

STEP I 2000 Q1

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(i)} \quad \log_{10} 5 &= \log_{10} \frac{10}{2} \\
 &= \log_{10} 10 - \log_{10} 2 \\
 &= 1 - 0.301 \\
 &= 0.699
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log_{10} 6 &= \log_{10}(2 \times 3) \\
 &= \log_{10} 2 + \log_{10} 3 \\
 &= 0.301 + 0.477 \\
 &= 0.778
 \end{aligned}$$

Now $5 \times 10^{47} < 3^{100} < 6 \times 10^{47}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Leftrightarrow \log_{10} 5 + 47 &< \log_{10} 3^{100} < \log_{10} 6 + 47 \quad (\text{because log is strictly increasing}) \\
 \Leftrightarrow 47.699 &< 47.771 < 47.778
 \end{aligned}$$

which is true.

So the first digit of 3^{100} is 5.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(ii)} \quad \text{Note } \log_{10} 2^{1000} &= 1000 \log_{10} 2 \\
 &= 301.0299 \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$$301 < 301.0299 < 301.301029996$$

$$10^{301} < 2^{1000} < 2 \times 10^{301}$$

So the first digit of 2^{1000} is 1.

$$\log_{10} 2^{10000} = 3010.29996$$

$$3010 < 3010.29996 < 3010.3010 \dots$$

$$10^{3010} < 2^{10000} < 2 \times 10^{3010}$$

So the first digit of 2^{10000} is 1.

$$\log_{10} 2^{100,000} = 30,102.9996$$

Note $\log_{10} 9 = 2 \log_{10} 3$
 ≈ 0.854

$$30102.854 < 30102.9996 < 30103$$

$$9 \times 10^{30102} < 2^{100,000} < 10^{30103}$$

So the first digit of $2^{100,000}$ is 9.

STEP I 2000 Q2

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(x^4 - \frac{1}{x^2}\right)^5 \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^6 \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{x^2}\right)^5 (x^6 - 1)^5 \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^6 (x^2 - 1)^6 \\ &= \frac{1}{x^{16}} (x^6 - 1)^5 (x^2 - 1)^6 \end{aligned}$$

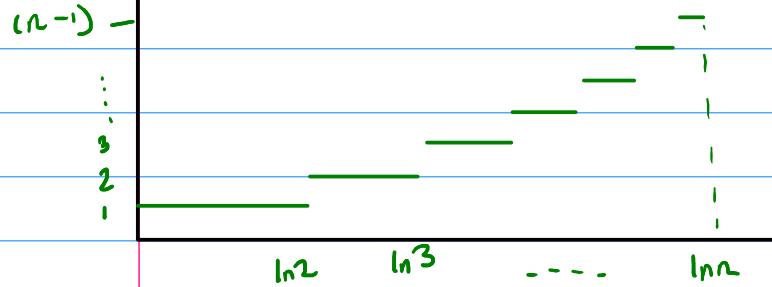
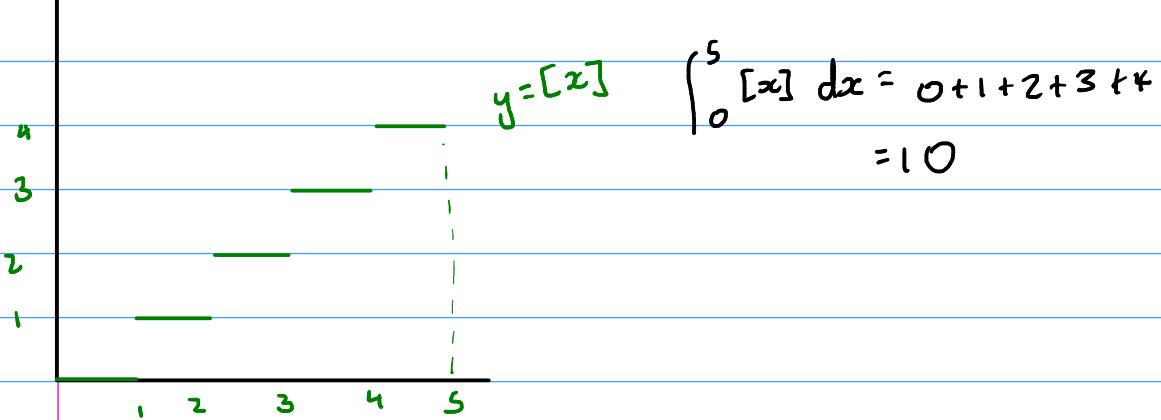
For the x^{-12} term, we need x^4 from $(x^6 - 1)^5 (x^2 - 1)^6$, which can only come from the $(-1)^5 (x^2)^2 (-1)^4$ term, which has coefficient $\binom{5}{0} (-1)^5 \binom{6}{2} (-1)^4 = -15$.

