Diploma Programme
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Mathematics: analysis and approaches
Higher level
Paper 3

9 May 2023

Zone A afternoon | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** afternoon

1 hour

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- A graphic display calculator is required for this paper.
- Answer all the questions in the answer booklet provided.
- Unless otherwise stated in the question, all numerical answers should be given exactly or correct to three significant figures.
- A clean copy of the **mathematics: analysis and approaches formula booklet** is required for this paper.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[55 marks]**.

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5 pages

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Answer **all** questions in the answer booklet provided. Please start each question on a new page. Full marks are not necessarily awarded for a correct answer with no working. Answers must be supported by working and/or explanations. Solutions found from a graphic display calculator should be supported by suitable working. For example, if graphs are used to find a solution, you should sketch these as part of your answer. Where an answer is incorrect, some marks may be given for a correct method, provided this is shown by written working. You are therefore advised to show all working.

1. [Maximum mark: 24]

This question asks you to examine the number and nature of intersection points of the graph of $y = \log_a x$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $a \neq 1$ and the line $y = x$ for particular sets of values of a.

In this question you may either use the change of logarithm base formula $\log_a x = \frac{\ln x}{\ln a}$ or a graphic display calculator "logarithm to any base feature".

The function f is defined by

$$f(x) = \log_a x \text{ where } x \in \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ and } a \in \mathbb{R}^+,\ a \neq 1.$$

(a) Consider the cases $a = 2$ and $a = 10$. On the same set of axes, sketch the following three graphs:

$$y = \log_2 x$$

$$y = \log_{10} x$$

$$y = x.$$

Clearly label each graph with its equation and state the value of any non-zero x-axis intercepts. [4]

(This question continues on the following page)

(Question 1 continued)

In parts (b) and (c), consider the case where $a = \mathrm{e}$. Note that $\ln x \equiv \log_{\mathrm{e}} x$.

(b) Use calculus to find the minimum value of the expression $x - \ln x$, justifying that this value is a minimum. [5]

(c) Hence deduce that $x > \ln x$. [1]

(d) There exist values of a for which the graph of $y = \log_a x$ and the line $y = x$ do have intersection points. The following table gives three intervals for the value of a.

Interval	Number of intersection points
$0 < a < 1$	p
$1 < a < 1.4$	q
$1.5 < a < 2$	r

By investigating the graph of $y = \log_a x$ for different values of a, write down the values of p, q and r. [4]

In parts (e) and (f), consider $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $a \neq 1$.

For $1.4 \leq a \leq 1.5$, a value of a exists such that the line $y = x$ is a tangent to the graph of $y = \log_a x$ at a point P.

(e) Find the exact coordinates of P and the exact value of a. [8]

(f) Write down the exact set of values for a such that the graphs of $y = \log_a x$ and $y = x$ have

(i) two intersection points; [1]

(ii) no intersection points. [1]

2. [Maximum mark: 31]

This question asks you to examine linear and quadratic functions constructed in systematic ways using arithmetic sequences.

Consider the function $L(x) = mx + c$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$ where m, $c \in \mathbb{R}$ and m, $c \neq 0$.

Let $r \in \mathbb{R}$ be the root of $L(x) = 0$.

If m, r and c, in that order, are in arithmetic sequence then $L(x)$ is said to be an AS-linear function.

(a) Show that $L(x) = 2x - 1$ is an AS-linear function. [2]

Consider $L(x) = mx + c$.

(b) (i) Show that $r = -\frac{c}{m}$. [1]

(ii) Given that $L(x)$ is an AS-linear function, show that $L(x) = mx - \frac{m^2}{m+2}$. [4]

(iii) State any further restrictions on the value of m. [1]

There are only three **integer** sets of values of m, r and c, that form an AS-linear function. One of these is $L(x) = -x - 1$.

(c) Use part (b) to determine the other two AS-linear functions with integer values of m, r and c. [3]

Consider the function $Q(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$ where $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \neq 0$ and b, $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let r_1, $r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ be the roots of $Q(x) = 0$.

(d) Write down an expression for

(i) the sum of roots, $r_1 + r_2$, in terms of a and b. [1]

(ii) the product of roots, $r_1 r_2$, in terms of a and c. [1]

(This question continues on the following page)

(Question 2 continued)

If a, r_1, b, r_2 and c, in that order, are in arithmetic sequence, then $Q(x)$ is said to be an AS-quadratic function.

(e) Given that $Q(x)$ is an AS-quadratic function,

(i) write down an expression for $r_2 - r_1$ in terms of a and b; [1]

(ii) use your answers to parts (d)(i) and (e)(i) to show that $r_1 = \dfrac{a^2 - ab - b}{2a}$; [2]

(iii) use the result from part (e)(ii) to show that $b = 0$ or $a = -\dfrac{1}{2}$. [3]

Consider the case where $b = 0$.

(f) Determine the two AS-quadratic functions that satisfy this condition. [5]

Now consider the case where $a = -\dfrac{1}{2}$.

(g) (i) Find an expression for r_1 in terms of b. [2]

(ii) Hence or otherwise, determine the exact values of b and c such that AS-quadratic functions are formed.

Give your answers in the form $\dfrac{-p \pm q\sqrt{s}}{2}$ where p, q, $s \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. [5]

References: