

About

MATHEMATICS

Paper 3

(TOPICAL)

About Learning Corner

This column will further enrich students with the extra information and knowledge provided. It improves the students' ability to solve problems of similar style. Other important guidances are also stated.

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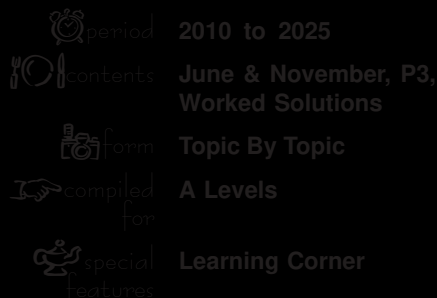
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C O N T E N T S

NEW SYLLABUS

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REVISION

-  June / November 2025 Paper 3

Topic 4

Logarithmic and Exponential Functions

Question 1Solve the equation $\ln(2 + e^{-x}) = 2$, giving your answer correct to 2 decimal places. [4]

[J09/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$\ln(2 + e^{-x}) = 2$$

$$2 + e^{-x} = e^2$$

$$e^{-x} = e^2 - 2$$

$$-x = \ln(e^2 - 2)$$

$$x = -\ln(e^2 - 2)$$

$$x = -\ln(5.389056)$$

$$x = -1.68 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Remember:

$$\text{If } \ln x = u \Rightarrow x = e^u$$

Conversely

$$\text{If } x = e^u \Rightarrow u = \ln x$$

Question 2

Solve the equation

$$\ln(5 - x) = \ln 5 - \ln x,$$

giving your answers correct to 3 significant figures. [4]

[N09/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$\ln(5 - x) = \ln 5 - \ln x$$

$$\ln(5 - x) = \ln\left(\frac{5}{x}\right)$$

$$5 - x = \frac{5}{x}$$

$$5x - x^2 = 5$$

$$x^2 - 5x + 5 = 0$$

applying quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 20}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{5 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3.62 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 1.38 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Note that:

- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$

Question 3Solve the equation $\frac{2^x + 1}{2^x - 1} = 5$,

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures. [4]

[J10/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$\frac{2^x + 1}{2^x - 1} = 5$$

$$\text{Let } 2^x = y$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y+1}{y-1} = 5$$

$$y+1 = 5(y-1)$$

$$4y = 6$$

$$y = 1.5$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^x = 1.5$$

$$\log(2^x) = \log(1.5)$$

$$x \log(2) = \log(1.5)$$

$$x = \frac{\log 1.5}{\log 2} = 0.585 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 4

Solve the equation

$$\ln(1+x^2) = 1 + 2\ln x,$$

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[N10/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$\ln(1+x^2) = 1 + 2\ln x$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(1+x^2) - 2\ln x = 1 \Rightarrow \ln(1+x^2) - \ln x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{1+x^2}{x^2}\right) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1+x^2}{x^2} = e \Rightarrow 1+x^2 = ex^2 \Rightarrow ex^2 - x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x^2(e-1) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{1}{(e-1)} \Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{e-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0.763 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -0.763 \text{ (rejected)}$$

$$\therefore x = 0.763 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Recall:

- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln x = 1 \Rightarrow x = e^1$
- Remember that log of a negative number is not defined.

Question 5

(i) Show that the equation

$$\log_2(x+5) = 5 - \log_2 x$$

can be written as a quadratic equation in x .

[3]

(ii) Hence solve the equation

$$\log_2(x+5) = 5 - \log_2 x.$$

[2]

[J11/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

(i) $\log_2(x+5) = 5 - \log_2 x$

$\log_2(x+5) + \log_2 x = 5$

$\log_2 x(x+5) = 5$

$x(x+5) = 2^5$

$x^2 + 5x = 32$

$x^2 + 5x - 32 = 0$ (Shown).

(ii) $\log_2(x+5) = 5 - \log_2 x$

using the result of part (i), the equation can be written as,

$x^2 + 5x - 32 = 0$

applying quadratic formula

$$x = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{(5)^2 - 4(1)(-32)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{25 + 128}}{2} = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{153}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-5 + \sqrt{153}}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{-5 - \sqrt{153}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3.68 \quad \text{or} \quad -8.68$$

as log of negative number is not defined,

$$\therefore x = 3.68 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 6Using the substitution $u = e^x$, or otherwise, solve the equation

$$e^x = 1 + 6e^{-x},$$

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[N11/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$e^x = 1 + 6e^{-x} \Rightarrow e^x = 1 + \frac{6}{e^x}$$

substitute $u = e^x$,

$$\Rightarrow u = 1 + \frac{6}{u} \Rightarrow u^2 = u + 6 \Rightarrow u^2 - u - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u^2 - 3u + 2u - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow u(u - 3) + 2(u - 3) = 0 \Rightarrow (u - 3)(u + 2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad u = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow e^x = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad e^x = -2 \quad (\text{not possible})$$

taking $\ln$ on both sides

$$\ln e^x = \ln 3 \Rightarrow x \ln e = \ln 3 \Rightarrow x = \ln 3 = 1.099 \approx 1.10 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 7

Solve the equation

$$\ln(3x + 4) = 2\ln(x + 1),$$

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[J12/P3/Q1]

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Suggested Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ln(3x+4) &= 2\ln(x+1) \\
 \Rightarrow \ln(3x+4) &= \ln(x+1)^2 \\
 \Rightarrow 3x+4 &= (x+1)^2 \Rightarrow 3x+4 = x^2+2x+1 \Rightarrow x^2-x-3=0 \\
 \text{using quadratic formula, we have,} \\
 x &= \frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-3)}}{2(1)} \\
 &= \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{13}}{2} \\
 \Rightarrow x &= \frac{1+\sqrt{13}}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{1-\sqrt{13}}{2} \\
 \Rightarrow x &= 2.30 \quad x = -1.30 \text{ (ignored)} \\
 \therefore x &= 2.30 \text{ (Ans).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Recall:

- $b \log_x a = \log_x(a^b)$
- If $\log_x a = \log_x b$
 $\Rightarrow a = b$

Question 8

Solve the equation

$$5^{x-1} = 5^x - 5,$$

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

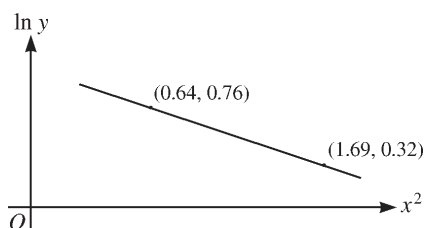
[N12/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 5^{x-1} &= 5^x - 5 \\
 \Rightarrow 5^x \times 5^{-1} &= 5^x - 5 \\
 \text{let } 5^x &= y \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{y}{5} &= y - 5 \Rightarrow y = 5y - 25 \Rightarrow 4y = 25 \Rightarrow y = 6.25 \\
 \text{i.e. } 5^x &= 6.25 \\
 \text{taking lg on both sides,} \\
 \lg 5^x &= \lg 6.25 \\
 \Rightarrow x \lg 5 &= \lg 6.25 \Rightarrow x = \frac{\lg 6.25}{\lg 5} = 1.14 \text{ (Ans).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln 1 = 0$

Question 9

The variables x and y satisfy the equation $y = Ae^{-kx^2}$, where A and k are constants. The graph of $\ln y$ against x^2 is a straight line passing through the points (0.64, 0.76) and (1.69, 0.32), as shown in the diagram. Find the values of A and k correct to 2 decimal places.

[5]

[J13/P3/Q3]

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Suggested Solution:

$$y = Ae^{-kx^2}$$

Taking $\ln$ on both sides,

$$\ln y = \ln(Ae^{-kx^2})$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln A + \ln e^{-kx^2} \Rightarrow \ln y = -kx^2 + \ln A$$

$\therefore$ gradient of the line $= -k$

from graph, using points (0.64, 0.76) and (1.69, 0.32),

$$\text{gradient} = \frac{0.76 - 0.32}{0.64 - 1.69} = -0.419$$

$$\therefore -k = -0.419 \Rightarrow k = 0.419 \approx 0.42 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

for $\ln A$, substitute (0.64, 0.76) into the equation of line,

$$0.76 = -0.419(0.64) + \ln A$$

$$0.76 = -0.2682 + \ln A$$

$$\ln A = 1.0282$$

$$A = 2.796 \approx 2.80 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$

Question 10

Solve the equation $2|3^x - 1| = 3^x$, giving your answers correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[N13/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$2|3^x - 1| = 3^x$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(3^x - 1) = 3^x \quad \text{or} \quad -2(3^x - 1) = 3^x$$

$$\Rightarrow 2(3^x) - 2 = 3^x \quad \text{or} \quad -2(3^x) + 2 = 3^x$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^x = 2 \quad \quad \quad 3^x = \frac{2}{3}$$

taking $\lg$ on both sides,

$$\lg 3^x = \lg 2 \quad \text{or} \quad \lg 3^x = \lg \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x \lg 3 = \lg 2 \quad \text{or} \quad x \lg 3 = \lg \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{\lg 2}{\lg 3} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{\lg \frac{2}{3}}{\lg 3} \Rightarrow x = 0.631 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -0.369 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 11

Solve the equation

$$2 \ln(5 - e^{-2x}) = 1,$$

giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[J14/P3/Q2]

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Suggested Solution:

$$2\ln(5 - e^{-2x}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(5 - e^{-2x}) = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 5 - e^{-2x} = e^{\frac{1}{2}} \Rightarrow e^{-2x} = 5 - e^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln e^{-2x} = \ln(5 - e^{\frac{1}{2}}) \Rightarrow -2x = 1.2093 \Rightarrow x = -0.605 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Remember:

$$\text{If } \ln x = u \Rightarrow x = e^u$$

Conversely

$$\text{If } x = e^u \Rightarrow u = \ln x$$

Question 12

Use logarithms to solve the equation $e^x = 3^{x-2}$, giving your answer correct to 3 decimal places.

[3]

[N14/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$e^x = 3^{x-2}$$

taking $\ln$ on both sides

$$\ln e^x = \ln 3^{x-2} \Rightarrow x \ln e = (x-2) \ln 3 \Rightarrow x = x \ln 3 - 2 \ln 3$$

$$\Rightarrow x \ln 3 - x = 2 \ln 3 \Rightarrow x(\ln 3 - 1) = 2 \ln 3 \Rightarrow x = \frac{2 \ln 3}{\ln 3 - 1} = 22.281 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$

Question 13

Using the substitution $u = 4^x$, solve the equation $4^x + 4^2 = 4^{x+2}$, giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[4]

[J15/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$4^x + 4^2 = 4^{x+2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4^x + 16 = 4^x \times 4^2 \Rightarrow 4^x + 16 = 16(4^x)$$

given substitution is, $u = 4^x$

$$\Rightarrow u + 16 = 16u \Rightarrow 15u = 16 \Rightarrow u = \frac{16}{15}$$

$$\therefore 4^x = \frac{16}{15}$$

taking $\lg$ on both sides

$$\lg 4^x = \lg \frac{16}{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow x \lg 4 = \lg \frac{16}{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \lg \frac{16}{15} \div \lg 4 = 0.04655 \approx 0.0466 \text{ (3sf)} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 14

Using the substitution $u = 3^x$, solve the equation $3^x + 3^{2x} = 3^{3x}$ giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures.

[5]

[N15/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

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

substitute $u = 3^x$,

$$\Rightarrow u + u^2 = u^3 \Rightarrow u^3 - u^2 - u = 0 \Rightarrow u(u^2 - u - 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad u^2 - u - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^x = 0 \text{ (no solution)} \quad \text{using quadratic formula}$$

$$u = \frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow u = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow u = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad u = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$= 1.618 \quad \text{or} \quad = -0.618$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^x = 1.618 \quad \text{or} \quad 3^x = -0.618 \text{ (no solution)}$$

taking lg on both sides

$$\lg 3^x = \lg(1.618)$$

$$x \lg 3 = \lg(1.618)$$

$$x = \frac{\lg(1.618)}{\lg 3} = 0.438 \text{ (3sf) (Ans).}$$

Question 15

Use logarithms to solve the equation $4^{3x-1} = 3(5^x)$, giving your answer correct to 3 decimal places.

[4]

[J16/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$4^{3x-1} = 3(5)^x$$

$$\Rightarrow 4^{3x} \times 4^{-1} = 3 \times (5)^x \Rightarrow (4^3)^x \times \frac{1}{4} = 3 \times (5)^x \Rightarrow \left(\frac{64}{5}\right)^x = 12 \Rightarrow (12.8)^x = 12$$

taking lg on both sides,

$$\lg(12.8)^x = \lg 12 \Rightarrow x \lg(12.8) = \lg 12 \Rightarrow x = \frac{\lg 12}{\lg 12.8} = 0.975 \text{ (Ans).}$$

Question 16

Solve the equation $\frac{3^x + 2}{3^x - 2} = 8$, giving your answer correct to 3 decimal places.

[3]

[N16/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$\frac{3^x + 2}{3^x - 2} = 8$$

$$3^x + 2 = 8(3^x - 2)$$

$$3^x + 2 = 8(3^x) - 16$$

$$3^x - 8(3^x) = -18$$

$$3^x = \frac{18}{7}$$

$$\lg 3^x = \lg\left(\frac{18}{7}\right) \Rightarrow x = \frac{\lg\left(\frac{18}{7}\right)}{\lg 3} = 0.85968 \approx 0.860 \text{ (Ans).}$$

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Question 17

Solve the equation $\ln(x^2 + 1) = 1 + 2\ln x$, giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures. [3]

[J17/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$\ln(x^2 + 1) = 1 + 2\ln x$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(x^2 + 1) = \ln e + \ln x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(x^2 + 1) = \ln(ex^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 1 = ex^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2(e - 1) = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{1}{e - 1} \Rightarrow x^2 = 0.581977 \Rightarrow x = \pm 0.763$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0.763 \text{ or } x = -0.763 \text{ (invalid as } \ln \text{ of -ve number is not defined)}$$

$$\therefore x = 0.763 \text{ (Ans).}$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$

Question 18

Showing all necessary working, solve the equation $2\log_2 x = 3 + \log_2(x + 1)$, giving your answer correct to 3 significant figures. [5]

[N17/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$2\log_2 x = 3 + \log_2(x + 1)$$

$$\log_2 x^2 = 3\log_2 2 + \log_2(x + 1)$$

$$\log_2 x^2 = \log_2 2^3 + \log_2(x + 1)$$

$$\log_2 x^2 = \log_2(2^3(x + 1))$$

$$x^2 = 8x + 8 \Rightarrow x^2 - 8x - 8 = 0$$

using quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{(-8)^2 - 4(1)(-8)}}{2(1)} = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{96}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{8 + \sqrt{96}}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{8 - \sqrt{96}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 8.899 \quad x = -0.899 \text{ (ignored)}$$

$$\therefore x = 8.90 \text{ (Ans).}$$

Recall:

- $b \log_x a = \log_x(a^b)$
- If $\log_x a = \log_x b$
 $\Rightarrow a = b$

Question 19

Showing all necessary working, solve the equation $3|2^x - 1| = 2^x$, giving your answers correct to 3 significant figures. [4]

[J18/P3/Q1]

Suggested Solution:

$$3|2^x - 1| = 2^x$$

$$\text{Let } 2^x = y \Rightarrow 3|y - 1| = y$$

squaring both sides,

$$\Rightarrow (3|y - 1|)^2 = y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 9(y^2 - 2y + 1) = y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 8y^2 - 18y + 9 = 0 \Rightarrow (2y - 3)(4y - 3) = 0$$

$$\therefore y = 1.5 \quad \text{or} \quad y = 0.75$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^x = 1.5 \quad \text{or} \quad 2^x = 0.75$$

taking lg on both sides,

$$\lg 2^x = \lg 1.5 \quad \text{or} \quad \lg 2^x = \lg 0.75$$

$$x \lg 2 = \lg 1.5 \quad \text{or} \quad x \lg 2 = \lg 0.75$$

$$x = \frac{\lg 1.5}{\lg 2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{\lg 0.75}{\lg 2}$$

$$x = 0.585 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -0.415$$

$$\therefore x = 0.585, -0.415 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 20

Showing all necessary working, solve the equation

$$\frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{e^x + 1} = 4,$$

giving your answer correct to 3 decimal places.

