

PART B

QUESTION B1 ANALYSIS

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Use your calculator in b).

Consider the family of functions f_n defined by

$$f_n(x) = x^n e^{-x}, \text{ where } n \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\}.$$

- a) Determine the coordinates of the extrema and the points of inflection of the graph of f_4 .

5 marks

The region M is bounded by the graphs of f_2 and f_4 , and by the lines $x = 2$ and $x = 6$.

Calculate the volume of the solid of revolution obtained by rotating the region M around the x -axis.

A recently
asked
question

Consider the family of functions f_n defined by

$$f_n(x) = x^n e^{-x}, \text{ where } n \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\}.$$

- a) Determine the coordinates of the extrema and the points of inflection of the graph of f_4 .

5 marks

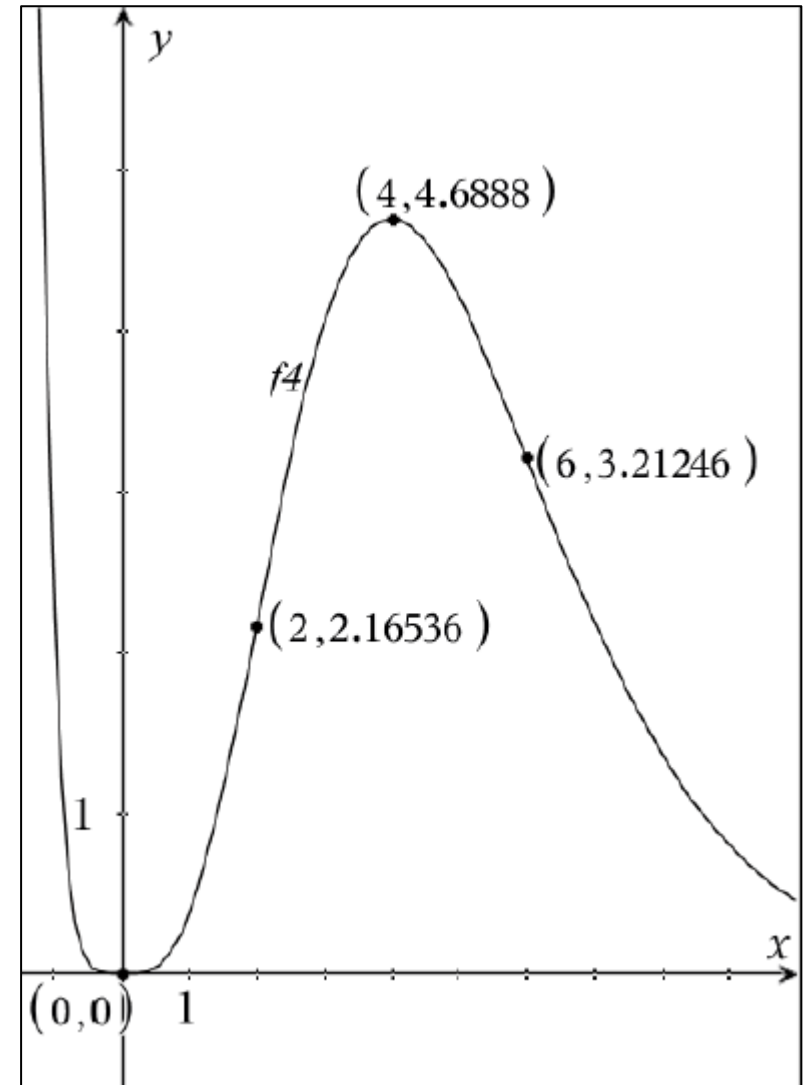
$$\text{solve}(f_4'(x)=0, x) \rightarrow x=0 \text{ or } x=4$$

$$\text{solve}(f_4'(x)>0, x) \rightarrow 0 < x < 4$$

$$\text{solve}(f_4'(x)<0, x) \rightarrow x < 0 \text{ or } x > 4,$$

$$\text{solve}(f_4''(x)=0, x) \rightarrow x=0 \text{ or } x=2 \text{ or } x=6 \quad (0,5 \text{ P.})$$

$$\text{solve}(f_4''(x)>0, x) \rightarrow x \neq 0 \text{ and } x < 2 \text{ or } x > 6 \text{ und } \text{solve}(f_4''(x)<0, x) \rightarrow 2 < x < 6$$

