

TJHSST Math Team HMMT  
Calculus Subject Test  
Dr. Osborne 2010

All answers must be given exactly, but you may leave your answers in factorial form if you like.

1. [2] Determine the value of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x^3} - 1}{\sin x - x}$ .
2. [2] Determine the value of the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)(2n+2)}$ .
3. [3] Given the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , where  $a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{4n^2 + 4kn + k^2}{n^2 + k^2}$ , find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n}$ .
4. [3] Given the function  $f(x) = \frac{\sin \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}}$ , find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f^{(2010)}(x)$ .
5. [4] The function  $f(x)$  is the solution to the differential equation
$$2x f''(x) + f'(x) = 3x$$
for which  $f(1) = -2$  and  $f'(1) = 1$ . Find all values of  $x > 1$  for which  $f(x) = 0$ .
6. [5] Determine the value of  $\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^6 t \cos^6 t \, dt$ .

Solutions to the Calculus Test  
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1. Determine the value of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x^3} - 1}{\sin x - x}$ .

Solution: It will be best to avoid l'Hôpital in this case. Using the expansions of the exponential function and the sine function gives

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x^3} - 1}{\sin x - x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3 + x^6/2 + \dots}{-x^3/6 + x^5/120 - \dots} = \mathbf{-6}.$$

2. Determine the value of the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)(2n+2)}$ .

Solution: Using partial fractions, we can easily write this series as

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left[ \frac{1}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2n+2} \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1}.$$

These series are both well-known, so our answer is  $\frac{\pi - 2\ln 2}{4}$

Alternate solution: As with many cases involving infinite series, we consider the function

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+2}}{(2n+1)(2n+2)}.$$

Clearly, the derivative of  $f(x)$  is given by

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} = \text{Arctan } x.$$

Since the function is clearly zero at  $x = 0$ , its value at  $x = 1$  is given by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)(2n+2)} = \int_0^1 \text{Arctan } x \, dx = x \text{Arctan } x \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{x}{x^2+1} \, dx = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \ln 2.$$

3. Given the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ , where  $a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{4n^2 + 4kn + k^2}{n^2 + k^2}$ , find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n}$ .

Solution: We recognize this limit as a Riemann sum, as

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{n} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(k/n)^2 + 4k/n + 4}{(k/n)^2 + 1} = \int_0^1 \frac{x^2 + 4x + 4}{x^2 + 1} \, dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left( 1 + \frac{4x}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{3}{x^2 + 1} \right) \, dx = \mathbf{1 + 2\ln 2 + 3\pi/4} \end{aligned}$$

4. Given the function  $f(x) = \frac{\sin \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}}$ , find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f^{(2010)}(x)$ .

Solution: The Maclaurin expansion of  $f(x)$  is easily seen to be given by

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^k}{(2k+1)!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n,$$

where the derivatives should be replaced by limits of the derivatives if, as in this case, 0 cannot just be 'plugged in'. The desired derivative is therefore given by 2010! times the coefficient of  $x^{2010}$  in this expansion, or **2010!/4021!**.

5. The function  $f(x)$  is the solution to the differential equation

$$2x f''(x) + f'(x) = 3x$$

for which  $f(1) = -2$  and  $f'(1) = 1$ . Find all values of  $x > 1$  for which  $f(x) = 0$ .

Solution: We first recognize that this differential equation can be written in the form

$$\left[ 2\sqrt{x} f'(x) \right]' = 3\sqrt{x}$$

on dividing by the integrating factor  $\sqrt{x}$ . Integrating from 1 to  $t$  then gives

$$2\sqrt{t} f'(t) - 2 = 2t^{3/2} - 2, \quad \text{or} \quad f'(t) = t.$$

Integrating from 1 to  $x$  gives  $f(x) = x^2/2 - 5/2$ , so the zero occurs at  $x = \sqrt{5}$ .

Alternate solution: It is obvious by inspection that a polynomial of second degree can be forced to satisfy this differential equation. The second derivative of such a polynomial is given by twice its leading coefficient  $a$ , and the first derivative is given by  $2ax$ . Therefore, we have  $4a + 2a = 3$ , or  $a = 1/2$ . This immediately implies that the coefficient of  $x$  is 0 and the constant is  $-5/2$ , so the zero is attained at  $x = \sqrt{5}$ .

6. Determine the value of  $\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^6 t \cos^6 t \, dt$ .

Solution: We first use a trigonometric identity to write this integral as

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^6 t \cos^6 t \, dt = \frac{1}{2^6} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin^6 2t \, dt.$$

To compute this integral, we appeal to the exponential form of the sine function,

$$\sin t = \frac{e^{it} - e^{-it}}{2i}.$$

This gives

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \sin^6 t \cos^6 t \, dt = \frac{(-1)^3}{2^{12}} \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_{k=0}^6 \binom{6}{k} (-1)^k e^{2ikt} e^{-2i(6-k)t} \, dt = \frac{(-1)^3}{2^{12}} \int_0^{2\pi} \sum_{k=0}^6 \binom{6}{k} (-1)^k e^{4i(k-3)t} \, dt.$$

The integral of the exponential of  $it$  times any nonzero integer obviously gives zero, as can easily be shown just by doing one, so the value of this integral is given only by the term for  $k = 3$ ,

$$\frac{2\pi}{2^{12}} \binom{6}{3} = \frac{\pi \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4}{2^{11} \cdot 3 \cdot 2} = \frac{5\pi}{2^9} = \frac{5\pi}{512}.$$