



MATHEMATICS METHODS Calculator-assumed ATAR course examination 2024 Marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section Two: Calculator-assumed 65% (100 Marks)

Question 8 (11 marks)

(a) Calculate the mass of medication remaining in John's body 10 hours after taking a single tablet. (1 mark)

Solution
Setting
$$t = 10$$
 gives
$$A(10) = 5e^{-0.0173(10)}$$

$$\approx 4.21 \, \text{mg}$$
Specific behaviours}
$$\checkmark \text{ obtains correct mass of medication including units}$$

(b) After how many hours will the mass of medication remaining in John's body have halved? (2 marks)

Setting
$$A = 2.5$$
 gives
$$2.5 = 5e^{-0.0173(t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.5 = e^{-0.0173(t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow t = -\frac{1}{0.0173} \ln(0.5)$$

$$= 40.066$$

$$\approx 40 \text{ hours}$$
Specific behaviours
$$\checkmark \text{ correctly substitutes } A = 2.5 \text{ into the equation}$$

- Correctly substitutes A = 2.3 into the equation
- √ correctly solves for t

√ converts to a rate of decrease

(c) Determine at what rate the mass of medication remaining in John's body is decreasing 24 hours after taking a single tablet. (3 marks)

Solution The derivative of A is $A'(t) = -0.0865 \ e^{-0.0173t}$ When t = 24 $A'(24) = -0.0865 e^{-0.0173(24)}$ $= -0.057 \ \text{mg/hr}$ The mass is decreasing at a rate of 0.057 mg/hr. $\mathbf{Specific\ behaviours}$ $\checkmark \ \text{correctly\ differentiates}\ A$ $\checkmark \ \text{substitutes}\ t = 24 \ \text{to\ obtain\ correct\ rate\ of\ increase}$

(d) How frequently should John take a tablet so that the mass of medication remaining in his body immediately after taking each tablet is 8.85 mg? (2 marks)

Solution

Setting B = 8.85 gives

$$8.85 = \frac{5}{1 - e^{-0.0173T}}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - e^{-0.0173T} = \frac{5}{8.85}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-0.0173T} = \frac{3.85}{8.85}$$

$$\Rightarrow T = -\frac{1}{0.0173} \ln\left(\frac{3.85}{8.85}\right)$$
= 48.112
$$\approx 48 \text{ hours}$$

John should take one tablet every 48 hours.

Specific behaviours

- \checkmark correctly substitutes B = 8.85 into the equation
- \checkmark correctly solves for T
- (e) Use the increments formula to approximate the change in B if the time between taking tablets increased by 30 minutes from the time determined in part (d). (3 marks)

Solution

The derivative of B with respect to T is given by

$$\frac{dB}{dT} = -\frac{0.0865e^{-0.0173T}}{\left(1 - e^{-0.0173T}\right)^2}$$

and when T = 48

$$\frac{dB}{dT}(48) \approx -0.118$$

An increase of 30 minutes corresponds to $\,\delta T=0.5\,$. Using the increments formula gives

$$\delta B \approx -0.118 \times 0.5$$
$$= -0.059 \,\mathrm{mg}$$

- \checkmark correctly differentiates B with respect to T
- \checkmark states that $\delta T = 0.5$
- \checkmark correctly uses the increments formula to estimate the change in B

Question 9 (8 marks)

(a) Calculate a 90% confidence interval for the proportion of heads obtained when the coin is flipped. (2 marks)

Solution

The sample proportion of heads is given by

$$\hat{p} = \frac{30}{50} = 0.6$$

Hence, the 90% confidence interval is

$$0.6 - 1.645\sqrt{\frac{0.6 \times 0.4}{50}} \le p \le 0.6 + 1.645\sqrt{\frac{0.6 \times 0.4}{50}}$$
$$0.4860 \le p \le 0.7140$$

Specific behaviours

- √ correctly calculates sample proportion of heads
- √ correctly calculates confidence interval
- (b) State the distribution for X.

(2 marks)

Solution

 $X \sim Bin(20, 0.9)$

Specific behaviours

- √ states that the distribution is binomial
- √ states correct distribution parameters
- (c) Determine the expected value and variance of X.