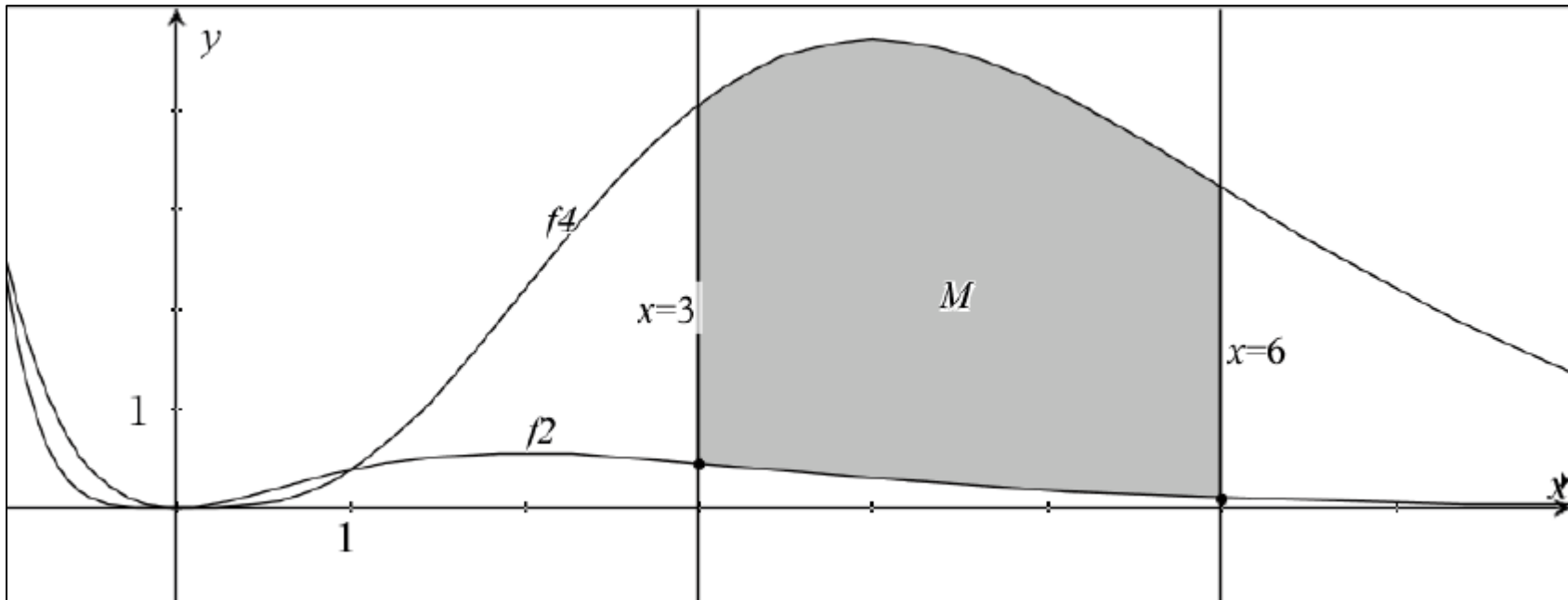


- b) The region M is bounded by the graphs of f_2 and f_4 , and by the lines $x=3$ and $x=6$.

Determine the volume of the solid of revolution obtained by rotating the region M about the x -axis.

4 marks

$$V = \pi \cdot \int_3^6 \left| (f_4(x))^2 - (f_2(x))^2 \right| dx = \frac{3 \cdot (17887 \cdot e^6 - 1324036) \cdot e^{-12} \cdot \pi}{2} \approx 170,599.$$



Even more practice

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| c) | Show that all the curves with equation $y = f_n(x)$ have two points in common and give their coordinates. | 3 marks |
| d) | Show that the graph of f_n for all n has two horizontal tangent lines and determine an equation of each of these tangent lines. | 4 marks |
| e) | Determine the intervals where f_n is increasing or decreasing. Distinguish between even and odd values of n . | 4 marks |

| | | |
|--|---------|--|
| c) Show that all the curves with equation $y = f_n(x)$ have two points in common and give their coordinates. | 3 marks | |
|--|---------|--|

Solution 1: solve $(f_2(x)=f_3(x), x) \rightarrow x=0$ or $x=1$

Solution 2: $f_m(x)=f_n(x) \Leftrightarrow x^m \cdot e^{-x} = x^n \cdot e^{-x} \Leftrightarrow x^m = x^n \Leftrightarrow x^n(x^{m-n}-1)=0$.

d) Show that the graph of f_n for all n has two horizontal tangent lines and determine an equation of each of these tangent lines.

