

2015 AP® CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

5. Consider the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - kx}$, where k is a nonzero constant. The derivative of f is given by

$$f'(x) = \frac{k - 2x}{(x^2 - kx)^2}.$$

- (a) Let $k = 3$, so that $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 3x}$. Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of f at the point whose x -coordinate is 4.
- (b) Let $k = 4$, so that $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 4x}$. Determine whether f has a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at $x = 2$. Justify your answer.
- (c) Find the value of k for which f has a critical point at $x = -5$.
- (d) Let $k = 6$, so that $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x}$. Find the partial fraction decomposition for the function f .

Find $\int f(x) dx$.

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6. The Maclaurin series for a function f is given by $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^{n-1}}{n} x^n = x - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x^3 - \dots + \frac{(-3)^{n-1}}{n} x^n + \dots$ and converges to $f(x)$ for $|x| < R$, where R is the radius of convergence of the Maclaurin series.
- (a) Use the ratio test to find R .
- (b) Write the first four nonzero terms of the Maclaurin series for f' , the derivative of f . Express f' as a rational function for $|x| < R$.
- (c) Write the first four nonzero terms of the Maclaurin series for e^x . Use the Maclaurin series for e^x to write the third-degree Taylor polynomial for $g(x) = e^x f(x)$ about $x = 0$.
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STOP

END OF EXAM