

Markscheme

November 2025

**Mathematics: applications and
interpretation**

Higher level

Paper 2

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Instructions to Examiners

Abbreviations

- M** Marks awarded for attempting to use a correct **Method**.
- A** Marks awarded for an **Answer** or for **Accuracy**; often dependent on preceding **M** marks.
- R** Marks awarded for clear **Reasoning**.
- AG** Answer given in the question and so no marks are awarded.
- FT** Follow through. The practice of awarding marks, despite candidate errors in previous parts, for their correct methods/answers using incorrect results.

Using the markscheme

1 General

Award marks using the annotations as noted in the markscheme *eg M1, A2*.

2 Method and Answer/Accuracy marks

- Do **not** automatically award full marks for a correct answer; all working **must** be checked, and marks awarded according to the markscheme.
- It is generally not possible to award **M0** followed by **A1**, as **A** mark(s) depend on the preceding **M** mark(s), if any.
- Where **M** and **A** marks are noted on the same line, *e.g. M1A1*, this usually means **M1** for an **attempt** to use an appropriate method (*e.g.* substitution into a formula) and **A1** for using the **correct** values.
- Where there are two or more **A** marks on the same line, they may be awarded independently; so if the first value is incorrect, but the next two are correct, award **A0A1A1**.
- Where the markscheme specifies **A3, M2** etc., do **not** split the marks, unless there is a note.
- The response to a “show that” question does not need to restate the **AG** line, unless a **Note** makes this explicit in the markscheme.
- Once a correct answer to a question or part question is seen, ignore further working even if this working is incorrect and/or suggests a misunderstanding of the question. This will encourage a uniform approach to marking, with less examiner discretion. Although some candidates may be advantaged for that specific question item, it is likely that these candidates will lose marks elsewhere too.
- An exception to the previous rule is when an incorrect answer from further working is used **in a subsequent part**. For example, when a correct exact value is followed by an incorrect decimal approximation in the first part and this approximation is then used in the second part. In this situation, award **FT** marks as appropriate but do not award the final **A1** in the first part.

Examples:

	Correct answer seen	Further working seen	Any FT issues?	Action
1.	$8\sqrt{2}$	5.65685... (incorrect decimal value)	No. Last part in question.	Award A1 for the final mark (condone the incorrect further working)
2.	$\frac{35}{72}$	0.468111... (incorrect decimal value)	Yes. Value is used in subsequent parts.	Award A0 for the final mark (and full FT is available in subsequent parts)

3 Implied marks

Implied marks appear in **brackets e.g. (M1)**, and can only be awarded if **correct** work is seen or implied by subsequent working/answer.

4 Follow through marks (only applied after an error is made)

Follow through (**FT**) marks are awarded where an incorrect answer from one **part** of a question is used correctly in **subsequent** part(s) (e.g. incorrect value from part (a) used in part (d) or incorrect value from part (c)(i) used in part (c)(ii)). Usually, to award **FT** marks, **there must be working present** and not just a final answer based on an incorrect answer to a previous part. However, if all the marks awarded in a subsequent part are for the answer or are implied, then **FT** marks should be awarded for *their* correct answer, even when working is not present.

For example: following an incorrect answer to part (a) that is used in subsequent parts, where the markscheme for the subsequent part is **(M1)A1**, it is possible to award full marks for *their* correct answer, **without working being seen**. For longer questions where all but the answer marks are implied this rule applies but may be overwritten by a **Note** in the Markscheme.

- Within a question part, once an **error** is made, no further **A** marks can be awarded for work which uses the error, but **M** marks may be awarded if appropriate.
- If the question becomes much simpler because of an error then use discretion to award fewer **FT** marks, by reflecting on what each mark is for and how that maps to the simplified version.
- If the error leads to an inappropriate value (e.g. probability greater than 1, $\sin \theta = 1.5$, non-integer value where integer required), do not award the mark(s) for the final answer(s).
- The markscheme may use the word “their” in a description, to indicate that candidates may be using an incorrect value.
- If the candidate’s answer to the initial question clearly contradicts information given in the question, it is not appropriate to award any **FT** marks in the subsequent parts. This includes when candidates fail to complete a “show that” question correctly, and then in subsequent parts use their incorrect answer rather than the given value.
- Exceptions to these **FT** rules will be explicitly noted on the markscheme.
- If a candidate makes an error in one part but gets the correct answer(s) to subsequent part(s), award marks as appropriate, unless the command term was “Hence”.