For the x^2 term, we need the x^{18} term from $(x^6 - 1)^5 (x^2 - 1)^6$, which comes from the $(x^6)^3$, $(x^6)^2 (x^2)^3$, and $(x^6)(x^2)^6$ terms. Thus the coefficient (noting all of these are positive) is $\binom{5}{3} \binom{6}{0} + \binom{5}{2} \binom{6}{3} + \binom{5}{1} \binom{6}{6} = 10 \times 1 + 10 \times 20 + 5 \times 1 = 215$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note } & (x^2 - 1)^6 (x^4 + x^2 + 1)^5 \\ &= (x^2 - 1)^6 (x^2 - 1)^5 \cdot (x^4 + x^2 + 1)^5 \\ &= (x^2 - 1)^6 (x^6 + x^4 + x^2 - x^4 - x^2 - 1)^5 \\ &= (x^2 - 1)^6 (x^6 - 1)^5 \end{aligned}$$

We previously worked out the coefficient of x^4 in this expansion is -15 . To get x^{38} , we must have the $(x^2)^4 (x^6)^5$ term, with coefficient $\binom{6}{4} \binom{5}{5} = 15$.

STEP I 2000 Q3



$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^{\ln(n)} [e^x] dx &= \ln(2) + 2(\ln(3) - \ln(2)) + 3(\ln(4) - \ln(3)) + \dots + (n-1)(\ln(n) - \ln(n-1)) \\
 &= -\ln(2) - \ln(3) - \ln(4) + \dots - \ln(n-1) - \ln(n) + n\ln(n) \\
 &= -\ln(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n) + n\ln(n) \\
 &= nh(n) - \ln(n!)
 \end{aligned}$$

STEP I 2000 Q4

(i) The largest value occurs either at a stationary point, or at $x=0$ or $x=1$.

$$y = \frac{x^6}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{6x^5(x^2+1)^4 - 8x(x^2+1)^3(x^6)}{(x^2+1)^8}$$

$$= \frac{2x^5[3(x^2+1) - 4x^2]}{(x^2+1)^5}$$

$$= \frac{2x^5(3-x^2)}{(x^2+1)^5} = 0 \text{ at } x = \pm\sqrt{3} \notin [0, 1].$$

So the maximum occurs at an endpoint.

$$y(0) = 0 \quad y(1) = \frac{1}{16}. \text{ So the largest value is } \frac{1}{16}.$$

$$(ii) \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{Ax^5 + Bx^3 + Cx}{(x^2+1)^3} \right) = \frac{(5Ax^4 + 3Bx^2 + C)(x^2+1)^3 - 6x(x^2+1)^2(Ax^5 + Bx^3 + Cx)}{(x^2+1)^6}$$

$$= \frac{(5Ax^4 + 3Bx^2 + C)(x^2+1) - 6x(Ax^5 + Bx^3 + Cx)}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$= \frac{5Ax^6 + 5Ax^4 + 3Bx^4 + 3Bx^2 + Cx^2 + C - 6Ax^6 - 6Bx^4 - 6Cx^2}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$= \frac{x^6(-A) + x^4(5A-3B) + x^2(3B-5C) + C}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{Ax^5 + Bx^3 + Cx}{(x^2+1)^3} \right) + \frac{Dx^6}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(x^2+1)^4} [(D-A)x^6 + (5A-3B)x^4 + (3B-5C)x^2 + C] \equiv \frac{1}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow B = 5/3$$