[5]

[N18/P3/Q4]

Suggested Solution:

$$\frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{e^x + 1} = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow e^x + e^{-x} = 4e^x + 4 \Rightarrow e^x + \frac{1}{e^x} = 4e^x + 4$$

$$\text{Let } e^x = y$$

$$\Rightarrow y + \frac{1}{y} = 4y + 4 \Rightarrow y^2 + 1 = 4y^2 + 4y \Rightarrow 3y^2 + 4y - 1 = 0$$

Using quadratic formula

$$y = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{(4)^2 - 4(3)(-1)}}{2(3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{28}}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{-4 + \sqrt{28}}{6} \quad \text{or} \quad y = \frac{-4 - \sqrt{28}}{6}$$

$$\therefore y = 0.2153 \quad \text{or} \quad y = -1.549$$

$$\Rightarrow e^x = 0.2153 \quad e^x = -1.549 \text{ (ignored)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \ln(0.2153)$$

$$= -1.536 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 29

Solve the equation $\ln(2x^2 - 3) = 2\ln x - \ln 2$, giving your answer in an exact form.

[3]

[J23/P3/Q2]

Suggested Solution:

$$\ln(2x^2 - 3) = 2\ln x - \ln 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(2x^2 - 3) = \ln x^2 - \ln 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(2x^2 - 3) = \ln\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 - 3 = \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 6 = x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 = 6 \Rightarrow x^2 = 2 \Rightarrow x = \pm\sqrt{2}$$

$x = -\sqrt{2}$ is rejected as $\ln$ of negative number is not defined

$$\therefore x = \sqrt{2} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 30

The variables x and y satisfy the equation $a^{2y-1} = b^{x-y}$, where a and b are constants.

(a) Show that the graph of y against x is a straight line. [3]

(b) Given that $a = b^3$, state the equation of the straight line in the form $y = px + q$, where p and q are rational numbers in their simplest form. [2]

[J24/P3/Q3]

Suggested Solution:

(a) $a^{2y-1} = b^{x-y}$,

Taking $\ln$ on both sides

$$\ln a^{2y-1} = \ln b^{x-y}$$

$$\Rightarrow (2y-1)\ln a = (x-y)\ln b$$

$$\Rightarrow 2y\ln a - \ln a = x\ln b - y\ln b$$

$$\Rightarrow 2y\ln a + y\ln b = x\ln b + \ln a$$

$$y(2\ln a + \ln b) = (\ln b)x + \ln a$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{\ln b}{2\ln a + \ln b}x + \frac{\ln a}{2\ln a + \ln b}$$

Which is of the form $y = mx + c$.

Thus, the graph of y against x is a straight-line. (Shown).

Remember:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b\ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln 1 = 0$

(b) $a^{2y-1} = b^{x-y}$

Given that, $a = b^3$

$$\Rightarrow (b^3)^{2y-1} = b^{x-y}$$

$$\Rightarrow b^{6y-3} = b^{x-y}$$

$$\Rightarrow 6y - 3 = x - y$$

$$\Rightarrow 7y = x + 3 \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{7}x + \frac{3}{7} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 31Solve the equation $5^x = 5^{x+2} - 10$. Give your answer correct to 3 decimal places.
[3]

[N24/P3/Q4]

Suggested Solution:

$$5^x = 5^{x+2} - 10$$

$$\Rightarrow 5^x = (5^x \times 5^2) - 10$$

Let $y = 5^x$

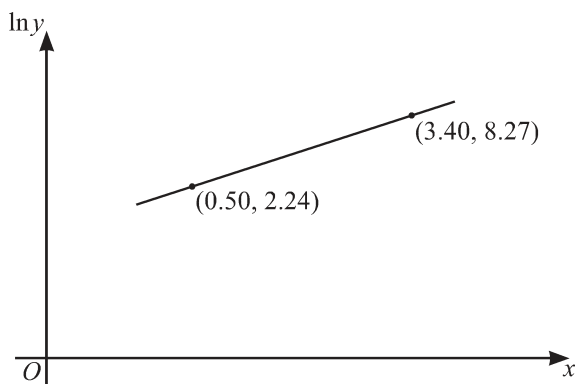
$$\Rightarrow y = (y \times 5^2) - 10$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 25y - 10 \Rightarrow 24y = 10 \Rightarrow y = \frac{10}{24} \Rightarrow y = \frac{5}{12}$$

$$\therefore 5^x = \frac{5}{12}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln 5^x = \ln \left(\frac{5}{12} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow x \ln 5 = \ln \left(\frac{5}{12} \right) \Rightarrow x = \frac{\ln \frac{5}{12}}{\ln 5} \Rightarrow x = -0.544 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 32

The variables x and y satisfy the equation $ay = b^x$, where a and b are constants. The graph of $\ln y$ against x is a straight line passing through the points $(0.50, 2.24)$ and $(3.40, 8.27)$, as shown in the diagram.

Find the values of a and b . Give each value correct to 1 significant figure. [4]

[N24/P3/Q6]

Suggested Solution:

$$ay = b^x$$

Taking $\ln$ on both sides,

$$\ln ay = \ln b^x$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln a + \ln y = x \ln b \Rightarrow \ln y = (\ln b)x - \ln a \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Using (0.50, 2.24) and (3.40, 8.27),

$$\text{Gradient} = \frac{8.27 - 2.24}{3.40 - 0.50} = \frac{6.03}{2.9} = 2.0793$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln b = 2.0793 \Rightarrow b = e^{2.0793} \Rightarrow b = 7.99 = 8$$

Substitute (0.50, 2.24) into (1),

$$2.24 = (2.0793)(0.50) - \ln a$$

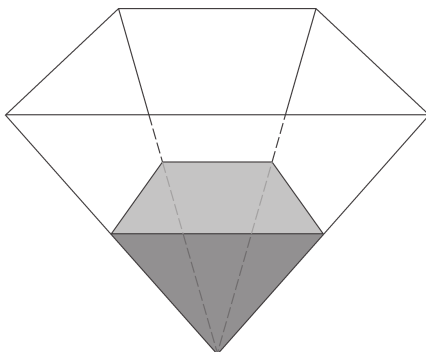
$$\Rightarrow 2.24 = 1.03965 - \ln a$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln a = 1.03965 - 2.24 \Rightarrow \ln a = -1.20 \Rightarrow a = 0.30$$

$$\therefore a = 0.3, \quad b = 8 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Topic 10

Differential Equations

Question 1

An underground storage tank is being filled with liquid as shown in the diagram. Initially the tank is empty. At time t hours after filling begins, the volume of liquid is $V \text{ m}^3$ and the depth of liquid is $h \text{ m}$. It is given that $V = \frac{4}{3}h^3$.

The liquid is poured in at a rate of 20 m^3 per hour, but owing to leakage, liquid is lost at a rate proportional to h^2 . when $h = 1$, $\frac{dh}{dt} = 4.95$.

(i) Show that h satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{5}{h^2} - \frac{1}{20}. \quad [4]$$

(ii) Verify that $\frac{20h^2}{100-h^2} \equiv -20 + \frac{2000}{(10-h)(10+h)}$. [1]

(iii) Hence solve the differential equation in part (i), obtaining an expression for t in terms of h . [5]

[N08/P3/Q8]

Suggested Solution:

(i) Given that, $\frac{dV}{dt} = 20$ (i) and $\frac{dV}{dt} \propto -h^2 \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = -kh^2$ (ii)

combining equations (i) and (ii),

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 20 - kh^2$$

also given, $V = \frac{4}{3}h^3$

differentiating w.r.t h , $\frac{dV}{dh} = \frac{4}{3}(3h^2) = 4h^2$

now, $\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{dh}{dV} \times \frac{dV}{dt}$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{4h^2}\right) \times (20 - kh^2)$$

$$= \frac{5}{h^2} - \frac{k}{4} \text{(iii)}$$

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given that, when $h = 1$, $\frac{dh}{dt} = 4.95$

$$\Rightarrow 4.95 = \frac{5}{1^2} - \frac{k}{4} \Rightarrow 4.95 = 5 - \frac{k}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{k}{4} = 0.05 \Rightarrow k = 0.2$$

∴ equation (iii) becomes,

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{5}{h^2} - \frac{0.2}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{5}{h^2} - \frac{1}{20} \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii) R.H.S.} &= -20 + \frac{2000}{(10+h)(10-h)} \\ &= -20 + \frac{2000}{100-h^2} \\ &= \frac{-20(100-h^2) + 2000}{100-h^2} \\ &= \frac{-2000 + 20h^2 + 2000}{(100-h^2)} = \frac{20h^2}{100-h^2} = \text{L.H.S.} \quad (\text{Verified}). \end{aligned}$$