(2 marks)

Solution

The expected value of *X* is given by

$$E(X) = 20 \times 0.9$$

$$=18$$

The variance of *X* is given by

$$Var(X) = 20 \times 0.9 \times 0.1$$

$$=1.8$$

Specific behaviours

- √ correctly calculates expected value
- √ correctly calculates variance
- (d) Calculate the probability that the confidence intervals of three students do not contain the true proportion. (2 marks)

Solution

If three confidence intervals did not contain the true proportion, then 17 did contain the true proportion.

$$P(X = 17) = 0.1901$$

- ✓ identifies that they are considering 17 confidence intervals containing the true proportion or defines the distribution for the complementary event
- √ calculates the correct probability

Question 10 (13 marks)

(a) (i) Identify and explain **one** possible source of bias in the proposed sampling procedure. (2 marks)

Solution

Answers could include:

- the sample only includes books from the newest printing press, which may perform differently to the other three presses
- the sample was gathered over a single narrow time period, so books
 printed later in the week are not included (this may involve different
 operators and the performance of the presses might change during their
 use over the week).

Specific behaviours

- √ identifies a source of bias
- ✓ provides a correct explanation for that source
- (ii) Identify **two** changes to the sampling procedure that would reduce bias. (2 marks)

Solution

The sample could be randomly selected:

- from books printed across the entire duration of the print run
- · from all printing presses.

Specific behaviours

- ✓ suggests a change to improve randomisation across the entire print run
- ✓ suggests a second change to improve randomisation across the entire print run
- (b) Use the approximate normality of the distribution of sample proportions to determine the probability that the sample proportion of books with errors is less than 0.04. (2 marks)

Solution

The distribution of \hat{p} can be approximated as

$$\hat{p} \sim N(0.05, 0.0002375)$$

Hence,

$$P(\hat{p} < 0.04) = 0.2582$$

Specific behaviours

- √ calculates the correct distribution parameters (mean and standard deviation/variance)
- √ calculates the correct probability
- (c) Determine a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of books that will have printing errors. (1 mark)

Solution

A 95% confidence interval is given by

95% CI =
$$(0.1-0.024, 0.1+0.024)$$

$$=(0.0760, 0.1240)$$

Specific behaviours

√ correctly calculates confidence interval

Question 10 (continued)

(d) On the basis of the confidence interval determined in part (c), is the proportion of books with printing errors different from what was claimed by the publisher? (2 marks)

Solution

The proportion of books with errors claimed by the publisher was $\frac{10}{200} = 0.05$. This

proportion is not within the confidence interval and so there is sufficient evidence to conclude that the claim of the publisher is incorrect at the 95% confidence level.

Specific behaviours

- ✓ states that the claimed proportion is not within the confidence interval
- ✓ states that there is sufficient evidence at the above confidence level to conclude that the claimed proportion is incorrect
- (e) Suggest **two** changes that could be made in order to decrease the margin of error of the confidence interval. (2 marks)

Solution

The margin of error could be decreased by

- increasing the size of the sample
- decreasing the confidence level.

Specific behaviours

- ✓ states one possible change
- √ states a second possible change
- (f) Determine the minimum sample size that would be necessary to guarantee that the margin of error of the resulting 95% confidence interval was at most 0.02. (2 marks)

Solution

For the worst-case scenario set $\,\hat{p}=0.5\,.$ Solving for a margin of error equal to 0.02 gives

$$0.02 = 1.96\sqrt{\frac{0.5(1-0.5)}{n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 2401$$

A sample size of at least 2401 would ensure the margin of error is at most 0.02.

- \checkmark sets $\hat{p} = 0.5$ and provides a correct expression for the sample size
- ✓ correctly solves for the minimum sample size.

Question 11 (10 marks)

- (a) Given that the width of the 95% confidence interval for p is 0.096
 - (i) determine the 95% confidence interval for p.

(2 marks)

Solution

The margin of error of the 95% confidence interval is

$$E = \frac{0.096}{2} = 0.048$$

The sample proportion is $\hat{p} = 0.7$, and so the confidence interval is

$$\hat{p} - E \le p \le \hat{p} + E$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.7 - 0.048 \le p \le 0.7 + 0.048$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.652 \le p \le 0.748$$

Specific behaviours

- √ correctly determines the margin of error of the confidence interval
- √ correctly states the confidence interval
- (ii) determine the number of people surveyed.

(2 marks)

Solution

For a 95% confidence interval

$$E = 1.96\sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.048 = 1.96\sqrt{\frac{0.7(1-0.7)}{n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 350.14$$

Therefore, there were 350 people surveyed.