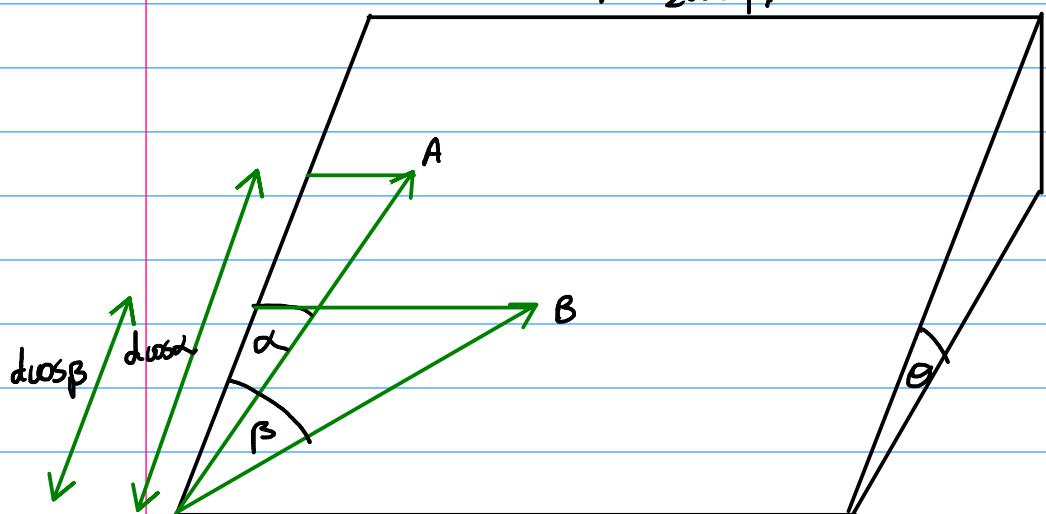
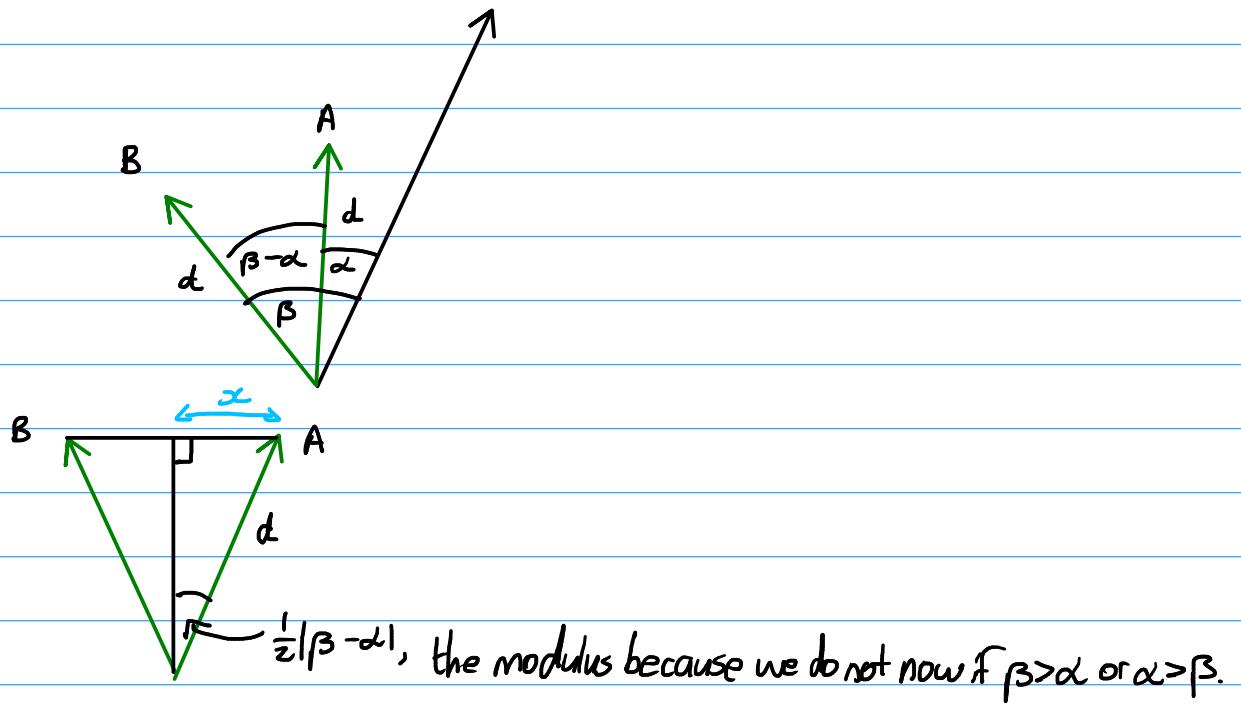
$$\Rightarrow A = 1 \quad \Rightarrow D = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_0, \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(x^2+1)^4} dx &= \left[\frac{x^5 + \frac{5}{3}x^3 + x}{(x^2+1)^3} \right]_0^1 + \int_0^1 \frac{5x^6}{(x^2+1)^4} dx \\ &= \frac{11/3}{8} + \int_0^1 \frac{5x^6}{(x^2+1)^4} dx \\ &= 11/24 + \int_0^1 \frac{5x^6}{(x^2+1)^4} dx \end{aligned}$$

And, because $0 \leq \frac{x^6}{(x^2+1)^4} \leq \frac{1}{16}$ for $x \in [0, 1]$, we have $0 \leq \int_0^1 \frac{x^6}{(x^2+1)^4} dx \leq \frac{1}{16}$, and so

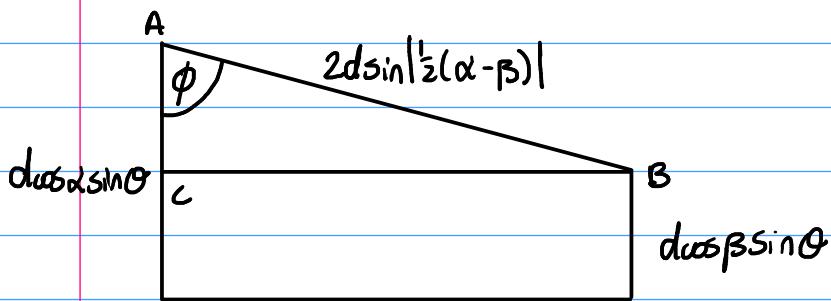
$$\frac{11}{24} \leq \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(x^2+1)^4} dx \leq \frac{11}{24} + \frac{1}{16}$$

STEP I 2000 Q5



The height of A above the ground is $d \cos \alpha \sin \theta$ and of B is $d \cos \beta \sin \theta$.

Viewed horizontally,



Considering triangle ABC, we have

$$\cos \phi = \frac{|d \cos \alpha \sin \theta - d \cos \beta \sin \theta|}{2d \sin \left| \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta) \right|}$$

$$= \frac{\sin \theta |\cos \alpha - \cos \beta|}{2 \left| \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta) \right|}$$

$$= \frac{\sin \theta |2 \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta) \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)|}{2 \left| \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta) \right|}$$