(iii) From part (i),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dh}{dt} &= \frac{5}{h^2} - \frac{1}{20} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dh}{dt} &= \frac{100-h^2}{20h^2} \Rightarrow \frac{20h^2}{100-h^2} dh = dt \end{aligned}$$

using the result of part (ii),

$$\left(-20 + \frac{2000}{(10-h)(10+h)} \right) dh = dt$$

integrating both sides

$$\begin{aligned} \int \left(-20 + \frac{2000}{(10-h)(10+h)} \right) dh &= \int dt \\ \int \left(-20 + 2000 \left(\frac{1}{(10^2-h^2)} \right) \right) dh &= \int dt \\ -20h + 2000 \left(\frac{1}{2(10)} \ln \left(\frac{10+h}{10-h} \right) \right) &= t + C \\ -20h + 100 \ln \left(\frac{10+h}{10-h} \right) &= t + C \end{aligned}$$

when $t = 0$, $h = 0$

$$\Rightarrow -20(0) + 100 \ln \left(\frac{10+0}{10-0} \right) = 0 + C \Rightarrow 100 \ln(1) = C \Rightarrow C = 0$$

$$\therefore -20h + 100 \ln \left(\frac{10+h}{10-h} \right) = t \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Note that:

$$\int \frac{1}{a^2-x^2} dx = \frac{1}{2a} \ln \left(\frac{a+x}{a-x} \right) + K$$

Question 2

The variables x and t are related by the differential equation

$$e^{2t} \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos^2 x,$$

where $t \geq 0$. When $t = 0$, $x = 0$.

- Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for x in terms of t . [6]
- State what happens to the value of x when t becomes very large. [1]
- Explain why x increases as t increases. [1]

[J10/P3/Q7]

Suggested Solution:

(i) $e^{2t} \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos^2 x$

Separating the variables, we have,

$$\frac{1}{\cos^2 x} dx = \frac{1}{e^{2t}} dt \Rightarrow \sec^2 x dx = e^{-2t} dt$$

integrating both sides

$$\int \sec^2 x dx = \int e^{-2t} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan x = \frac{e^{-2t}}{-2} + K$$

when $t = 0$, $x = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \tan(0) = -\frac{1}{2}e^{-2(0)} + K \Rightarrow 0 = -\frac{1}{2} + K \Rightarrow K = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore \tan x = -\frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan x = \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-2t})$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-2t})\right) \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

(ii) As $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$e^{-2t} = \frac{1}{e^{2t}} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x \rightarrow \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$\therefore$ when t becomes very large, x approaches to $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ (Ans).

(iii) $e^{2t} \frac{dx}{dt} = \cos^2 x$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = e^{-2t} \cos^2 x > 0, \text{ for all values of } t$$

$\Rightarrow x$ is an increasing function.

$\therefore x$ increases as t increases.

Question 3

A certain substance is formed in a chemical reaction. The mass of substance formed t seconds after the start of the reaction is x grams. At any time the rate of formation of

the substance is proportional to $(20 - x)$. When $t = 0$, $x = 0$ and $\frac{dx}{dt} = 1$.

(i) Show that x and t satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.05(20 - x). \quad [2]$$

(ii) Find, in any form, the solution of this differential equation. [5]

(iii) Find x when $t = 10$, giving your answer correct to 1 decimal place. [2]

(iv) State what happens to the value of x as t becomes very large. [1]

[N10/P3/Q10]

Suggested Solution:

- (i) According to given information,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} \propto (20 - x) \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = k(20 - x) \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

given that, $x = 0$, $\frac{dx}{dt} = 1$, we have,

$$1 = k(20 - 0) \Rightarrow 20k = 1 \Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{20}$$

∴ equation (1) becomes,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{20}(20 - x) \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = 0.05(20 - x) \quad \text{(Shown).}$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{20}(20 - x) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{20 - x} dx = \frac{1}{20} dt$$

integrating both sides

$$\int \frac{1}{20 - x} dx = \frac{1}{20} \int dt \Rightarrow -\int \frac{-1}{20 - x} dx = \frac{1}{20} \int dt \Rightarrow -\ln|20 - x| = \frac{1}{20}t + C$$

when $t = 0$, $x = 0$

$$\Rightarrow -\ln|20 - 0| = \frac{1}{20}(0)t + C \Rightarrow C = -\ln 20$$

$$\therefore -\ln|20 - x| = \frac{1}{20}t - \ln 20 \Rightarrow \ln 20 - \ln|20 - x| = \frac{1}{20}t \Rightarrow \ln \left| \frac{20}{20 - x} \right| = \frac{1}{20}t$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{20}{20 - x} = e^{\frac{1}{20}t} \Rightarrow 20e^{-\frac{1}{20}t} = 20 - x \Rightarrow x = 20 - 20e^{-\frac{1}{20}t} \quad \text{(Ans).}$$

- (iii) When
- $t = 10$

$$x = 20 - 20e^{-\frac{1}{20}(10)} = 20 - 20e^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 20 - 12.131 = 7.869 \approx 7.9 \quad (1 \text{ dp}) \quad \text{(Ans).}$$

$$(iv) \quad x = 20 - 20e^{-\frac{1}{20}t}$$

As $t \rightarrow \infty$, $e^{-\frac{1}{20}t} \rightarrow 0$ and $x \rightarrow 20$

∴ x approaches to 20 as t becomes very large. (Ans).

Question 4

A certain curve is such that its gradient at a point (x, y) is proportional to xy . At the point $(1, 2)$ the gradient is 4.

- (i) By setting up and solving a differential equation, show that the equation of the curve

$$\text{is } y = 2e^{x^2-1}. \quad [7]$$

- (ii) State the gradient of the curve at the point
- $(-1, 2)$
- and sketch the curve. [2]

[J11/P3/Q6]

Suggested Solution:

$$(i) \quad \frac{dy}{dx} \propto xy \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = kxy$$

Given that, $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4$ at point (1, 2),

$$\Rightarrow 4 = k(1)(2) \Rightarrow 2k = 4 \Rightarrow k = 2$$

∴ differential equation becomes

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} dy = 2x dx$$

integrating both sides

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = 2 \int x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = 2\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right) + C \Rightarrow \ln y = x^2 + C$$

the curve passes through (1, 2),

$$\Rightarrow \ln 2 = (1)^2 + C \Rightarrow C = \ln 2 - 1$$

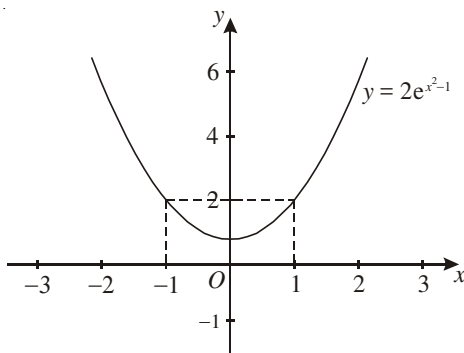
$$\therefore \ln y = x^2 + \ln 2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y - \ln 2 = x^2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) = x^2 - 1 \Rightarrow \frac{y}{2} = e^{x^2-1} \Rightarrow y = 2e^{x^2-1} \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{From part (i), } \frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy$$

$$\text{at } (-1, 2), \text{ gradient, } \frac{dy}{dx} = 2(-1)(2) = -4 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$



Remember:

If putting $x = -x$ in the equation does not change the equation, then curve is symmetric about y -axis and vice versa.

