

Cambridge International AS & A Level

Mathematics

9709/32

Paper 3 Pure Mathematics 3

May/June 2025

Question No (1)

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Question No (1)

Solve the equation $\frac{e^x + 2e^{-x}}{e^x - 3} = 4$. Give your answer correct to 3 decimal places.

Solution:

DATE :-

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

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

$$\frac{e^{2x} + 2/e^x}{e^x - 3} = 4$$

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

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

$$e^{2x} + 2 = 4e^{2x} - 12e^x$$

$$4e^{2x} - e^{2x} - 2 - 12e^x = 0$$

$$3e^{2x} - 12e^x - 2 = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

$$\text{put } e^x = t$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{2x} = t^2$$

Equation ① becomes

$$3t^2 - 12t - 2 = 0$$

using the quadratic formula

$$a=3, b=-12, c=-2$$

$$t = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{(-12)^2 - 4(3)(-2)}}{2 \times 3}$$

$$= \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{144 + 24}}{6}$$

$$t = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{168}}{6}$$

$$= \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{2 \times 2 \times 42}}{6}$$

$$= \frac{2(6 \pm \sqrt{42})}{6}$$

$$t = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{42}}{3}$$

$$t = \frac{6 + \sqrt{42}}{3}$$

$$= \frac{6 + 6.48}{3}$$

$$t = 4.16$$

$$e^x = 4.16$$

$$\therefore t = e^x$$

$$\ln e^x = \ln(4.16)$$

$$x \ln e = 1.426$$

$$x = 1.426$$

