

1. The position function  $s(t)$  of a particle travelling a straight line is given by  $s(t) = \cos^2(t)$ . Find the **acceleration** of the particle at any time  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 v(t) = s'(t) &= 2 \cos t \cdot \frac{d}{dt}[\cos t] && \text{Apply Chain Rule} \\
 &= 2 \cos t \cdot (-\sin t) \\
 &= -2 \sin(t) \cos(t) \\
 a(t) = v'(t) = s''(t) &= \frac{d}{dt}[-2 \sin t \cos t] \\
 &= 2 \sin t \cdot (-\sin t) + (-2 \cos t)(\cos t) && \text{Product Rule} \\
 &= \boxed{2(\sin^2 t - \cos^2 t)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note: If we use trig identities we can write the above as  $v(t) = -\sin(2t)$  and  $a(t) = -2 \cos(2t)$ . Either form is an acceptable answer.

2. Consider the **piece-wise defined** function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) & -\infty < x < 0 \\ 1 & x = 0 \\ \frac{\sin(5x)}{6x} & 0 < x < +\infty \end{cases}$

(a) Find the values of the following limits. **Justify your answer.** You are required to use  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$  where applicable and not L'Hopital's Rule.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) \stackrel{?}{=} \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

**Solution:**

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} x \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

We can use Squeeze Theorem to find this limit. We know  $-1 \leq \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \leq 1$  for all  $x < 0$ . Multiplying the inequality by  $x < 0$  we obtain  $-x \geq x \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \geq x$ , or equivalently,  $x \leq x \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \leq -x$ . We have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} x = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} -x = 0$$

And by Squeeze Theorem, it follows,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} x \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ .

Note that Squeeze Theorem is useful for evaluating trigonometric limits of this form (you saw an example in class where  $f(x) = x \sin(1/x)$ , because the inequality  $-1 \leq \sin \theta \leq 1$  makes it relatively easy to find two nice functions to “squeeze”  $f(x)$  between.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) \stackrel{?}{=} \underline{\hspace{2cm}}.$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(5x)}{6x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(5x)}{6x} \cdot \frac{5}{5} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(5x)}{5x} \cdot \frac{5}{6} \\ &= \frac{5}{6} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin(5x)}{5x} \\ &= \frac{5}{6} \cdot 1 \\ &= \frac{5}{6} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Which of the choices below **BEST** describes the behavior of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 0$ ? Circle one:

Removable Discontinuity

Jump Discontinuity

Right Continuous

Continuous

This is an example of a **jump discontinuity** because  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$  both exist and are finite, but  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = 0 \neq \frac{5}{6} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ . We cannot make this function continuous by simply redefining  $f(0)$ .

Also note that the function is *not* right continuous, because  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \frac{5}{6} \neq f(0) = 1$ .