

1 Given in Your Exam

These formulas are on the formulae pages printed at the start of every OCR MEI A Level Mathematics B paper. You don't need to memorise them, but you do need to know when and how to use each one.

PURE

Arithmetic Series



$$S_n = \frac{1}{2}n(a + l) = \frac{1}{2}n[2a + (n - 1)d]$$

a is the first term, l the last term, d the common difference

Geometric Series

$$S_n = \frac{a(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}$$

$$S_\infty = \frac{a}{1 - r} \text{ for } |r| < 1$$

a is the first term, r the common ratio

Binomial Series

$$(a + b)^n = a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b + \dots + \binom{n}{r}a^{n-r}b^r + \dots + b^n$$

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n - r)!}$$

For positive whole numbers n

General Binomial Expansion



$$(1 + x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n - 1)}{2!}x^2 + \dots + \frac{n(n - 1)\dots(n - r + 1)}{r!}x^r + \dots$$

Valid for $|x| < 1$ when n is negative or a fraction

Derivatives of Trig Functions

$$\tan kx \rightarrow k \sec^2 kx$$

$$\sec x \rightarrow \sec x \tan x$$

$$\cot x \rightarrow -\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$$

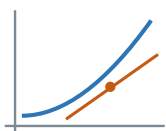
$$\operatorname{cosec} x \rightarrow -\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x$$

$f(x) \rightarrow f'(x)$

Quotient Rule

$$y = \frac{u}{v} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v \frac{du}{dx} - u \frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2}$$

Differentiation From First Principles



$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$$

Integral of $1/x$

$$\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + c$$

Integrating $f'(x) \div f(x)$

$$\int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx = \ln|f(x)| + c$$

Integrating $f'(x)e^{f(x)}$ to the $f(x)$

$$\int f'(x)e^{f(x)} dx = e^{f(x)} + c$$

Reverse Chain Rule

$$\int f'(x)[f(x)]^n dx = \frac{[f(x)]^{n+1}}{n+1} + c, n \neq -1$$

Integration by Parts

$$\int u \frac{dv}{dx} dx = uv - \int v \frac{du}{dx} dx$$

Small Angle Approximations

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta$$

$$\cos \theta \approx 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2}$$

$$\tan \theta \approx \theta$$

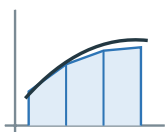
θ in radians

Compound Angle Formulae

$$\sin(A \pm B) = \sin A \cos B \pm \cos A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A \pm B) = \cos A \cos B \mp \sin A \sin B$$

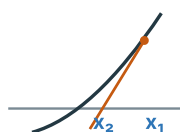
$$\tan(A \pm B) = \frac{\tan A \pm \tan B}{1 \mp \tan A \tan B}$$



The Trapezium Rule

$$\int_a^b y dx \approx \frac{h}{2} \{(y_0 + y_n) + 2(y_1 + \dots + y_{n-1})\}$$

$$h = \frac{b-a}{n}$$



Newton-Raphson Method

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

MECHANICS

Constant Acceleration (suvat)

$$v = u + at$$

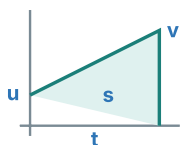
$$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$s = vt - \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

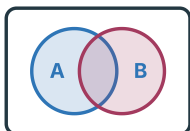
$$s = \frac{1}{2}(u + v)t$$

$$v^2 = u^2 + 2as$$

Motion in a straight line with constant acceleration

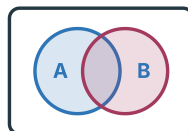


STATISTICS



Probability: A or B

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$



Conditional Probability

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

Sample Variance

$$s^2 = \frac{S_{xx}}{n-1}$$

$$S_{xx} = \sum (x - \bar{x})^2 = \sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n}$$

$s = \sqrt{\text{variance}}$

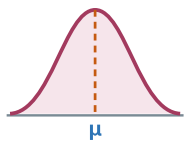
The Binomial Distribution

If $X \sim B(n, p)$:

$$P(X = r) = \binom{n}{r} p^r q^{n-r}$$

$$q = 1 - p$$

$$\text{Mean} = np$$



Sample Mean From a Normal Distribution

$$\bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$

$$\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

Used in hypothesis tests for the mean

Percentage Points of the Normal Distribution

$$\text{Two-tailed } 10\% \rightarrow z = 1.645$$

$$5\% \rightarrow z = 1.960$$

$$2\% \rightarrow z = 2.326$$

$$1\% \rightarrow z = 2.576$$

2 Learn These by Heart

These are **not** given in the exam. Students lose marks on them every year, so learn them until you can write them from memory.