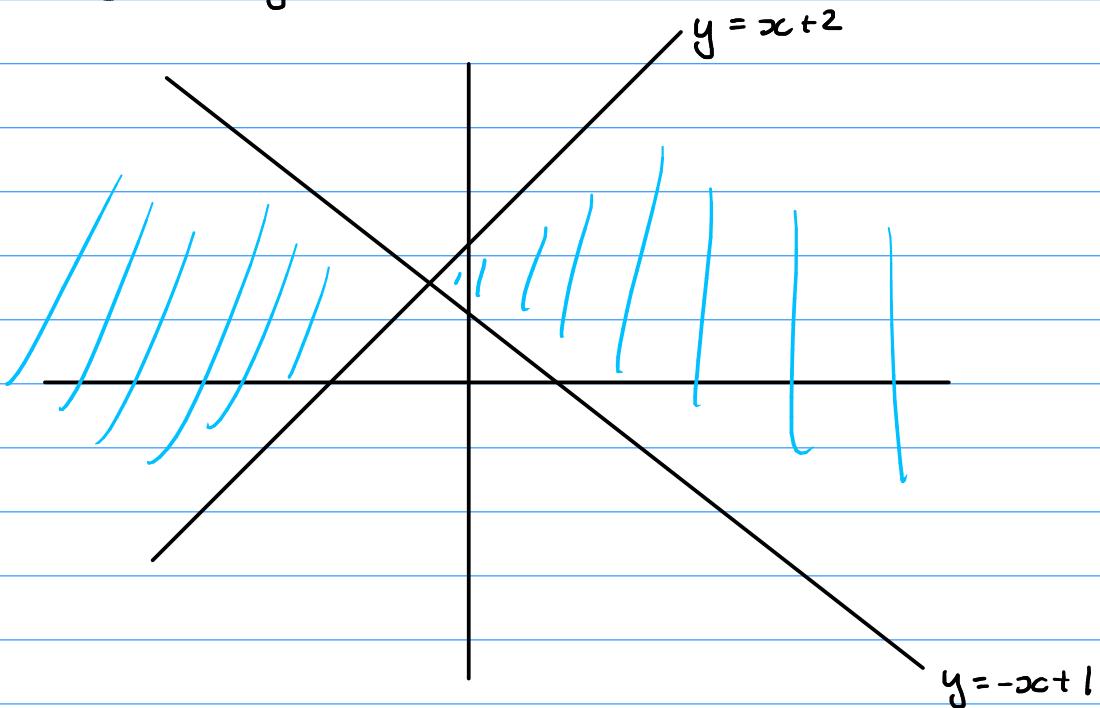
$$= \frac{\sin \theta \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta) |\sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)|}{|\sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta)|}$$

$$= \sin \theta \sin \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta), \text{ as required.}$$

STEP I 2000 Q6

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (x-y+2)(x+y-1) \\
 &= x^2 + xy - x - 2xy - y^2 + y + 2x + 2y - 1 \\
 &= x^2 - y^2 + x + 3y - 2
 \end{aligned}$$

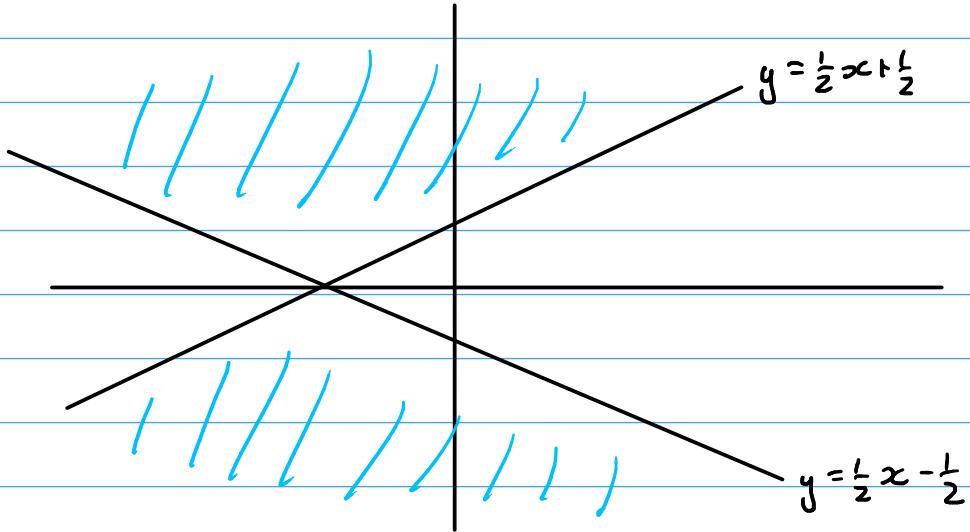
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{So } & x^2 - y^2 + x + 3y > 2 \\
 \iff & (x-y+2)(x+y-1) > 0
 \end{aligned}$$



The shaded area satisfies the inequality.

