

5.

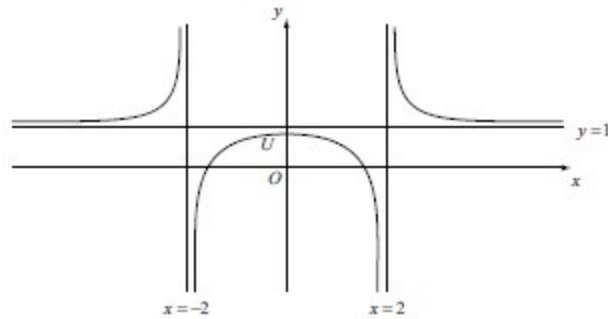


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows a sketch of the curve C with equation $y = \frac{x^2 - 2}{x^2 - 4}$ and $x \neq \pm 2$.

The curve cuts the y -axis at U .

(a) Write down the coordinates of the point U .

(1)

The point P with x -coordinate a ($a \neq 0$) lies on C .

(b) Show that the normal to C at P cuts the y -axis at the point

$$\left(0, \left[\frac{a^2 - 2}{a^2 - 4} - \frac{(a^2 - 4)^2}{4} \right] \right)$$

(6)

The circle E , with centre on the y -axis, touches all three branches of C .

(c) (i) Show that

$$\left[\frac{a^2}{2(a^2 - 4)} - \frac{(a^2 - 4)^2}{4} \right]^2 = a^2 + \frac{(a^2 - 4)^4}{16}$$

(ii) Hence, show that

$$(a^2 - 4)^2 = 1$$

(iii) Find the centre and radius of E .

(10)