

Cambridge International AS & A Level

Mathematics 9709

Paper 1 Pure Mathematics 1

Topic 7-Differentiation

Question No (21)

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Question No (21)

A curve has equation $y = \frac{12}{3 - 2x}$.

(i) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

A point moves along this curve. As the point passes through A , the x -coordinate is increasing at a rate of 0.15 units per second and the y -coordinate is increasing at a rate of 0.4 units per second.

(ii) Find the possible x -coordinates of A .

Solution

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$$(i) \quad y = \frac{12}{3-2x} \rightarrow (1)$$

$$y = 12(3-2x)^{-1}$$

Differentiate w.r.t x

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 12 [(-1)(3-2x)^{-1-1} \frac{d}{dx}(3-2x)]$$

$$= 12 [(-1)(3-2x)^{-2} (0-2)]$$

$$= 12 [2(3-2x)^{-2}]$$

$$= 24(3-2x)^{-2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{24}{(3-2x)^2}$$

(ii) As given at point A, $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0.15$ and

$$\frac{dys}{dt} = 0.4$$

By chain rule

$$\frac{dys}{dx} = \frac{dys}{dt} \times \frac{dt}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dys}{dx} = 0.4 \times \frac{1}{0.15} = \frac{0.4}{0.15}$$

$$\frac{dys}{dx} = \frac{0.4}{0.15}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{24}{(3-2x)^2} = \frac{0.4}{0.15}$$

$$(3-2x)^2 = \frac{24 \times 0.15}{0.4}$$

$$(3-2x)^2 = 9$$

$$3-2x = \pm 3$$

$$3-2x = 3$$

$$-2x = 3-3$$

$$-2x = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

$$3-2x = -3$$

$$-2x = -3-3$$

$$-2x = -6$$

$$x = 3$$

\therefore possible x -coordinates of point A are 0 or 3.

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{24}{(3-2x)^2}$$

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