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9. A scientist is using carbon-14 dating to determine the age of some wooden items.

The equation for carbon-14 dating an item is given by

$$N = k\lambda^t$$

where

- N grams is the amount of carbon-14 **currently** present in the item
- k grams was the **initial** amount of carbon-14 present in the item
- t is the number of years since the item was made
- λ is a constant, with $0 < \lambda < 1$

(a) Sketch the graph of N against t for $k = 1$

(2)

Given that it takes 5700 years for the amount of carbon-14 to reduce to half its initial value,

(b) show that the value of the constant λ is 0.999878 to 6 decimal places.

(2)

Given that Item A

- is known to have had 15 grams of carbon-14 present initially
- is thought to be 3250 years old

(c) calculate, to 3 significant figures, how much carbon-14 the equation predicts is currently in Item A.

(2)

Item B is known to have initially had 25 grams of carbon-14 present, but only 18 grams now remain.

(d) Use algebra to calculate the age of Item B to the nearest 100 years.

(3)

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Question 9 continued

Q9

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10. The circle C has centre $X(3, 5)$ and radius r

The line l has equation $y = 2x + k$, where k is a constant.

(a) Show that l and C intersect when

$$5x^2 + (4k - 26)x + k^2 - 10k + 34 - r^2 = 0$$

(3)

Given that l is a tangent to C,

(b) show that $5r^2 = (k + p)^2$, where p is a constant to be found.

(3)

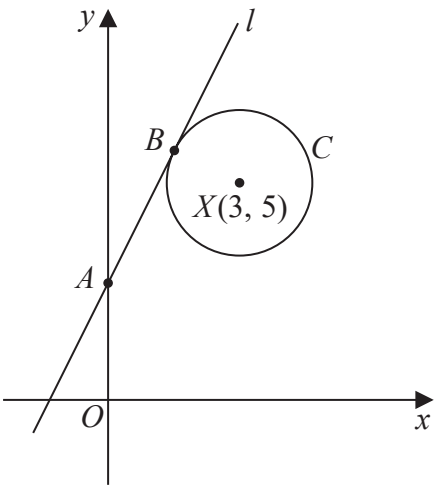


Figure 2

The line l

- cuts the y-axis at the point A
- touches the circle C at the point B

as shown in Figure 2.

Given that $AB = 2r$

(c) find the value of k

(6)

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