

3. On the ellipse  $4x^2 + 9y^2 = 1$ , the points at which the tangents are parallel to the line  $8x = 9y$  are (1999 - 3 Marks)

(a)  $\left(\frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{5}\right)$

(b)  $\left(-\frac{2}{5}, \frac{1}{5}\right)$

(c)  $\left(-\frac{2}{5}, -\frac{1}{5}\right)$

(d)  $\left(\frac{2}{5}, -\frac{1}{5}\right)$

Solution: -

3. (b, d) Let  $y = \frac{8}{9}x + C$  be the tangent to  $\frac{x^2}{1/4} + \frac{y^2}{1/9} = 1$

$$\text{where } C = \pm\sqrt{a^2m^2 + b^2} = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{64}{81} + \frac{1}{9}} = \pm\frac{5}{9}$$

$$\text{and pts of contact are } \left(\frac{-a^2m}{c}, \frac{b^2}{c}\right) = \left(\frac{2}{5}, \frac{-1}{5}\right)$$

$$\text{or } \left(\frac{-2}{5}, \frac{1}{5}\right)$$