with respect to x

$$du/dx = (1/2)(2x^3 + x)^{-1/2}(6x^2 + 1) = (3x(2x^2 + 1))/(2\sqrt{(2x^3 + x)})$$

So the derivative of $y = \sqrt{(2x^3 + x)}$ with respect to x is $(3x(2x^2 + 1))/(2\sqrt{(2x^3 + x)})$

(ii) Hence, find the local minima or maxima of $y^2 = 2x^3 + x$

To find the local maxima or minima of $y^2 = 2x^3 + x$, we need to find the critical points of the function $y = \sqrt{(2x^3 + x)}$.



A critical point of a function is a point where the derivative of the function is equal to zero or does not exist.

First, we need to find the derivative of $y = \sqrt{2x^3 + x}$ with respect to x :

$$y' = (3x(2x^2 + 1))/(2\sqrt{2x^3 + x})$$

Next, we need to set y' equal to zero and solve for x :

$$(3x(2x^2 + 1))/(2\sqrt{2x^3 + x}) = 0$$

$$3x(2x^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

Now, we need to check if $x = 0$ is a local maximum or minimum. To do this, we need to find the second derivative of $y = \sqrt{2x^3 + x}$ with respect to x :


$$y'' = (6x(2x^2 + 1) - 3(2x^2 + 1)(2x))/(2\sqrt{2x^3 + x})^2$$

We need to evaluate y'' at $x = 0$, we get

$y''(0) = -3/2$, which is negative and that means that $x = 0$ is a local minimum.

So the local minima of $y^2 = 2x^3 + x$ is $(0, 0)$

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