4 marks


$$f'_n(x) = n \cdot x^{n-1} \cdot e^{-x} - x^n \cdot e^{-x} = x^{n-1} \cdot (n-x) \cdot e^{-x}$$

$$f'_n(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow :$$

| | | |
|----|--|---------|
| e) | Determine the intervals where f_n is increasing or decreasing. Distinguish between even and odd values of n . | 4 marks |
|----|--|---------|

Study the sign of $f_n'(x)$

| Part B - Calculator | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|------|------|------|-----|------|
| B1 | a | Determine coord. Extrema points of inflection | 1,0 | 4,0 | | | 5,0 |
| Analysis | b | Determine volume solid rotation x-axis | 2,0 | 2,0 | | | 4,0 |
| | c | Show points in common | | 2,0 | 1,0 | | 3,0 |
| Minimum 4 sub questions | d | Show graph has two horizontal tangent lines | 2,0 | 2,0 | | | 4,0 |
| | e | Determine intervals increase/decrease- distinguish odd even values of n | 2,0 | 2,0 | | | 4,0 |
| | | | | | | | 0,0 |
| | | | | | | | 0,0 |
| Maximum 8 sub questions | | | | | | | 0,0 |
| | | S | 7,0 | 12,0 | 1,0 | 0,0 | 20,0 |
| | | % | 35,0 | 60,0 | 5,0 | 0,0 | |
| | | Guideline: | 5,0 | 8,0 | 6,0 | 1,0 | 20,0 |
| | | % | 25,0 | 40,0 | 30,0 | 5,0 | |
| | | Tolerance (Points): | 2,0 | 4,0 | 3,0 | 1,0 | |



2. Let's shift to a higher proportion of demanding tasks

Improving the exercise



What about
investigating on $n = 1$?

Consider the family of functions f_n defined by

$$f_n(x) = x^n e^{-x}, \quad \text{where } n \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\}.$$

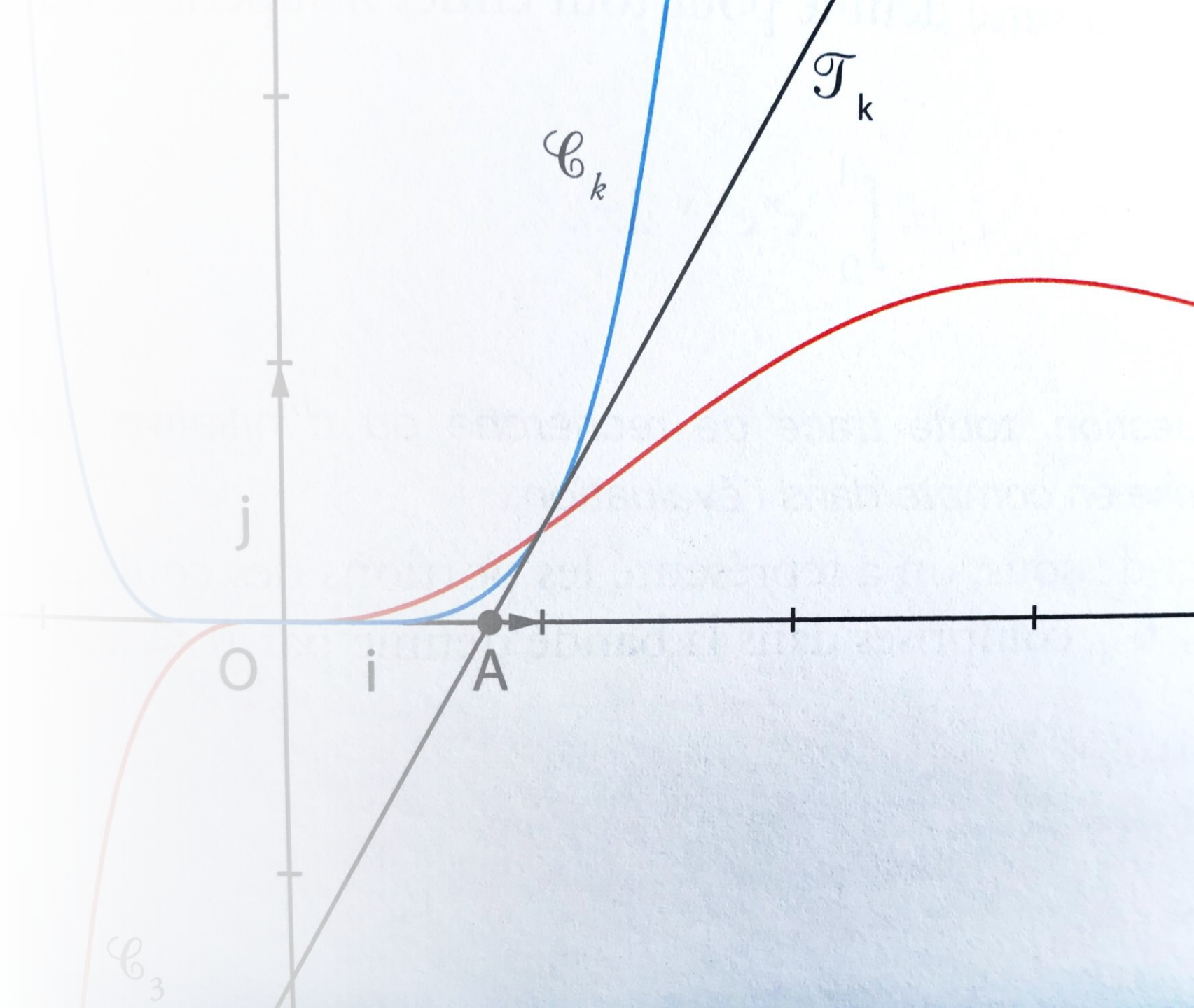
What type of question could we ask?

