

## Past-paper walk-through

The Arc Length of a Smooth, Planar Curve and Distance Traveled ■ 8.13

eXercise

## Questions in this set

- 2026 Q5
- 2024 Q5
- 2014 Q5

## Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

## Question 5

2026 ■ Q5

Let  $f$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-1}$ , and let  $g$  be the function defined by  $g(x) = e^{(-2x+4)}$ . The graphs of  $f$  and  $g$  intersect at the point  $(2, 1)$ . Let  $R$  be the region bounded by the graph of  $f$ , the  $x$ -axis, and the vertical line  $x = 2$ , as shown in the figure.

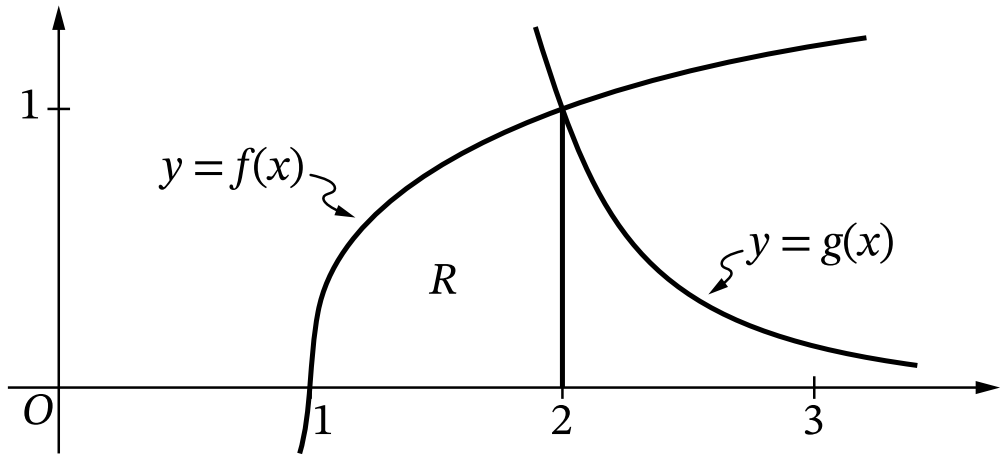
[Graph in the  $xy$ -plane:  $y$ -axis marked at 1,  $x$ -axis marked at 1, 2, 3. The curve  $y = f(x)$  starts near  $x = 1$  (where it crosses the  $x$ -axis) and rises to the right, passing through  $(2, 1)$ ; the curve  $y = g(x)$  decreases from upper left, also passing through  $(2, 1)$ , and continues decreasing toward the right past  $x = 3$ . The shaded region  $R$  is bounded below by the  $x$ -axis, on the left by the curve  $y = f(x)$ , and on the right by the vertical line  $x = 2$ , lying between  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .]

**(a)** Evaluate  $\int_1^2 f(x) \, dx$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.

## Question 5

- (b) Write, but do not evaluate, an expression involving one or more integrals that gives the volume of the solid generated when region  $R$  is rotated about the  $x$ -axis.
- (c) Write, but do not evaluate, an expression involving one or more integrals that gives the perimeter of region  $R$ .
- (d) Evaluate  $\int_2^{\infty} g(x) dx$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.

## Question 5



## Question 5

2024 ■ Q5

| $x$     | <b>0</b> | $\pi$ | $2\pi$ |
|---------|----------|-------|--------|
| $f'(x)$ | 5        | 6     | 0      |

The function  $f$  is twice differentiable for all  $x$  with  $f(0) = 0$ . Values of  $f'$ , the derivative of  $f$ , are given in the table for selected values of  $x$ .

## Question 5

- (a) For  $x \geq 0$ , the function  $h$  is defined by  $h(x) = \int_0^x \sqrt{1 + (f(t))^2} dt$ . Find the value of  $h'(\pi)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) What information does  $\int_0^\pi \sqrt{1 + (f(x))^2} dx$  provide about the graph of  $f$ ?
- (c) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(2\pi)$ . Show the computations that lead to your answer.
- (d) Find  $\int (t + 5) \cos\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) dt$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.