Specific behaviours

- \checkmark correctly solves for n
- √ correctly rounds to the nearest integer
- (b) What does the data scientist's confidence interval suggest about the protest group's claim? (2 marks)

Solution

The proportion claimed by the protest group falls within the 95% confidence interval. Hence, the claim cannot be rejected at the 95% confidence level.

- ✓ states that the claimed proportion is within the confidence interval
- √ concludes that the claimed proportion cannot be rejected at the 95% confidence level

Question 11 (continued)

- (c) For each of the following city pairs, identify which had the widest 95% confidence interval. Justify your answer.
 - (i) Brisbane and Sydney

(2 marks)

Solution

Brisbane has the widest confidence interval as it has a smaller sample size (and the same sample proportion).

Specific behaviours

- ✓ states that Brisbane has the widest confidence interval
- ✓ provides correct justification
- (ii) Brisbane and Hobart

(2 marks)

Solution

Brisbane has the widest confidence interval as its sample proportion is closest to 0.5 (and the sample size is the same).

- ✓ states that Brisbane has the widest confidence interval
- ✓ provides correct justification

Question 12 (9 marks)

(a) Determine the exact radius of the log.

√ calculates the exact radius

(b)

(2 marks)

Solution By Pythagoras' theorem $(2r)^2 = 40^2 + 40^2$ = 3200 $\Rightarrow 2r = \sqrt{3200}$ $= 40\sqrt{2}$ $\Rightarrow r = 20\sqrt{2} \text{ cm}$ Or $r^2 = 20^2 + 20^2$ = 800 $\Rightarrow r = \sqrt{800}$ $r = 20\sqrt{2} \text{ cm}$ Specific behaviours

Using the variables defined in the diagram, show that the cross-sectional area, in cm²,

√ writes a correct expression for the radius using Pythagoras' theorem

of a single sideboard is $A(x) = 2x \sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}$. (3 marks)

Solution

Using Pythagoras' theorem to relate
$$x$$
 and y gives
$$r^2 = \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + \left(x + 20\right)^2$$
$$\Rightarrow 800 = \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 + \left(x + 20\right)^2$$
$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2 = 800 - \left(x + 20\right)^2$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{2} = \sqrt{800 - \left(x + 20\right)^2}$$

Hence, the area is given by

$$A = xy$$
$$= 2x\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}$$

 $\Rightarrow y = 2\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}$

- \checkmark uses Pythagoras' theorem to write a correct expression relating x and y
- \checkmark solves expression for y (i.e. expresses y in terms of x)
- \checkmark combines expression for y with A = xy to obtain required result

Question 12 (continued)

(c) Use calculus techniques to determine the dimensions x and y that maximise the cross-sectional area of one sideboard. (4 marks)

Solution

The derivative of A is

$$A'(x) = 2\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2} - \frac{x(40 + 2x)}{\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}}$$
$$= -\frac{4x^2 + 120x - 800}{\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}}$$

Solving A'(x) = 0 gives

$$0 = -\frac{4x^2 + 120x - 800}{\sqrt{400 - 40x - x^2}}$$
$$0 = 4x^2 + 120x - 800$$
$$x = -15 \pm 5\sqrt{17}$$
$$\approx 5.6155, -35.6155$$

Hence, x = 5.6155 cm as the lengths cannot be negative.

Since A''(5.6155) = -13.75 < 0 it follows that x = 5.6155 is a local maximum.

The corresponding value of y is given by

$$y = 2\sqrt{400 - 40(5.6155) - 5.6155^2}$$

= 23.9872 cm

- \checkmark states correct derivative of A
- ✓ solves A'(x) = 0 to obtain x = 5.62 cm
- \checkmark verifies that x = 5.62 is a local maximum using either the second derivative test or sign test
- \checkmark calculates the correct value for γ

Question 13 (12 marks)

(a) Determine the standard deviation of X.

(2 marks)

Solution

From CAS

$$P(Z > 0.6666) = 0.2525$$

Hence,

$$0.6666 = \frac{400 - 350}{\sigma}$$
$$\Rightarrow \sigma = 75 \text{ km}$$

Specific behaviours

- √ calculates correct z-value
- √ correctly calculates the standard deviation
- (b) Calculate the probability that on any given day she will be able to drive to Albany without recharging the vehicle. (1 mark)

Solution

Given that $X \sim N(350,75^2)$ it follows that

$$P(X > 420) = 0.1753$$

Specific behaviours

√ correctly calculates the probability

(c) Determine the expected value and variance of *Y*.

