

A curve has equation $y = f(x)$ and is such that $f'(x) = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 10$.

- (i) By using the substitution $u = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, or otherwise, find the values of x for which the curve $y = f(x)$ has stationary points. [4]
- (ii) Find $f''(x)$ and hence, or otherwise, determine the nature of each stationary point. [3]
- (iii) It is given that the curve $y = f(x)$ passes through the point $(4, -7)$. Find $f(x)$. [4]

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Question 9(i) - Worked Solution

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A curve has equation $y = f(x)$ and is such that $f'(x) = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 10$.

(i) By using the substitution $u = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, or otherwise, find the values of x for which the curve $y = f(x)$ has stationary points. [4]

At stationary points

$\therefore f'(x) = 0$, let $u = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$\therefore 3u + \frac{3}{u} - 10 = 0$

$\therefore 3u^2 - 10u + 3 = 0$

$\therefore (3u - 1)(u - 3) = 0$

$\therefore 3u - 1 = 0$ or $u - 3 = 0$

$\therefore u = \frac{1}{3}$ or $u = 3$

$\therefore x^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$ or $x^{\frac{1}{2}} = 3$

$\therefore x = \frac{1}{9}$ or $x = 9$

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Question 9(ii) - Worked Solution

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Nature of Stationary Points : P1 CIE June 2013 Q9(ii) : ExamSolutions Maths Revision

A curve has equation $y = f(x)$ and is such that $f'(x) = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 10$.

(i) By using the substitution $u = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, or otherwise, find the values of x for which the curve $y = f(x)$ has stationary points. [4] $x = \frac{1}{9}, x = 9$

(ii) Find $f''(x)$ and hence, or otherwise, determine the nature of each stationary point. [3]

(ii) $f''(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{3}{2}x^{-\frac{3}{2}}$

$$= \frac{3}{2x^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{3}{2x^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

When $x = \frac{1}{9}$

$$\therefore f''\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) = \frac{3}{2\left(\frac{1}{9}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{3}{2\left(\frac{1}{9}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{9}{2} - \frac{81}{2} = -36 < 0$$

\therefore maximum at $x = \frac{1}{9}$

when $x = 9$


$$\therefore f''(9) = \frac{3}{2(9)^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{3}{2(9)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{18}$$

$$= \frac{4}{9} > 0$$

\therefore minimum at $x = 9$

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Question 9(iii) - Worked Solution

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Equation of a Curve given $f'(x)$: P1 CIE June 2013 Q9(iii) : ExamSolutions Maths Revision

A curve has equation $y = f(x)$ and is such that $f'(x) = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 10$.

(iii) It is given that the curve $y = f(x)$ passes through the point $(4, -7)$. Find $f(x)$. [4]

$$f(x) = \int (3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 10) dx$$

$$= \frac{3x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{3x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\frac{1}{2}} - 10x + c$$

$$= 2x^{\frac{3}{2}} + 6x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 10x + c$$

Now $f(4) = -7$

$$\therefore 2(4)^{\frac{3}{2}} + 6(4)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 10(4) + c = -7$$

$$\therefore 16 + 12 - 40 + c = -7$$

$$\therefore -12 + c = -7$$

$$\therefore c = 5$$

$$\therefore f(x) = 2x^{\frac{3}{2}} + 6x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 10x + 5$$

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