

8. In this question you must show all stages of your working.

Solutions relying entirely on calculator technology are not acceptable.

The air pressure,  $P$  kg/cm<sup>2</sup>, inside a car tyre,  $t$  minutes from the instant when the tyre developed a puncture is given by the equation

$$P = k + 1.4e^{-0.5t} \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \quad t \geq 0$$

where  $k$  is a constant.

Given that the initial air pressure inside the tyre was 2.2 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>

- (a) state the value of  $k$ .

(1)

From the instant when the tyre developed the puncture,

- (b) find the time taken for the air pressure to fall to 1 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>  
Give your answer in minutes to one decimal place.

(3)

- (c) Find the rate at which the air pressure in the tyre is decreasing exactly 2 minutes from the instant when the tyre developed the puncture.  
Give your answer in kg/cm<sup>2</sup> per minute to 3 significant figures.

(2)

(a)  $P = k + 1.4e^{-0.5t}$  when  $t=0$   $P = k + 1.4$   
giving  $k = 2.2 - 1.4$   
 $= 0.8 \text{ kg cm}^{-2}$

(b)  $P=1$  here so  $1 = 0.8 + 1.4e^{-0.5t}$   
 $\frac{0.2}{1.4} = e^{-0.5t}$

Take  $\ln$  of both sides  $\ln\left(\frac{1}{7}\right) = -0.5t \Rightarrow t = 3.9 \text{ min}$

(c)  $P = 0.8 + 1.4e^{-0.5t}$   
 $\frac{dP}{dt} = 1.4(-0.5)e^{-0.5t}$

$$\frac{d(e^{ax})}{dx} = ae^{ax}$$

When  $t=2$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -0.7e^{-1} = -\frac{0.7}{e} = -0.258 \text{ kg cm}^{-2} / \text{min}$$

↑  
-ve sign shows decreasing  
at rate  $0.258 \text{ kg cm}^{-2} / \text{min}$ .

