



MATH1151 Calculus Test 2 2008 S1 v2a

January 28, 2015

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1. First, we let $L = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sqrt{4x^2 + 7x - 2} - (2x + 1) \right)$.

Now, in order to help us investigate the behaviour of this limit, multiply the numerator and denominator by the conjugate, i.e. by $\sqrt{4x^2 + 7x - 2} + (2x + 1)$.

Simplifying,

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x^2 + 7x - 2 - (2x + 1)^2}{\sqrt{4x^2 + 7x - 2} + 2x + 1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4x^2 + 7x - 2 - (4x^2 + 4x + 1)}{\sqrt{4x^2 + 7x - 2} + 2x + 1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x - 3}{\sqrt{4x^2 + 7x - 2} + 2x + 1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x - 3}{x \sqrt{4 + \frac{7}{x} - \frac{2}{x^2}} + 2x + 1} \end{aligned}$$

Dividing the numerator and the denominator by x will help us see the limiting behaviour as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3 - \frac{3}{x}}{\sqrt{4 + \frac{7}{x} - \frac{2}{x^2}} + 2 + \frac{1}{x}}$$

By the Algebra of Limits, we can change this to,

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(3 - \frac{3}{x}\right)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\sqrt{4 + \frac{7}{x} - \frac{2}{x^2}} + 2 + \frac{1}{x}\right)} \\ &= \frac{3}{\sqrt{4} + 2} \\ \therefore L &= \frac{3}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

2. To determine the number of real roots of a cubic polynomial, we can consider the product of the y -values of the stationary points. If this value is negative, that means the y -values of the stationary points are opposite in sign, implying that there must be 3 real roots (try draw sketches of this scenario if you're unsure about this).

First, we let $f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 1$.

Differentiating, $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 12x$.

Now, for stationary points, let $f'(x) = 0$.

So,

$$3x^2 - 12x = 0$$

$$x^2 - 4x = 0$$

$$x(x - 4) = 0$$

$$x = 0 \text{ or } 4.$$

Consider the product of the y -values of the two stationary points,

$$\begin{aligned} f(0) \cdot f(4) &= (0^3 - 6(0)^2 + 1) \cdot (4^3 - 6(4)^2 + 1) \\ &= 1 \times (64 - 96 + 1) \\ &= -31 < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, both stationary points lie on opposite sides of the x -axis and hence there must be 3 real solutions (roots) to the function.

Alternatively, note that this is a cubic with a positive leading coefficient. We can choose x such that we have the change of signs $- \rightarrow + \rightarrow - \rightarrow +$ which would allow us to use the Intermediate Value Theorem and the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra to argue that

there are exactly three real roots. An example of possible x values where we would see these sign changes are $x = -1, 0, 1, 10$.

3.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + b, & \text{for } x \leq 1 \\ \tan \frac{\pi x}{4}, & \text{for } 1 < x < 2. \end{cases}$$

For the function to be differentiable at $x = 1$, it must first be continuous, and the derivative must exist.

First, ensuring continuity at $x = 1$, the two sided limits must agree with the function evaluated at this point, i.e.

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

So, $a + b = 1 = a + b$ implying that $a + b = 1$.

Now, ensuring differentiability, we use the definition of the derivative,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(1+h) - f(1)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(1+h) - f(1)}{h} \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{a(1+h) + b - (a+b)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\tan\left(\frac{\pi(1+h)}{4}\right) - 1}{h} \end{aligned}$$

Note that the RHS takes the form $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$, so

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{ah}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\frac{\pi}{4} \sec^2\left(\frac{\pi(1+h)}{4}\right)}{1} \quad (\text{L'Hopital's rule}) \\ &= a = \frac{\pi}{4} \sec^2(\pi) 4 \\ &= \frac{\pi}{4} \times 2 \\ \therefore a &= \frac{\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

From the first condition, we have $b = 1 - \frac{\pi}{2}$.

Hence,

$$a = \frac{\pi}{2}, b = 1 - \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

4. Mean Value Theorem: If a function f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) , then there exists a constant $c \in (a, b)$ such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(a) - f(b)}{a - b}.$$

Now, let $f : [0, x] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = \tan^{-1} x$ where $x > 0$.

We choose this domain for f by first inspecting the required answer.

Note that f is continuous on $[0, x]$ and differentiable on $(0, x)$. Also, $f'(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$.

Thus, by the Mean Value Theorem, there exists $c \in (0, x)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) &= \frac{f(0) - f(x)}{0 - x} \\ \frac{1}{1+c^2} &= \frac{0 - f(x)}{0 - x} \\ &= \frac{f(x)}{x} \\ &= \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $c > 0$, this implies that $\frac{1}{1+c^2} < 1$.

