Area Under a Curve





Solutions relying entirely on calculator technology are not acceptable.

Figure 1 shows a sketch of part of the curve C with equation

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3\sqrt{x} + 5$$

The point *P* lies on *C* and has x coordinate 4

The line I is the tangent to C at P.

a. Show that I has equation

13x - 4y - 24 = 0

(5 marks) The region *R*, shown shaded in Figure 1, is bounded by the y-axis, the curve C, the line *I* and the x-axis.

b. Find the exact area of *R*.

a. Begin by changing the root in the equation of curve C to a power

 $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3\sqrt{x} + 5 \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5$

and then differentiate

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x - \frac{3}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Substitute x = 4 into the equation for the curve C to find the corresponding y coordinate, and into the differentiated equation to find the gradient of the tangent to C at P.

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 4^{2} - 3 \times \sqrt{4} + 5 = 7$$
1 mark
$$4 - \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} = \frac{13}{4}$$
1 mark
$$y - y_{1} = m(x - x_{1})$$

$$y - 7 = \frac{13}{4}(x - 4)$$

$$y - 7 = \frac{13}{4}x - 13$$

$$y = \frac{13}{4}x - 6$$

$$4y = 13x - 24$$

$$13x - 4y - 24 = 0$$
1 mark

To find the area of the region \mathcal{R} , integrate between x = 0 and x = 4, and then subtract the area of the triangle bound by the line /, the x-axis and the line x = 4. The line I crosses the x-axis when y = 0: 13x - 0 - 24 = 0

$$x = \frac{24}{13}$$
 1 mark

So the area of the triangle is:

6.

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \left(4 - \frac{24}{13}\right) \times 7 = \frac{98}{13}$$

Area under the curve, bound by the x-axis, the y-axis and the line x = 4 is

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5\right)dx$$
 1 mark

$$\left[\frac{1}{6}x^{3} - 2x^{\frac{3}{2}} + 5x\right]_{0}^{4}$$
 1 mark

$$= \frac{1}{6} \times 64 - 2 \times 8 + 5 \times 4$$
$$= \frac{32}{6} + 4$$

$$= \frac{3}{3} + 4$$

 $= \frac{44}{3}$

Area of region Ris

$$\frac{44}{3} - \frac{98}{13}$$
 1 mark

$$=\frac{278}{39}$$
 1 mark

1 mark

1 mark

(5 marks)