Question 5

The variables x and θ are related by the differential equation

$$\sin 2\theta \frac{dx}{d\theta} = (x+1) \cos 2\theta,$$

where $0 < \theta < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. When $\theta = \frac{1}{12}\pi$, $x = 0$. Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for x in terms of θ , and simplifying your answer as far as possible. [7]

[N11/P3/Q4]

Suggested Solution:

$$\sin 2\theta \frac{dx}{d\theta} = (x+1) \cos 2\theta \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x+1} dx = \frac{\cos 2\theta}{\sin 2\theta} d\theta$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{x+1} dx &= \int \frac{\cos 2\theta}{\sin 2\theta} d\theta \\ \Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{x+1} dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{2 \cos 2\theta}{\sin 2\theta} d\theta \Rightarrow \ln|x+1| = \frac{1}{2} \ln|\sin 2\theta| + K \dots\dots\dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{when } \theta = \frac{\pi}{12}, \quad x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|0+1| = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left|\sin 2\left(\frac{\pi}{12}\right)\right| + K \Rightarrow \ln 1 = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left|\sin \frac{\pi}{6}\right| + K \Rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left|\frac{1}{2}\right| + K$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{2} (\ln 1 - \ln 2) + K \Rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{2} (-\ln 2) + K \Rightarrow K = \frac{1}{2} \ln 2$$

 $\therefore$ equation (1) becomes,

$$\ln|x+1| = \frac{1}{2} \ln|\sin 2\theta| + \frac{1}{2} \ln 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|x+1| = \frac{1}{2} \ln|2 \sin 2\theta|$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|x+1| = \ln(2 \sin 2\theta)^{\frac{1}{2}} \Rightarrow x+1 = \sqrt{2 \sin 2\theta} \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{2 \sin 2\theta} - 1 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln 1 = 0$

Question 6The variables x and y satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{2x+y},$$

and $y = 0$ when $x = 0$. Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for y in terms of x . [6]

[J12/P3/Q5]

Suggested Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{2x+y} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{2x} \times e^y \Rightarrow \frac{1}{e^y} dy = e^{2x} dx \Rightarrow e^{-y} dy = e^{2x} dx \end{aligned}$$

integrating both sides,

$$\begin{aligned} \int e^{-y} dy &= \int e^{2x} dx \\ \Rightarrow -e^{-y} &= \frac{1}{2} e^{2x} + K \dots\dots\dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{when } x = 0, \quad y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -e^0 = \frac{1}{2} e^0 + K \Rightarrow -1 = \frac{1}{2} + K \Rightarrow K = -\frac{3}{2}$$

 $\therefore$ equation (1) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} -e^{-y} &= \frac{1}{2} e^{2x} - \frac{3}{2} \\ \Rightarrow -e^{-y} &= \frac{e^{2x} - 3}{2} \Rightarrow -2e^{-y} = e^{2x} - 3 \Rightarrow 2e^{-y} = 3 - e^{2x} \end{aligned}$$

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taking $\ln$ on both sides,

$$\begin{aligned}\ln(2e^{-y}) &= \ln(3 - e^{2x}) \\ \Rightarrow \ln 2 + \ln(e^{-y}) &= \ln(3 - e^{2x}) \\ \Rightarrow \ln 2 - y \ln e &= \ln(3 - e^{2x}) \\ \Rightarrow -y &= \ln(3 - e^{2x}) - \ln 2 \\ \Rightarrow y &= \ln 2 - \ln(3 - e^{2x}) \Rightarrow y = \ln\left(\frac{2}{3 - e^{2x}}\right) \quad (\text{Ans}).\end{aligned}$$

Recall:

- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$

Question 7

The variables x and y are related by the differential equation

$$x \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - y^2.$$

When $x = 2$, $y = 0$. Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for y in terms of x . [8]

[N12/P3/Q6]

Suggested Solution:

$$x \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - y^2 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1 - y^2} dy = \frac{1}{x} dx \Rightarrow \frac{1}{(1 + y)(1 - y)} dy = \frac{1}{x} dx \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

expressing $\frac{1}{(1 + y)(1 - y)}$ in partial fractions, we have,

$$\frac{1}{(1 + y)(1 - y)} \equiv \frac{A}{1 + y} + \frac{B}{1 - y}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \equiv A(1 - y) + B(1 + y)$$

$$\text{for } y = 1, \quad 1 = A(1 - 1) + B(1 + 1) \Rightarrow 1 = 2B \Rightarrow B = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{for } y = -1, \quad 1 = A(1 - (-1)) + B(1 - 1) \Rightarrow 1 = 2A \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{(1 + y)(1 - y)} = \frac{1}{2(1 + y)} + \frac{1}{2(1 - y)}$$

equation (1) can now be written as,

$$\left(\frac{1}{2(1 + y)} + \frac{1}{2(1 - y)} \right) dy = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

integration both sides,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{2} \int \left(\frac{1}{1 + y} + \frac{1}{1 - y} \right) dy &= \int \frac{1}{x} dx \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \left(\ln(1 + y) - \ln(1 - y) \right) &= \ln x + K \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1 + y}{1 - y} \right) = \ln x + K\end{aligned}$$

given that, when $x = 2$, $y = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1 + 0}{1 - 0} \right) = \ln 2 + K$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln(1) = \ln 2 + K \Rightarrow 0 = \ln 2 + K \Rightarrow K = -\ln 2$$

Note that:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln 1 = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1+y}{1-y} \right) &= \ln x - \ln 2 \\
 \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{1+y}{1-y} \right) &= 2 \ln \left(\frac{x}{2} \right) \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{1+y}{1-y} \right) = \ln \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^2 \\
 \Rightarrow \frac{1+y}{1-y} &= \frac{x^2}{4} \Rightarrow 4 + 4y = x^2 - x^2 y \Rightarrow x^2 y + 4y = x^2 - 4 \\
 \Rightarrow y(x^2 + 4) &= x^2 - 4 \Rightarrow y = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 + 4} \quad (\text{Ans}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Question 8

(i) Express $\frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)}$ in the form $\frac{A}{x^2} + \frac{B}{x} + \frac{C}{2x+1}$. [4]

(ii) The variables x and y satisfy the differential equation

$$y = x^2(2x+1) \frac{dy}{dx},$$

and $y = 1$ when $x = 1$. Solve the differential equation and find the exact value of y when $x = 2$. Give your value of y in a form not involving logarithms. [7]

[J13/P3/Q8]

Suggested Solution:

(i) $\frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)}$

resolving into partial fraction

$$\frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)} \equiv \frac{A}{x^2} + \frac{B}{x} + \frac{C}{2x+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \equiv A(2x+1) + Bx(2x+1) + Cx^2$$

for $x = 0$

$$1 = A(2(0)+1) + B(0)(2(0)+1) + C(0)^2 \Rightarrow A = 1$$

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

$$1 = A \left(2 \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) + 1 \right) + B \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(2 \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right) + 1 \right) + C \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = A(0) + B(0) + C \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) \Rightarrow 1 = \frac{1}{4}C \Rightarrow C = 4$$

for $x = 1$

$$1 = A(2(1)+1) + B(1)(2(1)+1) + C(1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 3A + 3B + C \Rightarrow 1 = 3(1) + 3B + 4 \Rightarrow 3B = -6 \Rightarrow B = -2$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)} \equiv \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{2}{x} + \frac{4}{2x+1} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(ii) \quad y = x^2(2x+1) \quad \frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x^2(2x+1)} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} dy = \frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)} dx$$

integrating both sides,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{1}{y} dy &= \int \frac{1}{x^2(2x+1)} dx \\ \Rightarrow \ln y &= \int \left(\frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{2}{x} + \frac{4}{2x+1} \right) dx \quad (\text{from part (i)}) \\ \Rightarrow \ln y &= \int x^{-2} dx - \int \frac{2}{x} dx + 2 \int \frac{2}{2x+1} dx \\ \Rightarrow \ln y &= -\frac{1}{x} - 2\ln x + 2\ln|2x+1| + K \dots\dots\dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

when $x=1$, $y=1$

$$\Rightarrow \ln 1 = -\frac{1}{1} - 2\ln 1 + 2\ln|2(1)+1| + K \Rightarrow 0 = -1 + 2\ln(3) + K \Rightarrow K = 1 - 2\ln 3$$

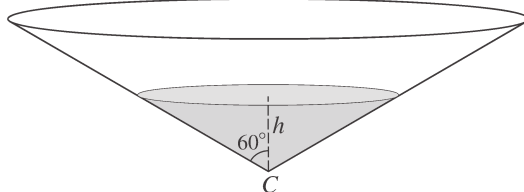
∴ equation (1) becomes,

$$\begin{aligned} \ln y &= -\frac{1}{x} - 2\ln x + 2\ln|2x+1| + 1 - 2\ln 3 \\ \Rightarrow \ln y &= -\frac{1}{x} + 1 + 2(\ln|2x+1| - \ln x - \ln 3) \Rightarrow \ln y = -\frac{1}{x} + 1 + 2\ln \left| \frac{2x+1}{3x} \right| \end{aligned}$$

when $x=2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \ln y &= -\frac{1}{2} + 1 + 2\ln \left| \frac{2(2)+1}{3(2)} \right| \Rightarrow \ln y = \frac{1}{2} + 2\ln \left(\frac{5}{6} \right) \Rightarrow \ln y = \frac{1}{2} \ln e + \ln \left(\frac{5}{6} \right)^2 \\ \Rightarrow \ln y &= \ln e^{\frac{1}{2}} + \ln \frac{25}{36} \Rightarrow \ln y = \ln \frac{25}{36} e^{\frac{1}{2}} \Rightarrow y = \frac{25}{36} e^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (\text{Ans}). \end{aligned}$$

Question 9



A tank containing water is in the form of a cone with vertex C . The axis is vertical and the semivertical angle is 60° , as shown in the diagram. At time $t=0$, the tank is full and the depth of water is H . At this instant, a tap at C is opened and water begins to flow out. The volume of water in the tank decreases at a rate proportional to $\sqrt{h}$, where h is the depth of water at time t . The tank becomes empty when $t=60$.