Hence, $\frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x} < 1$ and so $\tan^{-1} x < x$ for $x > 0$.

At $x = 0$, $\tan^{-1} 0 = 0$.

Therefore,

$$\tan^{-1} x \leq x \text{ for } x \geq 0.$$





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MATH1151 Calculus Test 2 2009 S1 v1b

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1.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + b, & \text{for } x \leq 1 \\ \ln x, & \text{for } x > 1. \end{cases}$$

For the function to be differentiable at $x = 1$, it must be both continuous and differentiable at this point.

First, ensuring continuity, we want the two sided limits to agree with the function evaluated at this point, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = f(1) \\ a + b &= \ln 1 = a + b \end{aligned}$$

This implies that $a + b = 0$.

Now, ensuring differentiability, we use the definition of the derivative,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(1+h) - f(1)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(1+h) - f(1)}{h} \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{a(1+h) + b - (a+b)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(1+h) - \ln(1)}{h} \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{ah}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\ln(1+h)}{h}\end{aligned}$$

Since the RHS takes the indeterminate form $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} a &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{1+h} \quad (\text{L'Hopital's rule}) \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have $a = 1$, and from the first equation, $b = -1$.

2. Mean Value Theorem: If f is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) , then there exists a constant $c \in (a, b)$ such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

Since $f(x) = (x-1)^3$ is continuous and differentiable on \mathbb{R} (as it is a polynomial), it must be continuous on $[1, 4]$ and differentiable on $(1, 4)$.

Also, note that $f'(x) = 3(x-1)^2$. By the Mean Value Theorem, there exists a constant $c \in (1, 4)$ such that

$$3(c-1)^2 = \frac{f(4) - f(1)}{4 - 1} = \frac{3^3 - 0}{3 - 0} = 3^2 = 9.$$

Solving for c , we find that $c = 1 \pm \sqrt{3}$. But $c \in (1, 4)$, so $c = 1 + \sqrt{3}$.

3. Let $L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{2x} + e^{-2x} - 2}{x^2}$.

Note that this takes the indeterminate form $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$, so we can apply L'Hopital's rule,

$$L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2e^{2x} - 2e^{-2x}}{2x} \quad (\text{L'Hopital's rule})$$

This also takes the indeterminate form $\left(\frac{0}{0}\right)$,

$$\begin{aligned}&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4e^{2x} + 4e^{-2x}}{2} \quad (\text{L'Hopital's rule}) \\ &= \frac{4 + 4}{2} \\ &= 4.\end{aligned}$$

4. Factorising the denominator,

$$f(x) = \frac{|x-2|}{x^2-6x+8} = \frac{|x-2|}{(x-4)(x-2)}.$$

Case 1: $x \geq 2$,

When $x \geq 2$, we know that $|x-2| = x-2$. Rewriting $f(x)$,

$$f(x) = \frac{x-2}{(x-4)(x-2)} = \frac{1}{x-4}.$$

So, as $x \rightarrow 2^+$, $f(x) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2-4} = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 2: $x < 2$,

When $x < 2$, we know that $|x-2| = -(x-2)$. Rewriting $f(x)$,

$$f(x) = \frac{-(x-2)}{(x-4)(x-2)} = -\frac{1}{x-4}.$$

So, as $x \rightarrow 2^-$, $f(x) \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2-4} = \frac{1}{2}$.

Thus, since the 2-sided limits do not agree, $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ does not exist.

5. Let $f(x) = x^2 + 1 - 2\cos x$.

We choose two simple x -values that would result in opposite signs of $f(x)$ and would allow to use the Intermediate Value Theorem.

Choosing $x = 0$ and $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$, and evaluating the function at these points,

$$f(0) = -2 < 0, \quad f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{\pi^2}{4} + 1 > 0.$$

These points were chosen to obtain simple function values.

Since f is continuous on $\left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$, then by the Intermediate Value Theorem, there exists $c \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ such that $f(0) \leq f(c) \leq f(\frac{\pi}{2})$.

Thus, we can choose $c \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ such that $f(c) = 0$. This implies that there exists at least one positive root.



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1. Recall the definition of the derivative,

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

- 2.

$$c = \frac{3}{2}.$$

3. L'Hopital's rule may or may not help. Limit is 1.
4. Multiply the numerator and denominator by the conjugate and do something similar as in Test 2 2008 S1 v2a. Limit is -2 .
5. Consider cases when $x > 2$ and when $x < 2$. The two sided limits do not agree, i.e. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$ implying there is a jump discontinuity (an essential discontinuity). This means that it cannot be removed by simply defining a function value for

$$x = 2.$$

