

Full Name: SOLUTIONS
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Math 120 Midterm Test 1 Sep. 28, 2007 50 min.

1. Each of these short-answer questions is worth 3 marks. If a correct answer is written in the box provided, you get 3, otherwise you can earn at most 1.

(a) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^{3/2} - 4x^{1/2}}{x^2 - 3x - 4}$

$\frac{2}{5}$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^{1/2}(x-4)}{(x-4)(x+1)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^{1/2}}{x+1} = \frac{2}{5}$$

(b) Compute the derivative of $f(x) = x\sqrt{1+x^4}$

$\frac{1+3x^4}{\sqrt{1+x^4}}$

$$f(x) = x(1+x^4)^{1/2}$$

$$f'(x) = (1+x^4)^{1/2} + x \cdot \frac{1}{2}(1+x^4)^{-1/2} \cdot 4x^3$$

$$= (1+x^4)^{-1/2} [1+x^4 + 2x^4]$$

(c) Find an equation for the tangent line to $y = 1/x^2$ at $x = 2$.

$y = -\frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{4}$

$$y|_{x=2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{x=2} = \frac{-2}{x^3} \Big|_{x=2} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{tangent line is } y - \frac{1}{4} = \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)(x-2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = -\frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{4}$$

(d) For which integer values of k and b is the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^k}{|x|} & x \neq 0 \\ b & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

continuous everywhere?

$$b=0 \text{ and } k > 1$$

• f cont. for $x \neq 0 \quad \forall b$ and k

• f cont. at $0 \Leftrightarrow b = f(0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^k}{|x|} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k > 1 \\ \text{does not exist} & \text{if } k \leq 1 \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow f$ cont. everywhere iff $b=0$
and $k > 1$

(e) Find $h'(1)$, if $h(x) = f(g(f(x)))$, where f and g are differentiable functions satisfying

$$f(1) = 2, f'(1) = 3, g(2) = 1, \text{ and } g'(2) = 2$$

$$18$$

$$h'(x) = f'(g(f(x))) g'(f(x)) f'(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow h'(1) = f'(g(f(1))) g'(f(1)) f'(1) = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 18$$

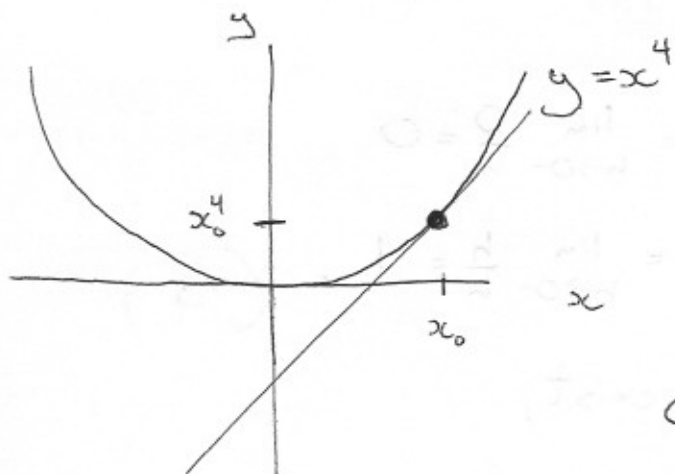
(f) Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{|x-1|}{x^2-1}$

$$-\frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-(x-1)}{(x-1)(x+1)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-1}{x+1} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

2. Sketch the graph $y = x^4$. Find equations for all tangent lines to this graph which pass through the point $(0, -48)$.



• $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x^3$, so the tangent line at (x_0, x_0^4) is

$$y - x_0^4 = 4x_0^3(x - x_0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = 4x_0^3x - 3x_0^4$$

which intersects the y -axis at $y = -3x_0^4$. So we need $-3x_0^4 = -48$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_0^4 = 16$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_0 = \pm 2.$$

So the lines are

$$y = 32x - 48$$

$$y = -32x - 48$$

3. Let

$$f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 3x + 6}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$$

Compute the derivative $f'(x)$. Also, show that $f'(x) \geq 0$ for all x .

$$f'(x) = \frac{(1+x^2)^{1/2}(3x^2+3) - (x^3+3x+6) \frac{1}{2}(1+x^2)^{-1/2}(2x)}{1+x^2}$$

$$= (1+x^2)^{-3/2} [(1+x^2)(3x^2+3) - (x^4+3x^2+6x)]$$

$$= (1+x^2)^{-3/2} [2x^4 + 3x^2 - 6x + 3]$$

$$= \underbrace{(1+x^2)^{-3/2}}_{>0} \left[\underbrace{2x^4}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{3(x-1)^2}_{\geq 0} \right] \geq 0.$$

4. Is the function

$$f(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ x & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

differentiable at $x = 0$? (Justify your answer.)

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

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(h)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h}{h} = 1. \quad (4)$$

So $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h}$ does not exist,

hence f is not differentiable at 0.

5. Prove that the limit of a sum is the sum of the limits. That is, prove (using the definition of limit) that if $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = M$, then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = L + M$.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given.

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$, $\exists \delta_1 > 0$ s.t. if $0 < |x - a| < \delta_1$, then $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon/2$.

Since $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = M$, $\exists \delta_2 > 0$ s.t. if $0 < |x - a| < \delta_2$, then $|g(x) - M| < \varepsilon/2$.

Set $\delta := \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$. Then if $0 < |x - a| < \delta$,

$$|f(x) + g(x) - (L + M)| = |f(x) - L + g(x) - M| \leq |f(x) - L| + |g(x) - M| < \varepsilon/2 + \varepsilon/2 = \varepsilon.$$

Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} [f(x) + g(x)] = L + M$.