(i) Show that h and t satisfy a differential equation of the form

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -Ah^{-\frac{3}{2}},$$

where A is a positive constant. [4]

(ii) Solve the differential equation given in part (i) and obtain an expression for t in terms of h and H . [6]

(iii) Find the time at which the depth reaches $\frac{1}{2}H$. [1]

[The volume V of a cone of vertical height h and base radius r is given by $V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$.]

Suggested Solution:

- (i) Let
- r
- be the radius of the circular surface of water at time
- t

$$\therefore \tan 60^\circ = \frac{r}{h} \Rightarrow r = h \tan 60^\circ \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{3}h$$

volume of water at time t is,

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h \Rightarrow V = \frac{1}{3}\pi(\sqrt{3}h)^2 h \Rightarrow V = \pi h^3$$

$$\text{differentiating w.r.t. } h, \quad \frac{dV}{dh} = 3\pi h^2$$

$$\text{Given that, } \frac{dV}{dt} \propto -\sqrt{h} \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = -k\sqrt{h}$$

$$\text{applying chain rule, } \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dh} \times \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow -k\sqrt{h} = 3\pi h^2 \times \frac{dh}{dt} \Rightarrow \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{-k\sqrt{h}}{3\pi h^2} = -\frac{kh^{\frac{1}{2}-2}}{3\pi} = -\left(\frac{k}{3\pi}\right)h^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\text{let } A = \frac{k}{3\pi}, \quad \therefore \frac{dh}{dt} = -Ah^{-\frac{3}{2}} \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{dh}{dt} = -Ah^{-\frac{3}{2}} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{h^{-\frac{3}{2}}} dh = -A dt \Rightarrow h^{\frac{3}{2}} dh = -A dt$$

$$\text{integrating both sides, } \int h^{\frac{3}{2}} dh = -A \int dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{h^{\frac{5}{2}}}{\frac{5}{2}} = -At + C \Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} = -At + C \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

given that, at $t=0$, depth $h=H$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}} = -A(0) + C \Rightarrow C = \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

$$\therefore \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} = -At + \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

also, given that, at $t=60$, depth $h=0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}(0)^{\frac{5}{2}} = -A(60) + \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}} \Rightarrow 60A = \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}} \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{150}H^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

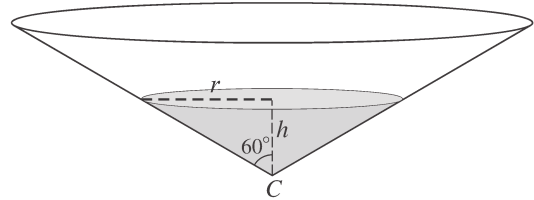
 $\therefore$ equation (1) becomes,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} &= -\frac{1}{150}H^{\frac{5}{2}}t + \frac{2}{5}H^{\frac{5}{2}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} &= H^{\frac{5}{2}}\left(-\frac{t}{150} + \frac{2}{5}\right) \Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} = H^{\frac{5}{2}}\left(\frac{-t+60}{150}\right) \Rightarrow \frac{2}{5}h^{\frac{5}{2}} \times \frac{150}{H^{\frac{5}{2}}} = 60-t \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 60\left(\frac{h}{H}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} = 60-t \Rightarrow t = 60 - 60\left(\frac{h}{H}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \Rightarrow t = 60\left(1 - \left(\frac{h}{H}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}\right)$$

$$(iii) \quad \text{When, } h = \frac{1}{2}H, \quad t = 60\left(1 - \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}H}{H}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}\right) \Rightarrow t = 60\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = 60(1 - 0.17678) = 49.39 \approx 49.4 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$



Question 10

The population of a country at time t years is N millions. At any time, N is assumed to increase at a rate proportional to the product of N and $(1 - 0.01N)$. When

$$t = 0, N = 20 \text{ and } \frac{dN}{dt} = 0.32.$$

- (i) Treating N and t as continuous variables, show that they satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = 0.02N(1 - 0.01N). \quad [1]$$

- (ii) Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for t in terms of N . [8]

- (iii) Find the time at which the population will be double its value at $t = 0$. [1]

[J14/P3/Q9]

Suggested Solution:

$$(i) \quad \frac{dN}{dt} \propto N(1 - 0.01N) \Rightarrow \frac{dN}{dt} = kN(1 - 0.01N)$$

$$\text{given that, } N = 20, \quad \frac{dN}{dt} = 0.32$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.32 = k(20)(1 - 0.01(20)) \Rightarrow 0.32 = 16k \Rightarrow k = 0.02$$

$$\therefore \frac{dN}{dt} = 0.02N(1 - 0.01N) \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{dN}{dt} = 0.02N(1 - 0.01N) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{N(1 - 0.01N)} dN = 0.02 dt \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

resolving $\frac{1}{N(1 - 0.01N)}$ into partial fractions, we have,

$$\frac{1}{N(1 - 0.01N)} \equiv \frac{A}{N} + \frac{B}{1 - 0.01N}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \equiv A(1 - 0.01N) + BN$$

$$\text{for } N = 0, \quad 1 = A(1 - 0.01(0)) + B(0) \Rightarrow A = 1$$

$$\text{for } N = \frac{1}{0.01} = 100, \quad 1 = A(1 - 0.01(100)) + B(100) \Rightarrow 1 = 100B \Rightarrow B = 0.01$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{N(1 - 0.01N)} \equiv \frac{1}{N} + \frac{0.01}{1 - 0.01N}$$

$$\text{equation (1) can now be written as, } \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{0.01}{1 - 0.01N} \right) dN = 0.02 dt$$

integrating both sides,

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{0.01}{1 - 0.01N} \right) dN = \int 0.02 dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln N - \ln(1 - 0.01N) = 0.02t + C \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{N}{1 - 0.01N} \right) = 0.02t + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{N}{1 - \frac{1}{100}N} \right) = 0.02t + C \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{100N}{100 - N} \right) = 0.02t + C$$

$$\text{when } t = 0, \quad N = 20, \quad \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{100(20)}{100 - 20} \right) = 0.02(0) + C \Rightarrow C = \ln 25$$

$$\therefore \ln \left(\frac{100N}{100 - N} \right) = 0.02t + \ln 25$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{100N}{100 - N} \right) - \ln 25 = 0.02t \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{100N}{25(100 - N)} \right) = \frac{1}{50}t \Rightarrow t = 50 \ln \left(\frac{4N}{100 - N} \right) \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(iii) \quad t = 50 \ln \left(\frac{4N}{100 - N} \right)$$

$$\text{when } N = 40, \quad t = 50 \ln \left(\frac{4(40)}{100 - 40} \right) = 50 \ln \left(\frac{8}{3} \right) = 49 \text{ years. (Ans).}$$

Question 11

In a certain country the government charges tax on each litre of petrol sold to motorists. The revenue per year is R million dollars when the rate of tax is x dollars per litre. The variation of R with x is modelled by the differential equation

$$\frac{dR}{dx} = R \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right),$$

where R and x are taken to be continuous variables. When $x = 0.5$, $R = 16.8$.

- (i) Solve the differential equation and obtain an expression for R in terms of x .

[6]

- (ii) This model predicts that R cannot exceed a certain amount. Find this maximum value of R .

