

# AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

No calculator is allowed for these problems.

4. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$ .

(part c)  
 $f(-0.4) = 1.52$  ... 😊

(d) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . Determine whether the approximation found in part (c) is less than or greater than  $f(-0.4)$ . Explain your reasoning.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2 - \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$= 2 - (2x - y)$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2 - 2x + y$$

approximation for  $f(-0.4) = 1.52$   
(pt. in quad II)

$$\left. \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right|_{\text{quad II}} > 0, \quad (x < 0, y > 0)$$

Approximation in part (c) is less than  $f(-0.4)$

b/c  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} > 0$  in quad II so  $f(x)$  concave up in quad II.

6. Let  $f$  be the function whose graph goes through the point  $(3, 6)$  and whose derivative is given by

$$f'(x) = \frac{1 + e^x}{x^2}.$$

(a) Write an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at  $x = 3$  and use it to approximate  $f(3.1)$ .

(b) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 3$  with a step size of  $0.05$ , to approximate  $f(3.1)$ . Use  $f''$  to explain why this approximation is less than  $f(3.1)$ .

a)  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

$$y - 6 = \frac{1 + e^3}{9}(x - 3)$$

$$f'(3) = \frac{1 + e^3}{3^2} = \frac{1 + e^3}{9}$$

$$f(3.1) - 6 = \frac{1 + e^3}{9}(3.1 - 3)$$

$$f(3.1) = \frac{1 + e^3}{9}(.1) + 6$$

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

$$= \frac{x^2 e^x - 2x - 2x e^x}{x^4}$$

$$= \frac{x(x e^x - 2 - 2e^x)}{x^4} = \frac{x e^x - 2e^x - 2}{x^3}$$

$$= \frac{e^x(x - 2) - 2}{x^3}$$

$$f'' \quad \frac{1}{3} \quad + \quad \frac{1}{4}$$

Approximation is less than  $f(3.1)$

b/c  $f''(x) > 0$  on  $(3, \infty)$

so  $f$  concave up on  $(3, \infty)$