ALGEBRA AND FUNCTIONS



The Quadratic Formula

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

Laws of Indices

$$a^x \times a^y = a^{x+y}$$

$$a^x \div a^y = a^{x-y}$$

$$(a^x)^y = a^{xy}$$

Laws of Logarithms

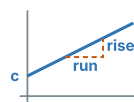
$$x = a^n \Leftrightarrow n = \log_a x$$

$$\log_a x + \log_a y = \log_a (xy)$$

$$\log_a x - \log_a y = \log_a \frac{x}{y}$$

$$k \log_a x = \log_a (x^k)$$

$$a > 0, x > 0$$



Straight Lines

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

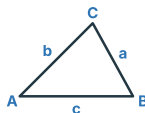
$$\text{Perpendicular: } m_1 m_2 = -1$$

nth Terms of Sequences

$$\text{Arithmetic: } u_n = a + (n - 1)d$$

$$\text{Geometric: } u_n = ar^{n-1}$$

TRIGONOMETRY



Sine Rule, Cosine Rule and Area

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

$$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$$

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2}ab \sin C$$

Pythagorean Identities

$$\cos^2 A + \sin^2 A \equiv 1$$

$$\sec^2 A \equiv 1 + \tan^2 A$$

$$\operatorname{cosec}^2 A \equiv 1 + \cot^2 A$$

Double Angle Formulae

$$\sin 2A \equiv 2 \sin A \cos A$$

$$\cos 2A \equiv \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$$

$$\tan 2A \equiv \frac{2 \tan A}{1 - \tan^2 A}$$

$$\cos 2A \text{ can also be written as } 2\cos^2 A - 1 \text{ or } 1 - 2\sin^2 A$$



Arc Length and Sector Area

$$s = r\theta$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}r^2\theta$$

θ in radians

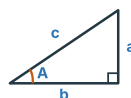
MENSURATION



Circles

$$C = 2\pi r = \pi d$$

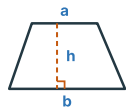
$$A = \pi r^2$$



Pythagoras' Theorem

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

c is the hypotenuse



Trapezium and Prism

$$\text{Area of a trapezium} = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)h$$

$$\text{Volume of a prism} = \text{area of cross-section} \times \text{length}$$

CALCULUS AND VECTORS

Standard Derivatives

$$x^n \rightarrow nx^{n-1}$$

$$\sin kx \rightarrow k \cos kx$$

$$\cos kx \rightarrow -k \sin kx$$

$$e^{kx} \rightarrow ke^{kx}$$

$$\ln x \rightarrow \frac{1}{x}$$

$$f(x) \rightarrow f'(x)$$

Product and Chain Rules

$$(fg)' = f'g + fg'$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}f(g(x)) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

Standard Integrals

$$x^n \rightarrow \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (n \neq -1)$$

$$\cos kx \rightarrow \frac{1}{k} \sin kx$$

$$\sin kx \rightarrow -\frac{1}{k} \cos kx$$

$$e^{kx} \rightarrow \frac{1}{k} e^{kx}$$

$$\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow \ln|x|$$

Add + c to each

Reverse Chain Rule and Area

$$\int f'(g(x))g'(x) dx = f(g(x)) + c$$

$$\text{Area under a curve} = \int_a^b y dx \quad (y \geq 0)$$

Magnitude of a Vector

$$|xi + yj + zk| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

MECHANICS

Forces and Newton's Second Law

$$\text{Weight} = mg$$

$$\text{Friction: } F \leq \mu R$$

$$F = ma$$

Use $g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ unless told otherwise

Variable Acceleration

$$v = \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2r}{dt^2}$$

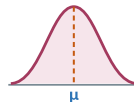
$$r = \int v dt$$

$$v = \int a dt$$

STATISTICS

Mean

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x}{n} = \frac{\sum fx}{\sum f}$$



Standardising a Normal Variable

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}, \text{ where } X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Write It First

Write the formula down before you substitute. You can earn a method mark even if the answer goes wrong.

Check the Units

Make sure every length is in the same unit before you use a formula.

Test Yourself

Cover the right-hand side of each card and try to write the formula from memory.

Need Help Using These Formulas?

Book a free 90-minute lesson and I'll show your child exactly when and how to use each one.

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