[3]

[N14/P3/Q7]

Suggested Solution:

$$(i) \quad \frac{dR}{dx} = R \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{R} dR = \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right) dx$$

integrating both sides

$$\int \frac{1}{R} dR = \int \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln R = \ln x - 0.57x + C \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

given that, $x = 0.5$ when $R = 16.8$

$$\Rightarrow \ln 16.8 = \ln 0.5 - 0.57(0.5) + C \Rightarrow C = \ln 16.8 - \ln 0.5 + 0.285 \Rightarrow C = 3.8$$

$\therefore$ equation (1) becomes,

$$\ln R = \ln x - 0.57x + 3.8$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln R - \ln x = 3.8 - 0.57x$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \frac{R}{x} = 3.8 - 0.57x \Rightarrow \frac{R}{x} = e^{(3.8 - 0.57x)} \Rightarrow R = x e^{(3.8 - 0.57x)} \quad \text{(Ans).}$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{dR}{dx} = R \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right)$$

When R is maximum, $\frac{dR}{dx} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow R \left(\frac{1}{x} - 0.57 \right) = 0$$

$$\text{since } R \neq 0, \quad \therefore \frac{1}{x} - 0.57 = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = 0.57 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{0.57} = 1.7544$$

from part (i), $R = x e^{(3.8 - 0.57x)}$

$$\text{when } x = 1.7544, \quad R = 1.7544 e^{3.8 - 0.57(1.7544)} \Rightarrow R = 1.7544 e^{2.8} = 28.8505$$

$\therefore$ maximum value of $R = 28.8505 \approx 28.9$ million dollars. (Ans).

Question 27

The variables x and θ satisfy the differential equation

$$x \sin^2 \theta \frac{dx}{d\theta} = \tan^2 \theta - 2 \cot \theta,$$

for $0 < \theta < \frac{1}{2}\pi$ and $x > 0$. It is given that $x = 2$ when $\theta = \frac{1}{4}\pi$.

(a) Show that $\frac{d}{d\theta}(\cot^2 \theta) = -\frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$.

(You may assume without proof that the derivative of $\cot \theta$ with respect to θ is $-\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta$.) [1]

(b) Solve the differential equation and find the value of x when $\theta = \frac{1}{6}\pi$. [7]

[N22/P3/Q7]

Suggested Solution:

(a) $\frac{d}{d\theta}(\cot^2 \theta) = 2 \cot \theta \times (-\operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta)$
 $= -2 \cot \theta \operatorname{cosec}^2 \theta = -\frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta}$ (Shown).

(b) $x \sin^2 \theta \frac{dx}{d\theta} = \tan^2 \theta - 2 \cot \theta$
 $\Rightarrow x \, dx = \frac{\tan^2 \theta - 2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \, d\theta$
 $\Rightarrow x \, dx = \left(\frac{\tan^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) d\theta$
 $\Rightarrow x \, dx = \left(\frac{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta}}{\sin^2 \theta} - \frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) d\theta$
 $\Rightarrow x \, dx = \left(\frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta} - \frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) d\theta$
 $\Rightarrow x \, dx = \left(\sec^2 \theta - \frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) d\theta$

Integrating both sides,

$$\int x \, dx = \int \left[\sec^2 \theta + \left(-\frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \right) \right] d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^2}{2} = \tan \theta + \cot^2 \theta + C \quad \left(\text{Using the result of (a), } \int -\frac{2 \cot \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \cot^2 \theta \right)$$

Given that $x = 2$, when $\theta = \frac{\pi}{4}$,

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2^2}{2} = \tan \frac{\pi}{4} + \cot^2 \frac{\pi}{4} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 = 1 + \frac{1}{\tan^2 \frac{\pi}{4}} + C \Rightarrow 2 = 1 + \frac{1}{1^2} + C \Rightarrow 2 = 2 + C \Rightarrow C = 0$$

∴ The equation becomes, $\frac{1}{2}x^2 = \tan \theta + \cot^2 \theta$

When $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x^2 = \tan \frac{\pi}{6} + \cot^2 \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x^2 = \tan \frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{1}{\tan^2 \frac{\pi}{6}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} + 6 \Rightarrow x^2 = 7.1547 \Rightarrow x = 2.6748 \approx 2.67 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 28

(a) The variables x and y satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4+9y^2}{e^{2x+1}}.$$

It is given that $y = 0$ when $x = 1$.

Solve the differential equation, obtaining an expression for y in terms of x .
[7]

(b) State what happens to the value of y as x tends to infinity. Give your answer in an exact form.
[1]

[J23/P3/Q8]

Suggested Solution:

(a) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4+9y^2}{e^{2x+1}}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{4+9y^2} dy = \frac{1}{e^{2x+1}} dx \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4+9y^2} dy = e^{-2x-1} dx$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\int \frac{1}{4+9y^2} dy = \int e^{-2x-1} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{9\left(\frac{4}{9} + y^2\right)} dy = \int e^{-2x-1} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + y^2} dy = \int e^{-2x-1} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{1}{\frac{2}{3}} \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{\frac{2}{3}} \right) = \frac{e^{-2x-1}}{-2} + K$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{3}{2} \tan^{-1} \frac{3y}{2} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x-1} + K \Rightarrow \frac{1}{6} \tan^{-1} \frac{3y}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x-1} + K$$

Note:

$$\int \frac{1}{a^2 + x^2} dx = \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a} + K$$

When $x = 1$, $y = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{6} \tan^{-1} \frac{3(0)}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2(1)-1} + K \Rightarrow 0 = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-3} + K \Rightarrow K = \frac{1}{2} e^{-3}$$

∴ The equation becomes,

$$\frac{1}{6} \tan^{-1} \frac{3y}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x-1} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1} \frac{3y}{2} = 6 \left(-\frac{1}{2} e^{-2x-1} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-3} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1} \frac{3y}{2} = -3e^{-2x-1} + 3e^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3y}{2} = \tan \left(-3e^{-2x-1} + 3e^{-3} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{2}{3} \tan \left(-3e^{-2x-1} + 3e^{-3} \right) \Rightarrow y = \frac{2}{3} \tan \left(\frac{3}{e^3} - \frac{3}{e^{2x+1}} \right) \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(b) \quad y = \frac{2}{3} \tan \left(\frac{3}{e^3} - \frac{3}{e^{2x+1}} \right)$$

$$\text{As } x \rightarrow \infty, \quad \frac{3}{e^{2x+1}} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y \rightarrow \frac{2}{3} \tan \left(\frac{3}{e^3} \right)$$

$$\therefore \text{As } x \text{ tends to infinity, } y \text{ approaches to, } \frac{2}{3} \tan \left(\frac{3}{e^3} \right) \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Question 29

The variables x and y satisfy the differential equation

$$x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 + y = 0.$$

It is given that $x = 1$ when $y = 1$.

(a) Solve the differential equation to obtain an expression for y in terms of x .
[8]

(b) State what happens to the value of y when x tends to infinity. Give your answer in an exact form.
[1]

[N23/P3/Q11]

Suggested Solution:

$$(a) \quad x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 + y = 0$$

Separating the variables,

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y(y+1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -y(y+1) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y(y+1)} dy = -\frac{1}{x^2} dx \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

learning CORNER

Expressing $\frac{1}{y(y+1)}$ in partial fractions, we have,

$$\frac{1}{y(y+1)} \equiv \frac{A}{y} + \frac{B}{y+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \equiv A(y+1) + By$$

$$\text{for } y=0, \quad 1 = A(0+1) + B(0) \Rightarrow A=1$$

$$\text{for } y=-1, \quad 1 = A(-1+1) + B(-1) \Rightarrow B=-1$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{y(y+1)} = \frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{y+1}$$

$$\text{Equation (1) can now be written as, } \left(\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{y+1} \right) dy = -\frac{1}{x^2} dx$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{y+1} \right) dy = -\int x^{-2} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y - \ln(y+1) = -\left(\frac{x^{-1}}{-1} \right) + C \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{y}{y+1} \right) = \frac{1}{x} + C \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