5 Mis-read

If a candidate incorrectly copies values or information from the question, this is a mis-read (**MR**). A candidate should be penalized only once for a particular misread. Use the **MR** stamp to indicate that this has been a misread and do not award the first mark, even if this is an **M** mark, but award all others as appropriate.

- If the question becomes much simpler because of the **MR**, then use discretion to award fewer marks.
- If the **MR** leads to an inappropriate value (e.g. probability greater than 1, $\sin \theta = 1.5$, non-integer value where integer required), do not award the mark(s) for the final answer(s).
- Miscopying of candidates' own work does **not** constitute a misread, it is an error.
- If a candidate uses a correct answer, to a "show that" question, to a higher degree of accuracy than given in the question, this is NOT a misread and full marks may be scored in the subsequent part.
- **MR** can only be applied when work is seen. For calculator questions with no working and incorrect answers, examiners should **not** infer that values were read incorrectly.

6 Alternative methods

Candidates will sometimes use methods other than those in the markscheme. Unless the question specifies a method, other correct methods should be marked in line with the markscheme. If the command term is 'Hence' and not 'Hence or otherwise' then alternative methods are not permitted unless covered by a note in the mark scheme.

- Alternative methods for complete questions are indicated by **METHOD 1**, **METHOD 2**, etc.
- Alternative solutions for parts of questions are indicated by **EITHER . . . OR**.

7 Alternative forms

Unless the question specifies otherwise, **accept** equivalent forms.

- As this is an international examination, accept all alternative forms of **notation** for example 1.9 and 1,9 or 1000 and 1,000 and 1.000.
- Do not accept final answers written using calculator notation. However, **M** marks and intermediate **A** marks can be scored, when presented using calculator notation, provided the evidence clearly reflects the demand of the mark.
- In the markscheme, equivalent **numerical** and **algebraic** forms will generally be written in brackets immediately following the answer.
- In the markscheme, some **equivalent** answers will generally appear in brackets. Not all equivalent notations/answers/methods will be presented in the markscheme and examiners are asked to apply appropriate discretion to judge if the candidate work is equivalent.

8 Format and accuracy of answers

If the level of accuracy is specified in the question, a mark will be linked to giving the answer to the required accuracy. If the level of accuracy is not stated in the question, the general rule applies to final answers: *unless otherwise stated in the question all numerical answers must be given exactly or correct to three significant figures.*

Where values are used in subsequent parts, the markscheme will generally use the exact value, however candidates may also use the correct answer to 3 sf in subsequent parts. The markscheme will often explicitly include the subsequent values that come “*from the use of 3 sf values*”.

Simplification of final answers: Candidates are advised to give final answers using good mathematical form. In general, for an **A** mark to be awarded, arithmetic should be completed, and any values that lead to integers should be simplified; for example, $\sqrt{\frac{25}{4}}$ should be written as $\frac{5}{2}$. An exception to this is simplifying fractions, where lowest form is not required (although the numerator and the denominator must be integers); for example, $\frac{10}{4}$ may be left in this form or written as $\frac{5}{2}$.

However, $\frac{10}{5}$ should be written as 2, as it simplifies to an integer.

Algebraic expressions should be simplified by completing any operations such as addition and multiplication, e.g. $4e^{2x} \times e^{3x}$ should be simplified to $4e^{5x}$, and $4e^{2x} \times e^{3x} - e^{4x} \times e^x$ should be simplified to $3e^{5x}$. Unless specified in the question, expressions do not need to be factorized, nor do factorized expressions need to be expanded, so $x(x+1)$ and $x^2 + x$ are both acceptable.

Please note: intermediate **A** marks do NOT need to be simplified.

9 Calculators

A GDC is required for this paper, but if you see work that suggests a candidate has used any calculator not approved for IB DP examinations (eg CAS enabled devices), please follow the procedures for malpractice.

10 Presentation of candidate work

Crossed out work: If a candidate has drawn a line through work on their examination script, or in some other way crossed out their work, do not award any marks for that work unless an explicit note from the candidate indicates that they would like the work to be marked.