Higher level thinking

- On the graph, we have represented a curve C_k and the tangent T_k to the graph C_k in the point A where $x=1$.

- Knowing that the tangent intersects the x-axis in

$A(\frac{4}{5};0)$, find k.



**The 5P
drawers!**

Complex
numbers

Sequences

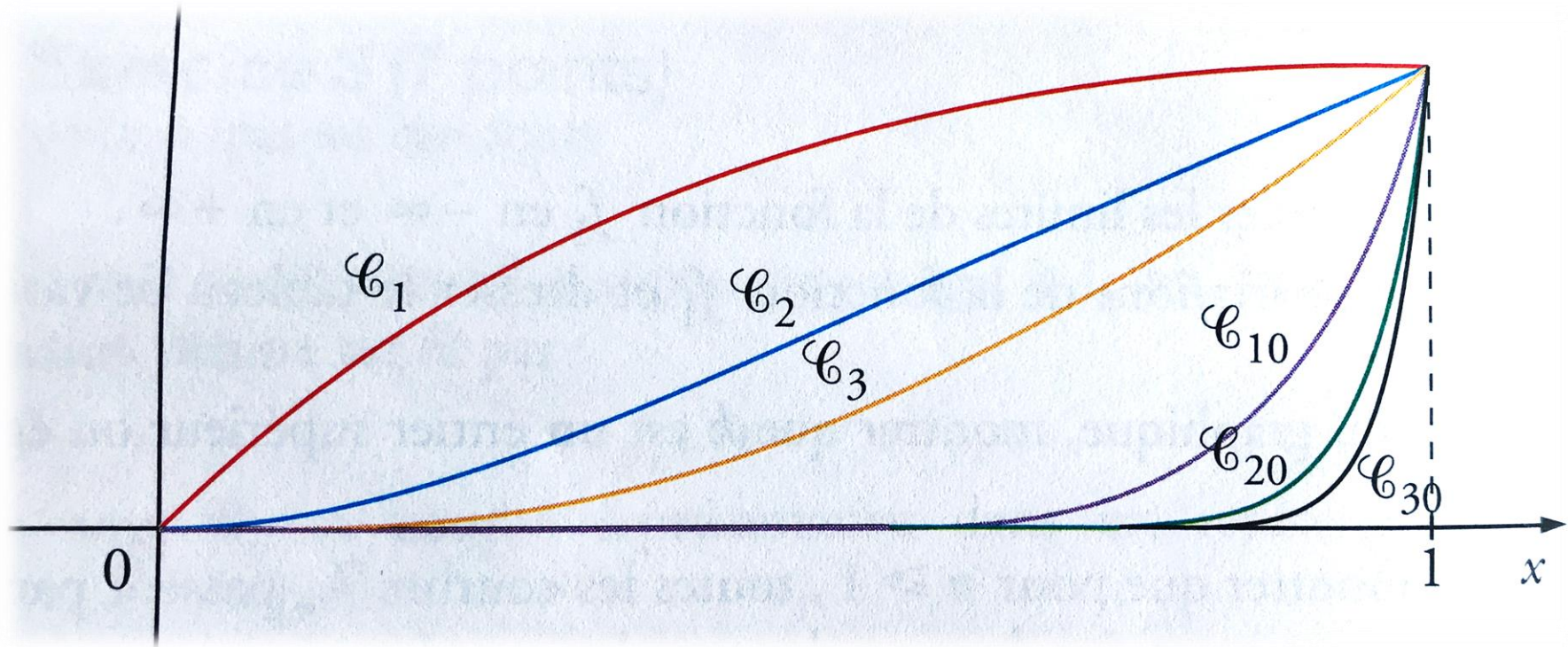
Probability

Geometry

Analysis

A question that we
could discuss now ...

Is it appropriate to
lock the
construction of
knowledge in
drawers?



Maybe in the future (near?, far?)

Consider the sequence given by: $I_n = \int_0^1 x^n e^{-x} dx \quad n \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$

The graph shows different curves restricted to $[0; 1]$

Formulate a hypothesis on the direction of variation of the sequence. Demonstrate this conjecture.

Deduce that the sequence is convergent.

Find: $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} I_n$

My email address for further questions/suggestions/comments/...

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**“The road to
success is
always under
construction!”**

Thanks again for listening for such a long time ...