(3 marks)

Solution

Given that $Y = \frac{1}{1.6}X$ it follows that

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{1.6}E(X)$$
=\frac{350}{1.6}
= 218.75 \text{ miles}

and

$$Var(Y) = \frac{1}{1.6^2} Var(X)$$
$$= \frac{75^2}{1.6^2}$$
$$\approx 2197 \text{ miles}^2$$

- \checkmark determines correct relationship between X and Y
- \checkmark calculates the correct expected value for Y
- \checkmark calculates the correct variance for Y

Question 13 (continued)

(d) On the basis of the histogram, is it appropriate to use a normal distribution to model the distance a Spruky Cars vehicle will travel between recharges? Justify your answer.

(2 marks)

Solution

No. The graph is skewed/not symmetrical.

Specific behaviours

- ✓ concludes that the normal distribution is not an appropriate model
- ✓ provides appropriate justification
- (e) Assuming the distances are uniformly distributed within each interval, use the histogram to estimate the expected distance that a Spruky Cars vehicle will be able to travel before needing to recharge. (2 marks)

Solution

Using the interval mid-points the expected distance can be estimated as follows

$$E(W) = 270 \times \frac{4}{200} + 290 \times \frac{8}{200} + 310 \times \frac{10}{200} + 330 \times \frac{12}{200} + 350 \times \frac{18}{200} + 370 \times \frac{40}{200} + 390 \times \frac{54}{200} + 410 \times \frac{34}{200} + 430 \times \frac{20}{200}$$

$$= 375.8 \text{ km}$$

Specific behaviours

- √ correctly converts frequencies to probabilities
- √ correctly calculates expected value
- (f) In which company's vehicle (Zaprer or Spruky) would Brianna be more likely to drive to Albany without recharging? Justify your answer. (2 marks)

Solution

The vehicle needs to travel 420 km in order to arrive in Albany from Brianna's house. Given that P(X > 420) = 0.1753 is greater than P(W > 420) = 0.1, Brianna would be most likely to drive to Albany without recharging using a Zaprer vehicle.

- ✓ determines that Zaprer vehicle is most likely
- √ correct mathematical justification provided

Question 14 (14 marks)

- (a) Using the experimental data above, estimate the probability of
 - (i) winning in exactly two rolls.

(1 mark)

Solution $P(X=2) = \frac{113}{500}$

$$=0.226$$

Specific behaviours

- √ calculates correct probability
- (ii) not winning in two or less rolls.

(2 marks)

Solution

Probability of winning in two or less rolls is

$$P(X \le 2) = \frac{66 + 113}{500}$$

$$=0.358$$

So, the probability of not winning in 2 or less rolls is

$$P(X > 2) = 1 - P(X \le 2)$$

= 1 - 0.358
= 0.642

Specific behaviours

- ✓ correctly calculates $P(X \le 2)$
- ✓ correctly calculates P(X > 2)
- (b) State **two** reasons why the game cannot be modelled using a binomial distribution. (2 marks)

Solution

Answers could include:

- the number of rolls/trials is not fixed. Rolls will continue until the winning condition is reached
- the probability of success (achieving at least two winning dice) is not fixed (i.e. if a single winning dice is removed)
- trials/rolls are not independent as the number of dice in a roll depends on the outcome of previous rolls.

- ✓ one valid reason is provided
- √ a second valid reason is provided

Question 14 (continued)

(c) Using the data above, complete the probability distribution table for Y. (3 marks)

Solution			
Y	-1	0	1
$\mathbf{P}\left(Y=y\right)$	1 - 0.349 - 0.208 = 0.443	0.208	0.134 + 0.215 = 0.349

Specific behaviours

- ✓ correctly lists possible values for *Y* (first row of table)
- √ correctly determines one probability
- √ correctly determines remaining two probabilities
- (d) Calculate the

(i) expected value of Y.