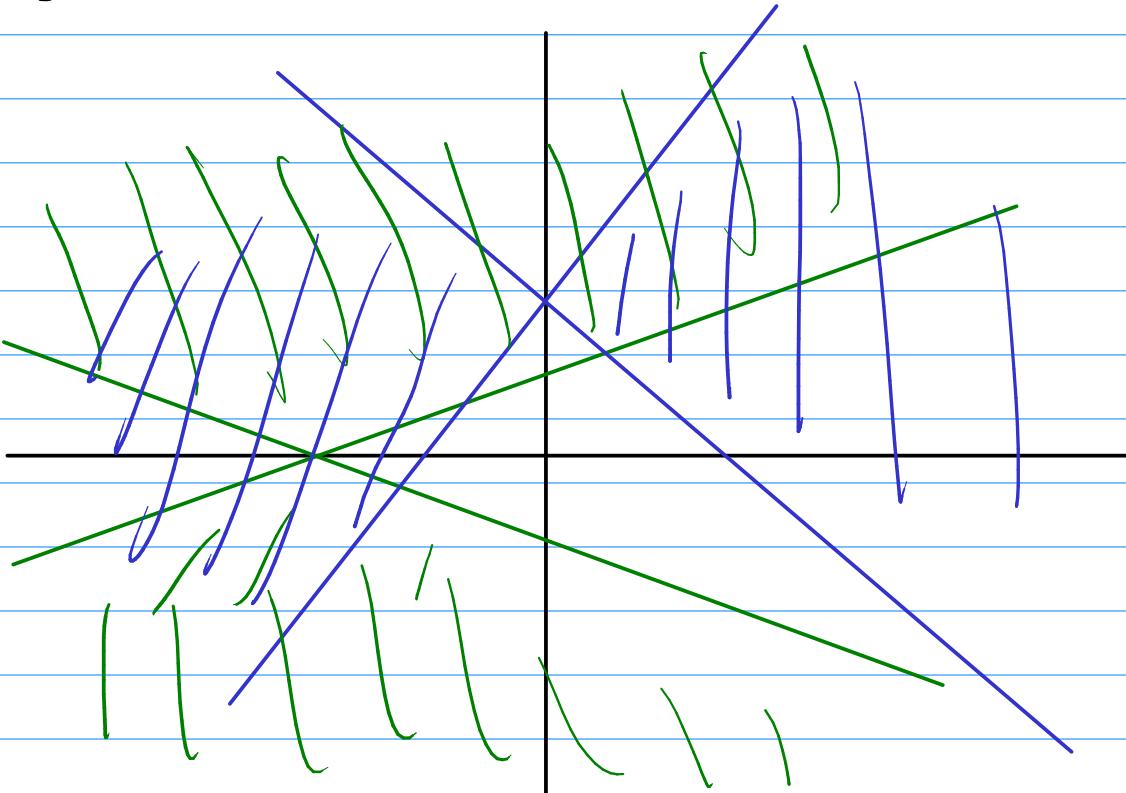
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Now consider } & (x-2y+1)(x+2y+2) \\
 &= x^2 + 2xy + 2x - 2xy - 4y^2 - 4y + x + 2y + 2 \\
 &= x^2 - 4y^2 + 3x - 2y + 2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{So } & x^2 - 4y^2 + 3x - 2y < -2 \\
 \iff & (x-y+2)(x+y-1) < 0
 \end{aligned}$$



The shaded area satisfies the inequality.

Putting both on the same axes,



Lots of points satisfy both inequalities, for example (2, 2). Then

$$x^2 - y^2 + x + 3y = 8 > 2 \checkmark$$

$$x^2 - 4y^2 + 3x - 2y = -10 < -2 \checkmark$$

STEP I 2000 Q7

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

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

$$= a - \frac{3x^2 + 3x^4 - 2x^4}{(1+x^2)^2}$$

$$= a + \frac{-x^4 - 3x^2}{(1+x^2)^2}$$

So, $a \geq \frac{9}{8} \Rightarrow f'(x) \geq 0$ is equivalent to showing $\frac{-x^4 - 3x^2}{(1+x^2)^2} \geq -\frac{9}{8}$ for all x .

$$\text{Let } g(x) = \frac{-x^4 - 3x^2}{(1+x^2)^2}$$

$$\text{Then } g'(x) = \frac{(-4x^3 - 6x)(1+x^2)^2 + 4x(-x^4 - 3x^2)(1+x^2)}{(1+x^2)^4} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4x^5 + 12x^3(1+x^2) - (4x^3 + 6x)(1+x^2) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(4x^4 + 12x^2 - 4x^2 - 4x^4 - 6 - 6x^2) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x(2x^2 - 6) = 0$$

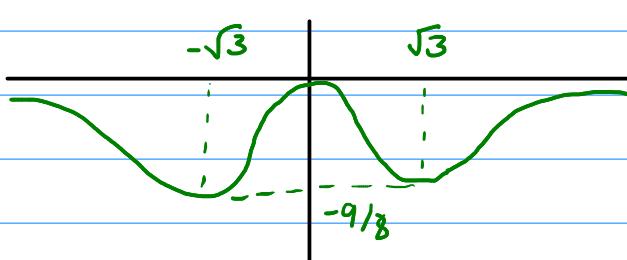
$$\Leftrightarrow x = 0, \sqrt{3}, \text{ or } -\sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{Now } g(0) = 0$$

$$g(\pm\sqrt{3}) = -\left(\frac{9+9}{16}\right) \\ = -\frac{9}{8}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} g(x) = 0$$

So $g(x) \geq -\frac{9}{8}$ for all x , so we have proved the required result.



STEP I 2000 Q8

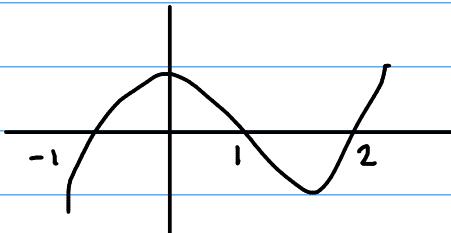
$$\int_{-1}^1 |xe^x| dx = \int_{-1}^0 xe^x dx + \int_0^1 xe^x dx$$

$$= - \int_{-1}^0 xe^x dx + \int_0^1 xe^x dx$$

Note $\int xe^x dx = xe^x - e^x$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -[xe^x - e^x]_{-1}^0 + [xe^x - e^x]_0^1 \\ &= -(-1 + 2e^{-1}) + (1) \\ &= 2 - 2e^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