More than one solution:

Where a candidate offers two or more different answers to the same question, an examiner should only mark the first response unless the candidate indicates otherwise. If the layout of the responses makes it difficult to judge, examiners should apply appropriate discretion to judge which is “first”.

1. (a) (i) 4 A1
(ii) 6 A1
(iii) 3 A1
[3 marks]
- (b) $(1.5 \times 3) + 6$
 $= 10.5$ (A1)
(k =) 11 A1
[2 marks]
- (c) at least one correct mid-interval value identified (A1)
- Note:** Mid-interval value may be seen in mean formula.
- 4.54 (4.53650..., $\frac{5716}{1260}$) A2
[3 marks]
- (d) the frequency of the number of letters (in each word in his essay) is **not** consistent with the English language. A1
[1 mark]
- (e) (i) 6 A1
(ii) 20.3 (20.3131...) A2
(iii) 0.00244 (0.00243537... 2.44×10^{-3}) A1
[4 marks]
- (f) **EITHER**
20.3 > 16.812 R1
OR
0.00244 < 0.01 R1
THEN
Dr. Petrillo should reject the null hypothesis A1

Note: Do not award **R0A1**.

[2 marks]
Total [15 marks]

2. (a) (i) 0.9 A1
- (ii) the rate of change (of the height of the plant is 0.9 cm per day)
3 days after it is planted (accept $t = 3$) A1
[2 marks]
- (b) attempt to solve $\frac{dh}{dt} = 0$ (algebraically or graphically) (M1)
($t =$) 12 (days) A1
[2 marks]
- (c) recognition of the need to integrate (M1)
 $h = 1.2t - 0.05t^2 (+c)$ A1A1
- Note:** Award **A1** for each correct term.
- attempt to use given conditions (2,6.5) to find c (M1)
 $c = 4.3$
($h =$) $1.2t - 0.05t^2 + 4.3$ A1
[5 marks]
- (d) **EITHER**
attempt to find maximum graphically (M1)
- OR**
attempt to substitute their part (b) for t (M1)
- THEN**
 $h = 11.5$ (cm) A1
- NOTE:** If their answer to part (c) is linear or any other function that substantially changes the nature of the question, award at most **M1A0**. Award at most **M1A0** if the x value of their max point (FT from part (c)), contradicts their $x = 12$ found in part (b).
- [2 marks]
- (e) 2 (cm) A1
[1 mark]
- (f) **EITHER**
attempt to write 1.2 as a percentage or percentage increase (M1)
- OR**
attempt to find two values of H and % increase (M1)
- THEN**
($p =$) 20 A1
[2 marks]
- (g) attempt to solve $H(t) = h(t)$ (M1)
 $t = 9.43$ (days) (9.43483...) A1
[2 marks]
- Total [16 marks]**

3. (a) 4 **A1**
[1 mark]

(b) (i) **EITHER**
Award **M1** for attempting to substitute in (5,3.9) or (10,4) or (8,3.936)
in $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ **(M1)**
 $3.9 = a \times 5^2 + b \times 5 + 4$
 $-0.1 = 25a + 5b$ ($-0.02 = 5a + b$) **A1**

Note: Award at most **M1A0** for an equation that is not simplified (e.g. $3.9 = 25a + 5b + 4$).

OR
M1 for attempt at axis of symmetry at $x = 5$ **(M1)**

$5 = \frac{-b}{2a}$ **OR** $10a + b = 0$ **OR** $b = -10a$ **A1**

OR
M1 for an attempt to find derivative equated to 0. **(M1)**
 $2a \times 5 + b = 0$
 $10a + b = 0$ **OR** $b = -10a$ **A1**

(ii) $a = 0.004 \left(\frac{1}{250} \right), b = -0.04 \left(\frac{-1}{25} \right)$ **A1A1**
[4 marks]

(c) (i) $\left(\frac{dy}{dx} = \right) 0.008x - 0.04 \quad \left(\frac{1}{125}x - \frac{1}{25} \right)$ **A1A1**

Note: Award **A1** for each correct term. Award at most **A1A0** if additional terms are seen.