(2 marks)

Solution
$$E(Y) = 1 \times 0.349 + 0 \times 0.208 - 1 \times 0.443$$
$$= -\$0.094$$
Specific behaviours
$$\checkmark \text{ states correct expression for the expected value}$$
$$\checkmark \text{ correctly calculates the expected value}$$

(ii) variance of Y. (2 marks)

Solution
$$Var(Y) = (1 - (-0.094))^{2} \times 0.349 + (0 - (-0.094))^{2} \times 0.208$$

$$+ (-1 - (-0.094))^{2} \times 0.443$$

$$= \$^{2}0.783$$
Specific behaviours

- ✓ states correct expression for the variance
- √ correctly calculates the variance
- (e) In the long run, do you expect that the game will be profitable for the charity? Justify your answer. (2 marks)

Solution

Yes. The expected profit to the player is -\$0.094, so the expected profit to the charity is \$0.094.

- ✓ states that it is expected to be profitable
- ✓ provides a correct justification with reference to the answer from part (d)(i)

Question 15 (9 marks)

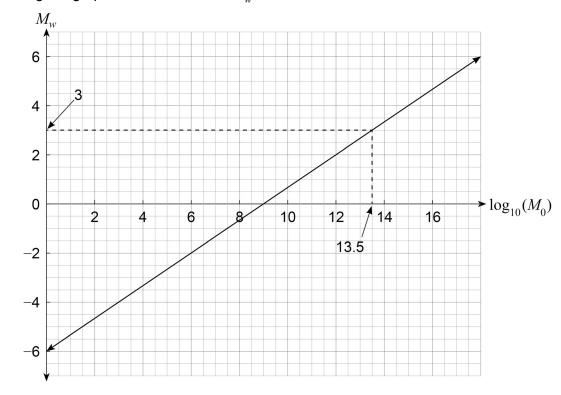
(a) Use the graph to approximate the moment magnitude $M_{\scriptscriptstyle W}$ of an earthquake with a seismic moment of $3.16\times10^{13}\,\mathrm{Nm}$. You must show clearly how you have used the graph. (2 marks)

Solution

Firstly, note that $M_0 = 3.16 \times 10^{13}$ then

$$\log_{10}(M_0) = \log_{10}(3.16 \times 10^{13}) = 13.5$$

Using the graph as shown below, $M_w = 3$.



Specific behaviours

- ✓ correctly calculates the value of $log_{10} (3.16 \times 10^{13})$
- ✓ clearly demonstrates the use of the graph to approximate the moment magnitude
- (b) The relationship between M_w and M_0 can be expressed in the form

$$M_w = a \log_{10} \left(M_0 \right) + b .$$

Determine the values of a and b.

(2 marks)

Solution

The vertical intercept of the graph is b = -6.

The gradient is

$$a = \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$$

- \checkmark correctly determines the value of b
- √ clearly calculates the value of a

Question 15 (continued)

(c) Hence, or otherwise, express the relationship between $\,M_{\scriptscriptstyle W}\,$ and $M_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}\,$ in the form

$$M_w = a \log_{10} \left(\frac{M_0}{c} \right). \tag{3 marks}$$

From part (b) $M_{w} = \frac{2}{3} \log_{10} \left(M_{0} \right) - 6$ $= \frac{2}{3} \left(\log_{10} \left(M_{0} \right) - 9 \right)$ $= \frac{2}{3} \left(\log_{10} \left(M_{0} \right) - \log_{10} \left(10^{9} \right) \right)$ $= \frac{2}{3} \log_{10} \left(\frac{M_{0}}{10^{9}} \right)$

Specific behaviours

- \checkmark factors out $\frac{2}{3}$ in the expression from part (b)
- \checkmark expresses 9 in the form $\log_{10}(10^9)$
- ✓ applies logarithm law to obtain the correct expression
- (d) Determine the seismic moment, $M_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}$, of an earthquake with moment magnitude $M_{\scriptscriptstyle W}=4$. (2 marks)

$$\begin{aligned} & \textbf{Solution} \\ & 4 = \frac{2}{3} \log_{10} \left(\frac{M_0}{10^9} \right) \\ & \Rightarrow 6 = \log_{10} \left(\frac{M_0}{10^9} \right) \\ & \Rightarrow 10^6 = \frac{M_0}{10^9} \\ & \Rightarrow M_0 = 10^{15} \text{ Nm} \end{aligned}$$

Or

$$4 = \frac{2}{3} \log_{10} (M_0) - 6$$
$$\Rightarrow 15 = \log_{10} (M_0)$$
$$\Rightarrow M_0 = 10^{15} \text{ Nm}$$

Or could obtain answer from graph.