If $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2$, then $f(1) = f(2) = f(-1) = 0$, so $f(x) = (x+1)(x-2)(x-1)$.



$$\int_0^4 |x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2| dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 dx - \int_1^2 x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 dx + \int_2^4 x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 dx$$

$$= \left[\frac{1}{4}x^4 - \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x \right]_0^1 - \left[\frac{1}{4}x^4 - \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x \right]_1^2 + \left[\frac{1}{4}x^4 - \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x \right]_2^4$$

$$= \left(\frac{13}{12} - 0 \right) - \left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{13}{12} \right) + \left(\frac{64}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \right)$$

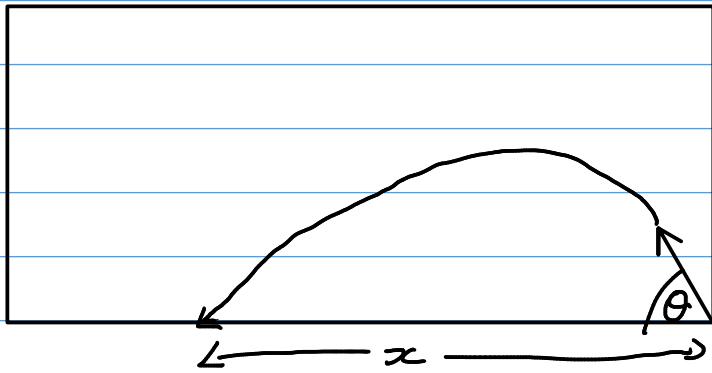
$$= 13\frac{3}{6}$$

$$\sin x + \cos x = \sqrt{2} \sin(x + \pi/4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } & \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin x + \cos x| dx \\ &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sqrt{2} \sin(x + \pi/4)| dx \\ &= \sqrt{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin(x + \pi/4)| dx \\ &= \sqrt{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\sin x| dx \quad \text{because the interval has length } 2\pi \\ &= 2\sqrt{2} \int_0^{\pi} \sin x dx \quad \text{by symmetry} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2} [-\cos x]_0^{\pi} \\ &= 4\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

STEP I 2000 Q9

The shell (relative to the carriage) experiences a fictitious force horizontally of magnitude ma .



\leftarrow	\uparrow
$s \quad x$	$s \quad o$
$u \quad v\cos\theta$	$u \quad v\sin\theta$
$v \quad x$	$v \quad x$
$a \quad a$	$a \quad -g$
$t \quad t$	$t \quad t$

$$x = vt\cos\theta + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$o = vt\sin\theta - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$t \neq 0 \Rightarrow v\sin\theta = \frac{1}{2}gt$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{2v\sin\theta}{g}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{2v^2\sin\theta\cos\theta}{g} + \frac{1}{2}a \cdot \frac{4v^2\sin^2\theta}{g^2}$$

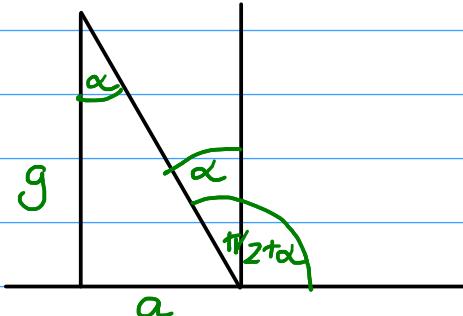
$$= \frac{v^2}{g} \sin 2\theta + \frac{\alpha v^2}{g^2} (1 - \cos 2\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dx}{d\theta} = \cancel{\frac{2v^2}{g} \cos 2\theta} + \cancel{\frac{2av^2}{g}} \sin 2\theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos 2\theta + \frac{\alpha}{g} \sin 2\theta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan 2\theta = -\frac{g}{a}$$

If $a \ll g$, then $\tan 2\theta \ll -1 \Rightarrow 2\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} + \alpha$ where $0 < \alpha \ll 1$. So,



$\Rightarrow \tan \alpha = \frac{a}{g}$ but $0 < \alpha \ll 1$, so $\tan \alpha \approx \frac{a}{g}$ by the small angle approximations.

$$\text{So } 2\theta \approx \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{a}{g}$$

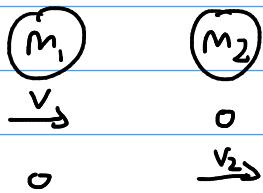
$$\Rightarrow \theta \approx \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{a}{2g}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{v^2}{g} (\sin 2\theta + \frac{a}{g} (1 - \cos 2\theta)) \\ &= \frac{v^2}{g} (\sin \frac{\pi}{2} \cos \frac{a}{g} + \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \sin \frac{a}{g} + \frac{a}{g} (1 - (\cos \frac{\pi}{2} \cos \frac{a}{g} - \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \sin \frac{a}{g}))) \\ &\approx \frac{v^2}{g} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{a}{g} \right)^2 + 0 + \frac{a}{g} \left(1 - 0 + \frac{a}{g} \right) \right) \quad (\text{small angle approximations}) \\ &= \frac{v^2}{g} \left(1 - \frac{a^2}{2g^2} + \frac{a}{g} + \frac{a^2}{g^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{v^2}{g} + \frac{v^2 \frac{a}{g}}{g^2} + \frac{v^2 \frac{a^2}{g^2}}{2g^2} \quad \text{but } 0 < a \ll g, \text{ so } \frac{v^2 a^2}{2g^2} \text{ is small compared to the} \\ &\qquad \text{other terms, so} \\ &\approx \frac{v^2}{g} + \frac{v^2 \frac{a}{g}}{g^2}, \text{ as required.} \end{aligned}$$

