

STEP MATHEMATICS PAPER 2: 9470: JULY 2004 : HINTS AND ANSWERS

Q1(i) Put the terms with radicals on one side and the terms without on the other and square. Repeat this strategy (S) and the equation  $x^4 - 6x^3 + 9x^2 - 4x = 0(*)$  will be obtained. The roots of  $(*)$  are  $x = 0, 1, 4$ .

Squaring may introduce spurious roots, so these numbers must be checked to see that they are roots of the original equation. In fact, they are.

(ii) Application of S again leads to  $(*)$ . Checking shows that  $x = 0, x = 1$  are roots of the second equation but that  $x = 4$  is not.

(iii) Again application of S leads to  $(*)$ . Checking shows that  $x = 1, x = 4$  are roots of the third equation but that  $x = 0$  is not.

Q2 Write  $Q \equiv x^2 - \alpha|x| + 2 = [|x| - \alpha/2]^2 + 2 - \alpha^2/4$ .

Thus  $\alpha < 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow 2 - \alpha^2/4 > 0 \Rightarrow Q > 0$  for all  $x$ .

It is therefore unnecessary to consider  $x > 0$  and  $x < 0$  separately and even more unnecessary to use calculus methods.

- if  $\alpha = 3$  then  $Q \equiv (|x| - 1)(|x| - 2)$ , in which case the solution set of  $Q < 0$  is

$\{x : -2 < x < -1\} \cup \{x : 1 < x < 2\}$ .

- The solutions in  $x$  of the equation  $Q = 0$  are of the form  $-x_2, -x_1, x_1, x_2$ , where  $0 < x_1 < x_2$ , so that  $S = 2(x_2 - x_1)$ . Use of the identity  $x_2 - x_1 = \sqrt{(x_2 + x_1)^2 - 4x_1x_2}$  will lead immediately to  $S = 2\sqrt{\alpha^2 - 8}$ . Thus  $S < 2\sqrt{\alpha^2} = 2\alpha$ .

- The graph of  $S$  as a function of  $\alpha$  is that part of the hyperbola  $4\alpha^2 - S^2 = 32$  which is in the **first** quadrant. A sketch of this graph should, therefore, leave the other quadrants empty. It should also show the curve starting at the point  $(2\sqrt{2}, 0)$  and asymptotically approaching the line  $S = 2\alpha$ .

Q3 The obtaining of  $dy/dx$  in the form required is a routine exercise in **differentiation** followed by some algebra.

Setting  $dy/dx = 0$  shows that there are stationary points where  $x = -2/3, 1/2, 2$ . Moreover  $d^2y/dx^2 = (x - 2)^3(12x + 1) +$  a term which is necessarily zero when  $x = -2/3, 1/2, 2$ . Thus  $d^2y/dx^2$  is positive when  $x = -2/3$  and negative when  $x = 1/2$ , so that  $C$  has a minimum at  $(-2/3, -8192/729)$  and a maximum at  $(1/2, 243/64)$ . (Note that it is unnecessary to determine a simplified version of  $d^2y/dx^2$  before inserting values of  $x$ .)

The argument  $d^2y/dx^2 = 0$  at  $x = 2 \Rightarrow C$  has a point of **inflexion** at  $(2, 0)$  is false. In fact, in the neighbourhood of this point,  $y \approx 6(x - 2)^4$ , so that it is obvious that  $C$  has a minimum there.

The sketch of  $C$  must have correct overall shape, location and orientation, and also show correct forms at  $(0,0)$ ,  $(2,0)$  and at  $\infty$ .

(i) This sketch may be deduced from that of  $C$ . It has symmetry about the  $x$  - axis and no part of it appears in the region  $-1 < x < 0$ .

(ii) This sketch may also be deduced from that of  $C$ . It has symmetry about the  $y$  - axis and no part of it appears in the region  $y < 0$ .

Q4 It is important to realise at the outset that  $\alpha$  is a constant defined by  $a$  and  $b$  and that  $\beta$  is a constant defined by  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $w$ . Variable angles  $\theta/\phi$  are needed to define the orientation of the rod/table in the general situation.

(i) Clearly, for all  $\theta \in (0, \pi/2)$ , it is necessary that  $f(\theta) \geq L$ , where  $f(\theta) = a \csc \theta + b \sec \theta$ . Setting  $f'(\theta) = 0$  will then lead to the required result.

(ii) Here, for all  $\phi \in (0, \pi/2)$ , it is necessary that  $y \geq l$ , where  $y$  is such that  $b = (y-x) \cos \phi + w \sin \phi$  and  $x$  is such that  $a = x \sin \phi + w \cos \phi$ . (Other formulations are possible.) Elimination of  $x$  leads to  $y = a \csc \phi + b \sec \phi - 2w \csc 2\phi$

Setting  $y'(\phi) = 0$  plus some further working will then produce the required result.