- \checkmark substitutes M_w = 4 into the equation from part (b) or (c), or uses the graph to determine $\log_{10}\left(M_{_0}\right)$ = 15
- √ correctly solves for the seismic moment

Question 16 (8 marks)

Calculate the volume V of shampoo in the bottle, if it is partially filled to a height of 10 cm. (a) (4 marks)

Solution

The shampoo level meets the edge of the bottle when

$$10 = 20 - \frac{4}{5}x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Hence, the volume of shampoo is given by

$$V = 4 \left(\frac{10}{\sqrt{2}} \times 10 + 2 \int_{\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}}^{5} 20 - \frac{4}{5} x^2 dx \right)$$

$$= \frac{400}{\sqrt{2}} + 8 \left[20x - \frac{4}{15} x^3 \right]_{\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}}^{5}$$

$$= \frac{400}{\sqrt{2}} + 8 \left(\frac{200}{3} - \frac{250}{3\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1600}{3} - \frac{800}{3\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1600 - 400\sqrt{2}}{3} \text{ cm}^3 \left(\approx 344.77 \text{ cm}^3 \right)$$

Or

$$V = 4 \left(\int_{-5}^{5} 20 - \frac{4}{5} x^2 dx - \int_{-\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}}^{\frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}} 20 - \frac{4}{5} x^2 - 10 dx \right)$$

$$= 4 \left(\frac{400}{3} - \frac{100\sqrt{2}}{3} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1600 - 400\sqrt{2}}{3} \text{ cm}^3$$
Specific behaviours

- ✓ correctly calculates value/s of x where shampoo level meets the edge of the bottle
- √ states a correct expression for the cross-sectional area
- ✓ multiplies by the width to obtain a volume expression
- √ correctly evaluates the volume

Question 16 (continued)

(b) Determine the shampoo level h.

(4 marks)

Solution

The shampoo level meets the edge of the bottle when

$$h = \frac{4}{5}x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{5h}}{2}$$

Using the volume calculated in part (a) it follows that

$$\frac{1600 - 400\sqrt{2}}{3} = 4 \left(2 \int_{0}^{\frac{\sqrt{5h}}{2}} h - \frac{4}{5} x^{2} dx \right)$$

$$= 8 \left[hx - \frac{4}{15} x^{3} \right]_{0}^{\frac{\sqrt{5h}}{2}}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{5}h^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{4\sqrt{5}}{3}h^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{8\sqrt{5}}{3}h^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow h^{\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{1600 - 400\sqrt{2}}{8\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow h = \left(\frac{1600 - 400\sqrt{2}}{8\sqrt{5}} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= \left(40\sqrt{5} - 10\sqrt{10} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \text{ cm } (\approx 14.95 \text{ cm})$$

- \checkmark correctly determines an expression for x in terms of h where the shampoo level meets the edge of the bottle
- ✓ states a correct expression relating the shampoo volume/cross-sectional area to *h*
- √ correctly evaluates the volume integral
- ✓ correctly solves for *h*

Question 17 (6 marks)

(a) Determine the parameters b and c, given that the speed cuber already knows 21 of the ZBLL algorithms (at t=0) and learnt an additional 32 algorithms by the end of the first week. (3 marks)

Solution

We are told that A(0) = 21, and A(1) = 21 + 32 = 53. Hence,

$$21 = b \log_4(1) + c$$

$$53 = b \log_4(2) + c$$

From the first equation c = 21. Substituting into the second equation yields

$$53 = b \log_4(2) + 21$$

$$\Rightarrow b = 64$$

Specific behaviours

- \checkmark determines that A(1) = 53
- \checkmark correctly solves for c
- \checkmark correctly solves for b
- (b) Determine how many of the ZBLL algorithms the speed cuber will have learnt after 26 weeks. (1 mark)

Solution

$$A(26) = 64 \log_4(27) + 21$$

$$=173.16$$

The speed cuber will know 173 algorithms after 26 weeks.

Specific behaviours

- √ correctly determines the number of algorithms, rounding down to the nearest integer
- (c) Based on the assumed model, will the speed cuber learn the entire ZBLL algorithm set within their lifetime? Justify your answer. (2 marks)

Solution

The time to learn the entire set is given by

$$493 = 64 \log_4(t+1) + 21$$

$$t = 27553$$
 weeks

This equates to approximately 528 years, which is far longer than a human lifetime. Hence, the speed cuber will not learn the entire algorithm set.

- ✓ correctly determines the number of weeks to learn the full algorithm set
- ✓ concludes, with justification, that the speed cuber will not learn the full set

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