(ii) substituting 0 or 10 into their derivative **(M1)**
(steepest gradient=) 0.04 **A1**
[4 marks]

(d) (i) $r = 0.994$ (0.994142...) **A2**

(ii) (very) strong **A1**
[3 marks]

(e) (0.01889 represents) the (increase in) deflection (in m) for each person (on the bridge). **A1**
[1 mark]

- (f) 0.1954 seen A1
 0.1 seen **OR** R(5, 3.8046) seen A1
 Jenny’s model for the height of the walkway has the smaller estimate A1

Note: The final **A1** is contingent on both preceding **A1** marks being awarded. Accept an equivalent statement that identifies $n = 0$ for the regression line, with comparison of deflections or bridge heights.

[3 marks]
Total [16 marks]

4. (a) attempt to solve $6 = 3\ln(5t + 1)$ (M1)
 $(t =) 1.28$ (hours) $(1.27781 \dots, \frac{e^2-1}{5})$ A1
[2 marks]
- (b) 9.02 (9.02376 ...) A1
[1 mark]
- (c) attempt to eliminate d M1
 $p = 20(1 - e^{-0.1 \times 3 \ln(5t+1)})$ A1
 use of log law(s) to simplify (M1)
 $p = 20(1 - e^{\ln(5t+1)^{-0.3}}) = 20(1 - (5t + 1)^{-0.3})$
 $p = 20\left(1 - \frac{1}{(5t+1)^{0.3}}\right) \quad (n = 0.3)$ A1

Note: Award **M0A0M0A1** for working backwards from the given equation and substituting values of p and t to find $n = 0.3$.

[4 marks]

- (d) 10.8 (points) (10.8392...) A1
[1 mark]
- (e) considers $t = 12$ (M1)
 $p = 14.2$ (14.1731...) A1

Note: Award **M1A0** for $p = 15.2554 \dots$ from using $t = 24$.
 Award **M1A0** for $p = 20$ from considering the horizontal asymptote.

[2 marks]

- (f) recognizes $120 = 7p + b$ (M1)
 recognizes $D = 7d$ (M1)
 $120 = 140\left(1 - \frac{1}{(5T+1)^{0.3}}\right) + 50\left(1 - \frac{1}{21\ln(5T+1)+1}\right)$ A1
 $T = 1.91$ (hours) (1.91387...) A1

[4 marks]
Total [14 marks]

5. (a) convenience

A1

Note: Accept opportunity.

[1 mark]

(b) (i) $p > 0.6$

A1

(ii) recognition to use binomial distribution (with $n = 80$ and $p = 0.6$)

(M1)

recognize need to find $P(X \geq 54)$

(A1)

p -value = 0.104 (0.103731 ...)

A1

since $0.104 > 0.05$,

R1

insufficient evidence to reject H_0

insufficient evidence that the new recipe is an improvement.

A1

Note: FT from their p -value for the final R1A1. Award A1 only if reference is specifically made to the context. Do not accept “the new recipe is not an improvement”. Do not award R0A1.

[6 marks]

(c) (i)

m	$P(X \geq m)$
55	0.067464...
56	0.041747...

a region with a lower bound of 56 e.g. [56, 80] OR $X \geq 56$

A2

(ii) attempt to find $P(X \leq 55)$ when $p = 0.65$

M1

0.793 (0.792833...)

A1

[4 marks]

(d) H_0 : buying snacks is independent of age

H_1 : buying snacks is not independent of age

A1

Note: Award A1 for both hypotheses correct.

recognize need to combine cells as $fe < 5$

(M1)

new table is

Age, x	Will buy	Will not buy
$x < 20$	22	8
$20 < x < 30$	18	5
$30 \leq x$	14	13

(A1)

p -value = 0.0957 (0.0956988 ...)

A2

$0.0957 > 0.05$

insufficient evidence to reject H_0

A1

Note: Award at most A1M0A0A2(FT)A1(FT), if a candidate does not combine cells, obtaining a p -value of 0.123596 ...

Award A1 for a p -value = 0.096 (2 s.f.) or 0.0956 (truncated).

FT from their p -value for the final A1, providing H_0 is stated. Award A1 for “Accept H_0 ”.