Given that, $x=1$ when $y=1$,

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{1}{1+1} \right) = \frac{1}{1} + C \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = 1 + C \Rightarrow C = \ln 1 - \ln 2 - 1 \Rightarrow C = -\ln 2 - 1$$

$$\therefore \text{Equation (2) becomes, } \ln \left(\frac{y}{y+1} \right) = \frac{1}{x} - \ln 2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{y}{y+1} \right) + \ln 2 = \frac{1}{x} - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{2y}{y+1} \right) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2y}{y+1} = e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2y = e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} (y+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2y = y e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} + e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2y - y e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} = e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} \Rightarrow y \left(2 - e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} \right) = e^{\frac{1}{x}-1} \Rightarrow y = \frac{e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}}{2 - e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(b) \quad y = \frac{e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}}{2 - e^{\frac{1}{x}-1}}. \quad \text{When } x \rightarrow \infty, \text{ then, } \frac{1}{x} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y \rightarrow \frac{e^{0-1}}{2 - e^{0-1}} = \frac{e^{-1}}{2 - e^{-1}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{e}}{2 - \frac{1}{e}} = \frac{\frac{1}{e}}{\frac{2e-1}{e}} = \frac{1}{e} \times \frac{e}{2e-1} = \frac{1}{2e-1}$$

$$\therefore \text{When } x \text{ tends to infinity, } y \text{ approaches to, } \frac{1}{2e-1} \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

Remember:

- $\ln(a \times b) = \ln a + \ln b$
- $\ln\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \ln a - \ln b$
- $\ln(a^b) = b \ln a$
- $\ln e = 1$
- $\ln 1 = 0$

Question 30

(a) By writing $y = \sec^3 \theta$ as $\frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta}$, show that $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = 3 \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta$. [2]

(b) The variables x and θ satisfy the differential equation

$$(x^2 + 9) \sin \theta \frac{d\theta}{dx} = (x + 3) \cos^4 \theta.$$

It is given that $x = 3$ when $\theta = \frac{1}{3}\pi$.

Solve the differential equation to find the value of $\cos \theta$ when $x = 0$. Give your answer correct to 3 significant figures. [8]

[J24/P3/Q10]

Suggested Solution:

(a) $y = \sec^3 \theta$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta} \Rightarrow y = (\cos \theta)^{-3}$$

Differentiating w.r.t. θ ,

$$\frac{d}{d\theta}(y) = \frac{d}{d\theta}(\cos \theta)^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = -3(\cos \theta)^{-4} \times \frac{d}{d\theta}(\cos \theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = -\frac{3}{\cos^4 \theta} \times (-\sin \theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = \frac{3 \sin \theta}{\cos^4 \theta} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{d\theta} = 3 \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

(b) $(x^2 + 9) \sin \theta \frac{d\theta}{dx} = (x + 3) \cos^4 \theta$

Separating the variables, we have,

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos^4 \theta} d\theta = \frac{x+3}{x^2+9} dx \Rightarrow \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta = \frac{x+3}{x^2+9} dx$$

Integrating both sides

$$\int \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta = \int \frac{x+3}{x^2+9} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta = \int \frac{x}{x^2+9} dx + \int \frac{3}{x^2+9} dx$$

From part (a), we see that, $\frac{d}{d\theta}(\sec^3 \theta) = 3 \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta$

$$\therefore \int 3 \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta = \sec^3 \theta + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \sin \theta \sec^4 \theta d\theta = \frac{1}{3} \sec^3 \theta + C$$

learning CORNER

Using this result, we have,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta &= \int \frac{x}{x^2+9} dx + \int \frac{3}{x^2+9} dx \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{2x}{x^2+9} dx + 3 \int \frac{1}{x^2+3^2} dx \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+9) + 3 \left(\frac{1}{3} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{3} \right) + K \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+9) + \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{3} + K \dots\dots\dots (1)\end{aligned}$$

Given that, $x=3$, when $\theta = \frac{\pi}{3}$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\sec \frac{\pi}{3} \right)^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(3^2+9) + \tan^{-1} \frac{3}{3} + K \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{\cos \frac{\pi}{3}} \right)^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) + \tan^{-1}(1) + K \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) + \frac{\pi}{4} + K \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}(2)^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) + \frac{\pi}{4} + K \Rightarrow K = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) - \frac{\pi}{4}\end{aligned}$$

∴ the equation becomes

$$\frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+9) + \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{3} + \frac{8}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) - \frac{\pi}{4}$$

When $x=0$,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{3}\sec^3 \theta &= \frac{1}{2} \ln(0^2+9) + \tan^{-1} \frac{0}{3} + \frac{8}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) - \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta} \right) &= \frac{1}{2} \ln 9 + \frac{8}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \ln(18) - \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta} \right) &= 1.0986 + 2.6667 - 1.4452 - 0.7854 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta} &= 3(1.5347) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\cos^3 \theta} &= 4.6041 \\ \Rightarrow \cos^3 \theta &= \frac{1}{4.6041} \\ \Rightarrow \cos \theta &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{4.6041}} \Rightarrow \cos \theta = 0.601 \quad (\text{Ans}).\end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$\int \frac{1}{a^2+x^2} dx = \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a} + K$$

Question 31

A balloon in the shape of a sphere has volume V and radius r . Air is pumped into the balloon at a constant rate of 40π starting when time $t = 0$ and $r = 0$. At the same time, air begins to flow out of the balloon at a rate of $0.8\pi r$. The balloon remains a sphere at all times.

- (a) Show that r and t satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{50-r}{5r^2}. \quad [3]$$

- (b) Find the quotient and remainder when $5r^2$ is divided by $50-r$. [3]

- (c) Solve the differential equation in part (a), obtaining an expression for t in terms of r . [6]

- (d) Find the value of t when the radius of the balloon is 12. [1]

[N24/P3/Q10]

Suggested Solution:

- (a) Given that, rate of inflow of air, $\frac{dV}{dt} = 40\pi$

$$\text{rate of outflow of air, } \frac{dV}{dt} = -0.8\pi r$$

$$\therefore \frac{dV}{dt} = 40\pi - 0.8\pi r$$

$$\text{Volume of sphere, } V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\text{Differentiating w.r.t. } r, \quad \frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{4}{3}\pi(3r^2) \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dr} = 4\pi r^2$$

$$\text{Applying chain rule, } \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{dV} \times \frac{dV}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \times (40\pi - 0.8\pi r)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \times \left(40\pi - \frac{4}{5}\pi r\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \times 4\pi \left(10 - \frac{r}{5}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{r^2} \times \left(\frac{50-r}{5}\right) \Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{50-r}{5r^2} \quad (\text{Shown}).$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{(b)} \quad 50-r \overline{) \begin{array}{r} -5r-250 \\ 5r^2 \\ \hline 5r^2-250r \\ \hline 250r \\ 250r-12500 \\ \hline 12500 \end{array}} \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \text{Quotient} = -5r - 250, \quad \text{Remainder} = 12500 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(c) \quad \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{50-r}{5r^2} \Rightarrow \frac{5r^2}{50-r} dr = dt$$

Using the result of part (b),

$$\Rightarrow \left(-5r - 250 + \frac{12500}{50-r} \right) dr = dt$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\Rightarrow \int \left(-5r - 250 + \frac{12500}{50-r} \right) dr = \int 1 dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \left(-5r - 250 - 12500 \left(\frac{-1}{50-r} \right) \right) dr = \int 1 dt$$

$$\Rightarrow -5 \left(\frac{r^2}{2} \right) - 250r - 12500 \ln(50-r) = t + C$$

Given that, when $t = 0$, $r = 0$,

$$\Rightarrow -5 \left(\frac{0^2}{2} \right) - 250(0) - 12500 \ln(50-0) = 0 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 - 0 - 12500 \ln 50 = C \Rightarrow C = -12500 \ln 50$$

∴ The equation becomes,

$$-\frac{5}{2}r^2 - 250r - 12500 \ln(50-r) = t - 12500 \ln 50$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{5}{2}r^2 - 250r - 12500 \ln(50-r) + 12500 \ln 50 = t$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -\frac{5}{2}r^2 - 250r + 12500 \left(\ln 50 - \ln(50-r) \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -\frac{5}{2}r^2 - 250r + 12500 \ln \left(\frac{50}{50-r} \right) \quad (\text{Ans}).$$

$$(d) \quad \text{From part (c), } t = -\frac{5}{2}r^2 - 250r + 12500 \ln \left(\frac{50}{50-r} \right)$$

when, $r = 12$,

$$t = -\frac{5}{2}(12)^2 - 250(12) + 12500 \ln \left(\frac{50}{50-12} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -360 - 3000 + 12500 \ln \left(\frac{50}{38} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -3360 + 12500 \ln \left(\frac{25}{19} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -3360 + 3430.46 \Rightarrow t = 70.46 \approx 70.5 \quad (\text{Ans}).$$