STEP I 2000 Q10

First Collision



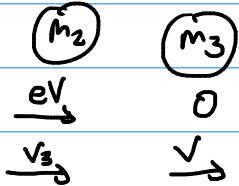
$$\text{CoM: } m_1 v = m_2 v_2$$

$$e: \quad eV = v_2$$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 v = e m_2 v$$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 = e m_2$$

Second Collision



$$\text{CoM: } m_2 eV = m_2 v_3 + m_3 V$$

$$\Rightarrow v_3 = \frac{v(em_2 - m_3)}{m_2} = \frac{v(m_1 - m_3)}{m_2} \quad (*)$$

$$e: \quad e'eV = V - v_3 \Rightarrow v_3 = V(1 - ee')$$

$$\text{So } m_2 eV = m_2 V(1 - ee') + m_3 V$$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 = m_2 - e'm_1 + m_3 \quad (\text{as } em_2 = m_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow e' = \frac{m_2 + m_3 - m_1}{m_1}$$

Note we require $0 \leq e' \leq 1$, and so $0 \leq m_2 + m_3 - m_1 \leq m_1$

$$\Rightarrow m_1 \leq m_2 + m_3 \leq 2m_1, \text{ as required.}$$

$$\text{Final energy} = \frac{1}{2} m_2 V^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_3 V^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} V^2 \left(m_2 \cdot \frac{(m_1 - m_3)^2}{m_1^2} + m_3 \right) \quad (\text{by } *)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(\frac{(m_1 - m_3)^2}{m_2} + m_3 \right)$$

And so maximising $E \Leftrightarrow$ minimising m_2 and vice versa.

We have $m_1 \leq m_2 + m_3 \leq 2m_1$,

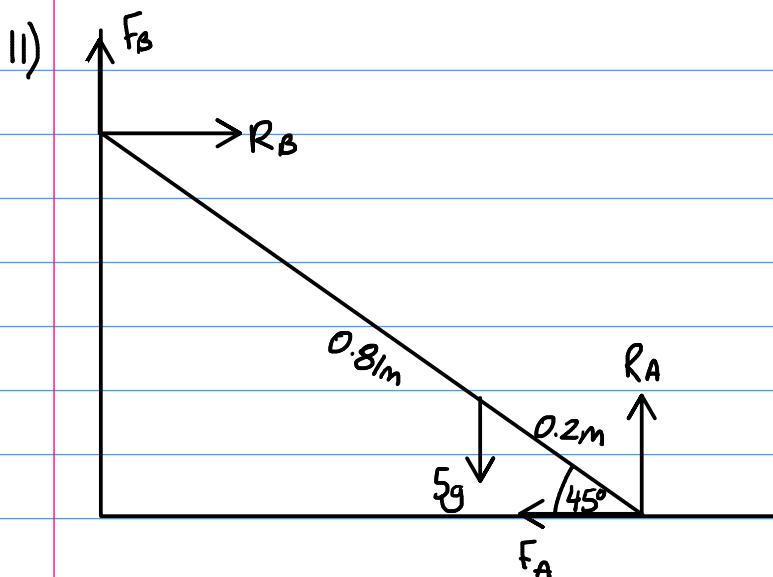
$$\Rightarrow m_1 - m_3 \leq m_2 \leq 2m_1 - m_3$$

but also $0 \leq e \leq 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leq \frac{m_1}{m_2} \leq 1 \Rightarrow m_2 \geq m_1$.

So, overall, $m_1 \leq m_2 \leq 2m_1 - m_3$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } E_{\min} &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(m_3 + \frac{(m_1 - m_3)^2}{2m_1 - m_3} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(\frac{2m_1 m_3 - m_3^2 + m_1^2 - 2m_1 m_3 + m_3^2}{2m_1 - m_3} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(\frac{m_1^2}{2m_1 - m_3} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\max} &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(m_3 + \frac{(m_1 - m_3)^2}{m_1} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(\frac{m_1 m_3 + m_1^2 - 2m_1 m_3 + m_3^2}{m_1} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} v^2 \left(\frac{m_1^2 - m_1 m_3 + m_3^2}{m_1} \right) \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{Resolving } \downarrow : R_A + F_B = 5g \quad (1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow R_B = F_A \quad (2)$$