## Question 5

|         |     |       |        |
|---------|-----|-------|--------|
| $x$     | $0$ | $\pi$ | $2\pi$ |
| $f'(x)$ | $5$ | $6$   | $0$    |

## Solution 5

(a) Mark scheme

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- For  $x \geq 0$ ,  $h(x) = \int_0^x \sqrt{1 + (f(t))^2} dt$ , so by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus  $h'(x) = \sqrt{1 + (f(x))^2}$ . Using  $f(\pi) = 6$  from the given table,  $h'(\pi) = \sqrt{1 + 6^2} = \sqrt{37}$ . Points: 1 for the correct FTC setup  $h'(x) = \sqrt{1 + (f(x))^2}$  (or  $\sqrt{1 + (f(\pi))^2}$ ), 1 for the correct final answer  $\sqrt{37}$ .

## Solution 5

(b)

## Mark scheme

- $\int_0^\pi \sqrt{1 + (f'(x))^2} dx$  is the arc length of the graph of  $f$  on the interval  $[0, \pi]$ . Points :  
1 for identifying 'arc length' (or an equivalent phrase such as 'distance along the curve') explicitly connected to the integral.

## Solution 5

(c)

## Mark scheme

- Using Euler's method with step size  $\pi$ , starting at  $x = 0$  :  $f(\pi) \approx f(0) + \pi f'(0) = 0 + 5\pi = 5\pi$  (using  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = 5$  from the table). Then  $f(2\pi) \approx f(\pi) + \pi f'(\pi) \approx 5\pi + \pi(6) = 5\pi + 6\pi = 11\pi$  (using  $f'(\pi) = 6$  from the table). Points : 1 for demonstrating two Euler's method steps using the correct expression for  $dy/dx$  (values 5 and 6 from the table) with at most one error. 11 $\pi$  (both points require the correct table values  $5\pi$  and  $6\pi$  to be combined correctly).

## Solution 5

(d) Mark scheme

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- Integration by parts with  $u=t+5$ ,

$$dv = \cos(t/4) dt, \text{ so } du = dt, v = 4 \sin(t/4) : \int (t+5) \cos\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) dt =$$

$$4(t+5) \sin\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) - \int 4 \sin\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) dt = 4(t+5) \sin\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) + 16 \cos\left(\frac{t}{4}\right) + C. \text{ Points :}$$

1 for correct  $u$  and  $dv$  (with correct  $du$  and  $v$ , possibly implied via the tabular method), 1 for the correct form

$$\int v du, \text{ i.e. } 4(t+5) \sin(t/4) -$$

$$\int 4 \sin(t/4) dt \text{ (or a mathematically equivalent expression), 1 for the correct final answer } 4(t+$$

$$5) \sin(t/4) + 16 \cos(t/4) + C \text{ (equivalent forms such as } 4t \sin(t/4) + 20 \sin(t/4) +$$

$$16 \cos(t/4) + C \text{ also earn this point), including the constant of integration.}$$

## Question 5

2014 ■ Q5

[Graph showing the shaded region  $R$  in the first quadrant (and dipping slightly below the  $x$ -axis) bounded by the curve  $y = xe^{x^2}$  (rising steeply and concave up from the origin  $O$  through  $x = 1$ ), the line  $y = -2x$  (a straight line from the origin through the fourth quadrant), and the vertical line  $x = 1$ ; axis labels  $O$  at the origin, 1 marked on the  $x$ -axis,  $x$  and  $y$  axis arrows shown; region  $R$  labeled inside the shaded area.]

Let  $R$  be the shaded region bounded by the graph of  $y = xe^{x^2}$ , the line  $y = -2x$ , and the vertical line  $x = 1$ , as shown in the figure above.

- (a) Find the area of  $R$ .
- (b) Write, but do not evaluate, an integral expression that gives the volume of the solid generated when  $R$  is rotated about the horizontal line  $y = -2$ .
- (c) Write, but do not evaluate, an expression involving one or more integrals that gives the perimeter of  $R$ .

## Question 5