Q5 Using the integration by parts rule it is easy to establish the results  $\int_0^\pi x \sin x dx = \pi$  and  $\int_0^\pi x \cos x dx = -2$ .

- Write  $\sin(x+t) = \sin x \cos t + \sin t \cos x$  and the result  $f(t) = t + A \sin t + B \cos t$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are as defined in the question, follows immediately.

- Hence write  $t + A \sin t + B \cos t = t + \int_0^\pi (x + A \sin x + B \cos x) \sin(x+t) dx$  (\*\*\*) so that as

$$\int_0^\pi x \sin(x+t) dx = \dots = \pi \cos t - 2 \sin t,$$

$$\int_0^\pi \sin x \sin(x+t) dx = \dots = (\pi/2) \cos t,$$

$$\int_0^\pi \cos x \sin(x+t) dx = \dots = (\pi/2) \sin t,$$

then, by considering the coefficients of  $\cos t$  and  $\sin t$  on both sides of (\*\*\*), it follows that

$$A = -2 + (\pi/2)B, \quad B = \pi + (\pi/2)A \Rightarrow A = -2, \quad B = 0.$$

Alternatively, equations for  $A$  and  $B$  can be obtained by putting  $t = 0$  and  $t = \pi/2$  in (\*\*\*)

Q6 From the data it follows that the component of  $\mathbf{b}$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{a}$  is  $3\mathbf{a}$ .

Hence  $\mathbf{p} = 4\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{b} - 3\mathbf{a}$ .

- Again from the data, it follows that  $(\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a})\mathbf{a} = -2\mathbf{a}$  and

$$|\mathbf{q}|^2 = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{b} - 6\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} + 9\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{a} = 25 - 18 + 9 = 16 \Rightarrow |\mathbf{q}| = 4, \text{ so that}$$

$$\left[ (\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{q}) / |\mathbf{q}|^2 \right] \mathbf{q} = (1/2)\mathbf{b} - (3/2)\mathbf{a}.$$

Thus  $\mathbf{P} = 2\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{Q} = -(9/2)\mathbf{a} + (3/2)\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{R} = (7/2)\mathbf{a} - (1/2)\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$ .

Q7 Good sketch graphs of  $y = x$  and  $y = 2 \sin x$ , in the same diagram and over the interval  $[0, \pi]$ , will readily show that the equation  $f(x) = 0$  has exactly one root in the interval  $[\pi/2, \pi]$ .

- $f(3\pi/4) = \sqrt{2} - 3\pi/4$  has the same sign as  $2 - 9\pi^2/16 \approx 2 - 45/8 = -29/8 < 0$ . Hence as  $f(\pi/2) = 2 - \pi/2 > 0$  and  $f(\pi) = -\pi < 0$ , then  $I_1 = [\pi/2, 3\pi/4]$ .

- $x = \sin 5\pi/8 \Rightarrow 2x\sqrt{1-x^2} = \sin 3\pi/4 = 1/\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow 8x^4 - 8x^2 + 1 = 0 (*) \Rightarrow x^2 = 1/2 + 1/(2\sqrt{2}) \approx 0.85$ . (\*\*). The sign of  $f(5\pi/8)$  is the same as that of  $4x^2 - 25\pi^2/64 \approx 17/5 - 125/32 = -81/625 < 0$ . Hence  $I_2 = [\pi/2, 5\pi/8]$ .

- A good approximation to  $x = \sin 9\pi/16$  may also be obtained in a similar way. In fact, it will be found that  $f(9\pi/16) > 0$  so that  $I_3 = [9\pi/16, 5\pi/8]$ .

Q8(i) Integration leads to the general solution  $t = A - \ln(1-x)$  and  $x(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$ . Thus  $x = 1 - e^{-t}$ .

(ii) Obviously,  $(1-x)^{1/2} < (1+x)^{1/2}$  for all  $x \in (0, 1]$ . Hence multiplying this inequality through by  $(1-x)^{1/2}$  leads immediately to the required result.

Arguments which go in the wrong direction, e.g.,  $1-x < (1-x^2)^{1/2} \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow x-x^2 > 0$ , etc., are invalid. It may be possible to salvage them by replacing ' $\Rightarrow$ ' by ' $\Leftarrow$ '.

In the case  $n = 2$ , the substitution  $x = \sin y$  will lead to  $t = y + B$  and hence to  $t = \sin^{-1}(x) + B$  as the general solution. In particular,  $x(0) = 0 \Rightarrow B = 0 \Rightarrow x = \sin t$ .