$$M(A) : 0.21 \times 5g = 0.81(F_B + R_B) \quad (3)$$

$$M(B) : 0.6 \times 5g + 0.81F_A = 0.81R_A \quad (4)$$

} note the $\cos 45^\circ$ & $\sin 45^\circ$ cancel out

Suppose friction is limiting at B, then $R_B = F_B$

Then (2) $\Rightarrow F_A = R_B = F_B$

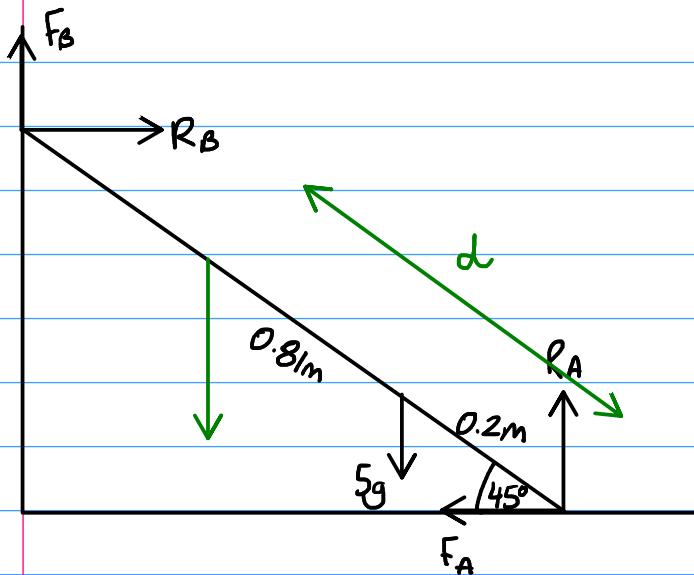
$$\text{Then (3) gives } \frac{21}{20}g = \frac{81}{100}(2F_B)$$

$$\Rightarrow F_B = \frac{35}{54}g$$

$$\text{Then (1) gives } R_A = 5g - F_B$$

$$= \frac{235}{54}g$$

But if friction is limiting at A, then $\frac{35}{54}g = F_A = \frac{1}{5}R_A = \frac{1}{5} \times \frac{235}{54}g = \frac{47}{54}g \cancel{\neq}$.
So friction cannot be limiting at both A and B.



$$\text{Resolving } \downarrow : R_A + F_B = 10g \quad (1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow R_B = F_A \quad (2)$$

$$M(A) : 0.21 \times 5g + d \times 5g = 0.81(F_B + R_B) \quad (3)$$

$$M(B) : 0.6 \times 5g + 0.81F_A + (0.81 - d) \times 5g = 0.81R_A \quad (4)$$

Since friction is limiting at A and B, we have $R_B = F_B$ and $R_A = 5 \times F_A$. So (2) then gives

$$F_B = R_B = F_A$$

$$R_A = 5F_A$$

$$\text{Then (1) becomes } 6F_A = 10g \Rightarrow F_A = \frac{5}{3}g$$

$$\text{Then (3) becomes } 5g(d + 0.21) = 0.81 \times 2 \times \frac{5}{3}g$$

$$\Rightarrow d + 0.21 = 0.54$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \underline{\underline{0.33m}}$$

STEP I 2000 Q12

$$(i) P(\text{succeed on } n^{\text{th}} \text{ attempt}) = \frac{\cancel{R-1}}{R} \times \frac{\cancel{R-2}}{\cancel{R-1}} \times \dots \times \frac{\cancel{R-(n-1)}}{\cancel{R-(n-2)}} \times \frac{1}{\cancel{R-(n-1)}}$$

$n-1$ failures success

$$= \frac{1}{k}$$

$$(ii)$$

$$= \left(\frac{k-1}{k} \right)^{n-1} \left(\frac{1}{k} \right)$$

$$= \frac{(k-1)^{n-1}}{k^n}$$

$$(iii)$$

$$= \frac{k-1}{k} \times \frac{k-2}{k-1} \times \frac{k-2}{k-1} \times \dots \times \frac{k-2}{k-1} \times \frac{1}{k-1}$$

$$= \frac{(k-1)(k-2)^{n-2}}{k(k-1)^{n-1}}$$

$$= \left(\frac{k-2}{k-1} \right)^{n-2} \times \frac{1}{k} \quad \text{for } n > 1$$

or $\frac{1}{k}$ for $n=1$

STEP I 2000 Q13

$$(i) \binom{4}{2} \times \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 \times \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{6}{256}$$

$$= \frac{3}{128}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (ii) P(F=AB | M=AB, C=AA) &= \frac{P(F=AB, M=AB, C=AA)}{P(M=AB, F=AA)} \\
 &= \frac{P(F=AB, M=AB, C=AA)}{P(F=AB, M=AB, C=AA) + P(F=AA, M=AB, C=AA)} \\
 &= \frac{0.18 \times 0.18 \times \frac{1}{4}}{0.18 \times 0.18 \times \frac{1}{4} + 0.81 \times 0.81 \times \frac{1}{2}} \\
 &= \frac{0.09}{0.09 + 0.81} \\
 &= \frac{9}{90} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10}
 \end{aligned}$$

STEP I 2000 Q14

$X \sim U[-1, 1]$, so $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}$ for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$.

$$E(X^2) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2}x^2 dx = \left[\frac{1}{6}x^3 \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$E(X^4) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2}x^4 dx = \left[\frac{1}{10}x^5 \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\text{So } \text{Var}X^2 = \frac{1}{5} - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{4}{45}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z^2) &= E(Y-X)^2 \\ &= E(Y^2 - 2XY + X^2) \\ &= EY^2 - 2EYEY + EX^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{3} - 0 + \frac{1}{3} \\ &= \frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Z^4) &= E(Y-X)^4 \\ &= E(Y^4 - 4Y^3X + 6Y^2X^2 - 4YX^3 + X^4) \\ &= EY^4 - 4EY^3EX + 6EY^2EX^2 - 4EYEYX^3 + EX^4 \\ &= \frac{1}{5} - 0 + 6 \times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} - 0 + \frac{1}{5} \\ &= \frac{16}{15} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \text{Var}Z^4 = \frac{16}{15} - \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{28}{45} = 7 \times \frac{4}{45} = 7 \text{Var}X^2$$