

Question 1 (Jun 2010, Q7)

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$x + 2y - 6 = 0, \quad 2x^2 + y^2 = 57$$

Worked Solution

From the linear equation: $x = 6 - 2y$.

Substitute into $2x^2 + y^2 = 57$:

$$2(6 - 2y)^2 + y^2 = 57$$

$$2(36 - 24y + 4y^2) + y^2 = 57$$

$$72 - 48y + 8y^2 + y^2 = 57$$

$$9y^2 - 48y + 15 = 0$$

$$3y^2 - 16y + 5 = 0$$

$$(3y - 1)(y - 5) = 0$$

$$y = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{or} \quad y = 5$$

Back-substitute $x = 6 - 2y$:

$$y = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow x = \frac{16}{3}; \quad y = 5 \Rightarrow x = -4$$

$$x = \frac{16}{3}, y = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad x = -4, y = 5$$

Question 2 (Jun 2011, Q4)

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$y = 2(x - 2)^2, \quad 3x + y = 26$$

Worked Solution

From the linear equation: $y = 26 - 3x$.

Substitute into $y = 2(x - 2)^2$:

$$26 - 3x = 2(x - 2)^2$$

$$26 - 3x = 2(x^2 - 4x + 4)$$

$$26 - 3x = 2x^2 - 8x + 8$$

$$2x^2 - 5x - 18 = 0$$

$$(2x - 9)(x + 2) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{9}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = -2$$

Back-substitute $y = 26 - 3x$:

$$x = \frac{9}{2} \Rightarrow y = 26 - \frac{27}{2} = \frac{25}{2}; \quad x = -2 \Rightarrow y = 32$$

$$x = \frac{9}{2}, y = \frac{25}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad x = -2, y = 32$$

Question 3 (Jan 2013, Q4)

(i) Solve the simultaneous equations

$$y = 2x^2 - 3x - 5, \quad 10x + 2y + 11 = 0$$

(ii) What can you deduce about the curve $y = 2x^2 - 3x - 5$ and the line $10x + 2y + 11 = 0$?

Worked Solution

Part (i):

From the linear equation: $y = \frac{-10x - 11}{2}$.

Substitute into $y = 2x^2 - 3x - 5$:

$$2x^2 - 3x - 5 = \frac{-10x - 11}{2}$$

$$4x^2 - 6x - 10 = -10x - 11$$

$$4x^2 + 4x + 1 = 0$$

$$(2x + 1)^2 = 0$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2} \quad (\text{repeated root})$$

Back-substitute: $y = \frac{-10(-\frac{1}{2}) - 11}{2} = \frac{5 - 11}{2} = -3$

$x = -\frac{1}{2}, y = -3$

Part (ii):

Since the quadratic has a repeated root, the line is a **tangent** to the curve.

Question 4 (Jun 2015, Q6)

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$2x + y - 5 = 0, \quad x^2 - y^2 = 3$$

Worked Solution

From the linear equation: $y = 5 - 2x$.

Substitute into $x^2 - y^2 = 3$:

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 - (5 - 2x)^2 &= 3 \\x^2 - (25 - 20x + 4x^2) &= 3 \\x^2 - 25 + 20x - 4x^2 &= 3 \\-3x^2 + 20x - 28 &= 0 \\3x^2 - 20x + 28 &= 0 \\(3x - 14)(x - 2) &= 0 \\x = \frac{14}{3} \quad \text{or} \quad x = 2\end{aligned}$$

Back-substitute $y = 5 - 2x$:

$$x = \frac{14}{3} \Rightarrow y = 5 - \frac{28}{3} = -\frac{13}{3}; \quad x = 2 \Rightarrow y = 1$$

$$x = \frac{14}{3}, y = -\frac{13}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad x = 2, y = 1$$

Question 5 (Jun 2016, Q3)

Solve the simultaneous equations

$$x^2 + y^2 = 34, \quad 3x - y + 4 = 0$$

Worked Solution

From the linear equation: $y = 3x + 4$.

Substitute into $x^2 + y^2 = 34$:

$$x^2 + (3x + 4)^2 = 34$$

$$x^2 + 9x^2 + 24x + 16 = 34$$

$$10x^2 + 24x - 18 = 0$$

$$5x^2 + 12x - 9 = 0$$

$$(5x - 3)(x + 3) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{3}{5} \quad \text{or} \quad x = -3$$

Back-substitute $y = 3x + 4$:

$$x = \frac{3}{5} \Rightarrow y = \frac{9}{5} + 4 = \frac{29}{5}; \quad x = -3 \Rightarrow y = -5$$

$$x = \frac{3}{5}, y = \frac{29}{5} \quad \text{and} \quad x = -3, y = -5$$

End of Worked Solutions