Note that the question does not allow the use of the standard form  $\int (1-x^2)^{-1/2} dx = \sin^{-1}(x) +$  an arbitrary constant, without proof.

(iii) If  $G_n$  is the graph of  $x$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ , then the given inequality shows that the gradient of  $G_3$  is greater than the gradient of  $G_2$  for each  $x$  in this interval. (The inequality of (ii) shows that the same is true of  $G_2$  in relation to  $G_1$ .) These considerations will help to clarify ideas when drawing sketches of  $G_n$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3$  in the same diagram. In particular, the sketch of  $G_3$  should make it clear that once  $x$  reaches the value 1 it remains there.

Q9 For each of the two given situations, it is essential that a properly annotated diagram consistent with a possible state of equilibrium is supplied.

In the first situation, taking moments about the point of contact of the hemisphere with the floor leads to

$$mgr \cos \alpha = Mg(p \sin \alpha - q \cos \alpha) \Rightarrow \tan \alpha = (Mq + mr)/Mp.$$

A similar argument applied to the second situation leads to

$$mgr \cos \beta = Mg(p \sin \beta + q \cos \beta) \Rightarrow \tan \beta = (mr - Mq)/Mp.$$

It is then easy to see that

$$\tan(\alpha + \beta) = (\tan \alpha + \tan \beta)/(1 - \tan \alpha \tan \beta) = 2mMrp/[M^2(p^2 + q^2) - m^2r^2].$$

If the sense of the rotation is taken into account then  $\beta$  should be changed to  $-\beta$ .

*Q10* If the retardation of the particles when moving up the plane is  $a_1 \text{ ms}^{-2}$ , then  $4g(\sqrt{3}/2)(1/5\sqrt{3}) + 2g = 4a_1 \Rightarrow a_1 = 6$ , so that  $P$  comes to rest after 1 second at  $D$  where  $AD = 3 \text{ m}$ .

If the acceleration of  $P$  down the slope is  $a_2 \text{ ms}^{-2}$ , then  $-4g(\sqrt{3}/2)(1/5\sqrt{3}) + 2g = 4a_2 \Rightarrow a_2 = 4$ .

Hence if  $P$  and  $Q$  meet at time  $\tau$ , then  $3 - 2(\tau - 1)^2 = 6(\tau - T) - 3(\tau - T)^2$

$$\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \tau^2 - (2 + 6T)\tau + 3T^2 + 6T + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \tau = 1 + (3 - \sqrt{6})T.$$

Note that the condition  $T < 1 + \sqrt{3/2}$  ensures that the collision takes place before  $P$  returns to  $A$ .

(ii) A possible solution is first to show that  $T = 1 + \sqrt{2/3} \Rightarrow \tau = 2$ .

Hence as  $v_P(2) = 4 \text{ ms}^{-2}$ ,  $v_Q(2) = 2\sqrt{6} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  then the total KE at  $t = 2$  of  $P$  and  $Q = 80 \text{ J}$ .

Further, gain in PE at  $t = 2$  since start of motion =  $40 \text{ J}$  so that energy lost due to friction =  $144 - 80 - 40 = 24 \text{ J}$ .

Alternatively, and more directly, the work done against friction up to the moment of collision = frictional force opposing motion of  $P$  (or  $Q$ )  $\times 6 \text{ J} = 4 \times 6 = 24 \text{ J}$ .

*Q11* (i) At full engine power, the equation of motion of  $A$  is  $Pv^{1/2} - kv = m(dv/dt)$ .

The result  $\int 1/(Pv^{1/2} - kv) dv = -(2/k) \ln(P - kv^{1/2}) + \text{constant}$ , together with use of the condition  $v(0) = 0$ , followed by some algebra will lead to  $v_A = (P^2/k^2)(1 - e^{-kt/2m})^2$  (\*), where  $v_A$  is the velocity of  $A$  at time  $t$ .

To obtain  $v_B$ , the velocity of  $B$  at time  $t$ , substitute  $2m$  for  $m$  and  $2P$  for  $P$  in (\*). Thus  $v_B = (4P^2/k^2)(1 - e^{-kt/4m})^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad 9v_A &= 4v_B \Rightarrow 9(1 - e^{-kt/2m})^2 = 16(1 - e^{-kt/4m})^2 \Rightarrow 9(1 + e^{-kt/4m})^2 = 16 \\ \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow e^{-kt/4m} &= 1/3 \Rightarrow v_A = 64P^2/81k^2 \text{ and } v_B = 16P^2/9k^2. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) The equation of motion of  $A$  is now  $m(dv_A/dt) = -kv_A$ , where  $t$  is now measured from the instant at which the engine of  $A$  is switched off. Since the velocity of  $A$  at the start of this phase of the motion is  $64P^2/81k^2$ , then subsequently  $v_A = (64P^2/81k^2)e^{-kt/m}$ . By a similar argument the result  $v_B = (16P^2/9k^2)e^{-kt/2m}$  will be obtained. Elimination of  $t$  will then lead to  $k^2v_B^2 = 4P^2v_A$ .

*Q12* This question generates seven separate tasks and so it is especially important to set out responses in an orderly way.

- The sketch is unimodal and falls entirely in the first quadrant of the  $x - y$  plane. In particular,  $y'(0+) > 0$  and  $y$  is asymptotic to  $y = 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

- For  $f(x)$ , the constant  $k$  is determined by  $\int_0^a kxe^{-x^2} dx = 1 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow k = 2a/(1 - e^{-a})$ .

- For the mode, note first that  $f'(x) = k[1 - 2ax^2]e^{-2ax^2}$  which is zero when  $x = \sqrt{1/2a}$ .

As  $a < 1/2 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{1/2a} > 1$  and  $f'(x) > 0$  for any  $x \in [0, 1]$ , then in this case  $m = 1$ .

On the other hand,  $a \geq 1/2 \Rightarrow \sqrt{1/2a} \in [0, 1]$  in which case  $m = \sqrt{1/2a}$ .

- To determine  $h$ , set  $F(h) = 1/2$ , where  $F(x) = \int_0^x f(y) dy$ . This leads to  $k/2a - (k/2a)e^{-ah^2} = 1/2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow h = \sqrt{(1/a) \ln[2/(1 + e^{-a})]}$ .

- $a > -\ln(2e^{-1/2} - 1) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow e^{1/2} < 2/(1 + e^{-a}) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow h > m$ .

- $e > 1 \Rightarrow e^{-1/2} < 1 \Rightarrow 2e^{-1/2} - 1 < e^{-1/2} \Rightarrow \ln(2e^{-1/2} - 1) < -1/2 \Rightarrow -\ln(2e^{-1/2} - 1) > 1/2$ .

- $P(X > m | X < h)P(X < h) = P(X > m \cap X < h) \Rightarrow P(X > m | X < h) = [1/2 - F(1/\sqrt{2a})]/(1/2) = 1 - (k/a)[1 - e^{-1/2}] = \dots = (2e^{-1/2} - e^{-a} - 1)/(1 - e^{-a})$ .

Q13 If  $W_n$  pounds is the gain from draw  $n$ , then  $E(W_{n+1}) = (b-r-n)/(b-n) \times 1 + r/(b-n) \times (-n)$  which is zero if  $n = (b-r)/(r+1) = \xi$ , say.

- $W_{n+1}$  increases as  $n$  increases for  $n < \xi$ , and  $W_{n+1}$  decreases as  $n$  increases for  $n > \xi$ . Hence  $W_n$  maximum when  $n = [\xi] + 1 = n_c$ , say, so that optimal stopping  $n$  is  $n_c$ .

- For  $r = 1$  and  $b$  even,  $n_c = b/2$ , in which case  $P(\text{first } n_c - 1 \text{ draws are all white}) = (b - n_c + 1)/b = 1/2 + 1/b$ .

Thus expected total reward  $= (1/2 - 1/b) \times 0 + (1/2 + 1/b)[(b/2)/((b/2) + 1)] \times n_c = \dots = b/4$  pounds.

- For  $r = 1$  and  $b$  odd,  $n_c = b/2 + 1/2$  so that now  $P(\text{first } n_c - 1 \text{ draws are all white}) = 1/2 + 1/b$ .

Hence expected total reward  $= (1/2 + 1/2b) \times [(b/2 - 1/2)/(b + 1/2)] \times (b + 1)/2 = \dots = (b^2 - 1)/4b$  pounds.

Q14 The introductory result may be explained by means of a diagram. Alternatively, replacing  $B$  by  $B \cup C$  in  $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$  will lead to the displayed result almost immediately.

- $P_r = P(\text{at least one pudding contains no sixpence}) = 3[(2/3)^r - (1/3)^r]$ .

- $P_5 = 31/81 > 1/3$ ,  $P_6 = 7/27 < 1/3 \Rightarrow \min(r) = 6$ .

- With  $r = 6$ , let  $A$  be the event that each pudding contains  $\geq 1$  sixpences and let  $B$  be the event that each pudding contains 2 sixpences. Then,

$$P(A) = 1 - 7/27 = 20/27,$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(B) = \dots = 10/81,$$

$$P(B|A) = (10/81)/(20/27) = 1/6.$$