[6 marks]

Total [17 marks]

6. (a) attempt to integrate $12\cos\theta$ with respect to t **(M1)**
 $(x =) (12\cos\theta)t + 2$ **A1A1**
[3 marks]
- (b) attempt to solve $y = 0$ **M1**
 $t(12\sin\theta - 4.9t) = 0$ **A1**
 $t = 0$ or $t = \frac{12\sin\theta}{4.9}$
 $t = 0$ is the starting position **OR** it hits the ground when $t > 0$ **R1**
so the ball hits the ground at $t = \frac{12\sin\theta}{4.9} = \frac{120\sin\theta}{49}$ **AG**
[3 marks]
- (c) attempt to substitute $t = \frac{120\sin\theta}{49}$ into their expression for x . **(M1)**
 $(x_g =) 12\cos\theta \frac{120\sin\theta}{49} + 2 \left(= \frac{1440}{49} \sin\theta\cos\theta + 2 = (29.3877 \dots)\sin\theta\cos\theta + 2 \right)$ **A1**
[2 marks]
- (d) sketch of graph showing maximum **(M1)**
 0.785 ($0.785398\dots, \frac{\pi}{4}, 45^\circ$) **A1**

Note: The answer must follow from their expression for x_g .

- [2 marks]**
- (e) (i) $(x =) (12\cos\theta - 3)t$ $(+2)$ **A1**
 $(x_g =) (12\cos\theta - 3)\frac{120\sin\theta}{49} + 2$ **A1**
- (ii) sketch of graph showing maximum **(M1)**
 0.688 ($0.688242\dots, 39.433^\circ\dots$) **A1**
[4 marks]
Total [14 marks]

7. (a) $\begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 13 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$ **A1A1**
[2 marks]

(b) attempt to write LHS as a product of matrices or expand the RHS **M1**

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_n + f_{n-1} \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_n \\ f_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{A1}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_{n+1} \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_n \\ f_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{AG}$$

[2 marks]

(c) attempt to find the determinant of $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda I$ **(M1)**

$$(1 - \lambda)(-\lambda) - 1 = 0 \quad \text{A1}$$

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda - 1 = 0 \quad \text{AG}$$

Note: The **AG** line must be seen in order to award the final **A1**.

Accept finding the trace and determinant of $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and substituting into $\lambda^2 - (\text{Trace})\lambda + \text{det} = 0$.

(d) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 + 1 \\ \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}$ **[2 marks]**
A1

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^2 \\ \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{since } \lambda^2 - \lambda - 1 = 0) \quad \text{A1}$$

$$= \lambda_1 \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{AG}$$

[2 marks]

(e) (i) $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$ **A1**

(ii) $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ **A1**

(iii) $\frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\lambda_2 \\ -1 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}$ **A1**

Note: Accept $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}$ in part (i) and FT for parts (ii) and (iii) and part (f).

[3 marks]

(f) attempt to expand $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\lambda_2 \\ -1 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ **(M1)**

EITHER (right to left)

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 A1

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^{n-1} \\ -\lambda_2^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
 A1

OR (Left to right)

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n & \lambda_2^n \\ \lambda_1^{n-1} & \lambda_2^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\lambda_2 \\ -1 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 A1

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n - \lambda_2^n & \lambda_1 \lambda_2^n - \lambda_2 \lambda_1^n \\ \lambda_1^{n-1} - \lambda_2^{n-1} & \lambda_1 \lambda_2^{n-1} - \lambda_2 \lambda_1^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 A1

THEN

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_{n+1} \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n - \lambda_2^n \\ \lambda_1^{n-1} - \lambda_2^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
 A1

Note: To award the final **A1** the RHS must be correct and must be equated to

$\begin{pmatrix} f_{n+1} \\ f_n \end{pmatrix}$ at some point during the proof.

Award marks as appropriate if candidates do a combination of expanding from the left and the right.

so that $f_n = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} ((\lambda_1)^{n-1} - (\lambda_2)^{n-1})$ **AG**
[4 marks]

(g) (i) attempt to use quadratic formula or complete the square **(M1)**
 $\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$ **A1**

(ii) $f_n = \frac{1}{\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} - \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}} \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} \right) \left(= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} \right) \right)$ **A1**

Note: Exact values required.

[3 marks]
Total [18 marks]