

**MATH 1: INTRODUCTION TO CALCULUS**  
**MIDTERM EXAM #1 SOLUTIONS**

**Problem 1.** [12 points]

(a) Simplify  $2\ln(e^3)$ .

$$2\ln(e^3) = 2(3) = \boxed{6}$$

(b) Let  $f(x) = \cos(x)$  and  $g(x) = e^{x^2}$ . Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$  and  $(f \circ g)(x)$ .

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(\cos(x)) = e^{\cos(x)^2} = \boxed{e^{\cos^2(x)}}$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(e^{x^2}) = \boxed{\cos(e^{x^2})}$$

(c) Solve the equation  $\ln(\sqrt{x-5}) = 1$  for  $x$ .

$$\ln(\sqrt{x-5}) = 1$$

$$\sqrt{x-5} = e^1$$

$$x-5 = e^2$$

$$\boxed{x = e^2 + 5}$$

(d) Solve the equation  $9^{(3^x)} = 3^{(27^x)}$  for  $x$ .

$$9^{(3^x)} = 3^{(27^x)}$$

$$3^{(2 \cdot 3^x)} = 3^{27^x}$$

$$2 \cdot 3^x = 27^x$$

$$2 \cdot 3^x = 3^{3x}$$

$$\log_3 2 + x = 3x$$

$$\log_3 2 = 2x$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{1}{2} \log_3 2}$$

**Problem 2.** [9 points]

- (a) Find all solutions of  $2 \cos^2(\theta) \tan(\theta) = \sin(\theta)$  for  $\theta$  in the interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

$$2 \cos^2(\theta) \tan(\theta) = \sin(\theta)$$

$$2 \cos^2(\theta) \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\cos(\theta)} = \sin(\theta)$$

$$2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) = \sin(\theta)$$

$$2 \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) - \sin(\theta) = 0$$

$$\sin(\theta)(2 \cos(\theta) - 1) = 0$$

$$\sin(\theta) = 0 \text{ or } 2 \cos(\theta) - 1 = 0$$

$$\sin(\theta) = 0 \text{ or } \cos(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta = 0, \frac{\pi}{3}, \pi, \frac{5\pi}{3}$$

- (b) Let  $f(x) = (x - 3)^2$  for  $x \leq 3$ . Find  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

$$y = (x - 3)^2$$

$$y = (x - 3)^2$$

$$\sqrt{y} = \pm(x - 3)$$

$$3 \pm \sqrt{y} = x$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = 3 - \sqrt{x}$$

- (c) Solve the equation  $\log_2(\sqrt{x}) + \log_2(\sqrt[3]{x}) = 2$  for  $x$ .

$$\log_2(\sqrt{x}) + \log_2(\sqrt[3]{x}) = 2$$

$$\log_2(\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x}) = 2$$

$$\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x} = 2^2$$

$$x^{\frac{5}{6}} = 4$$

$$x = 4^{\frac{6}{5}}$$

**Problem 3.** [8 points] Mark the following statements as true or false.

False  $\ln(e^{-2}) = e^{\ln(-2)}$

False If  $k$  is positive,  $10^{-k}$  is negative.

False  $\log_5(xy) = \log_5(x) \log_5(y)$

True If  $a$  is a positive, constant, then  $\ln(a^r) = r \ln(a)$ .

False  $\log_3 0 = 1$

False The domain of  $f(x) = 2^x + 1$  is  $(2, \infty)$ .

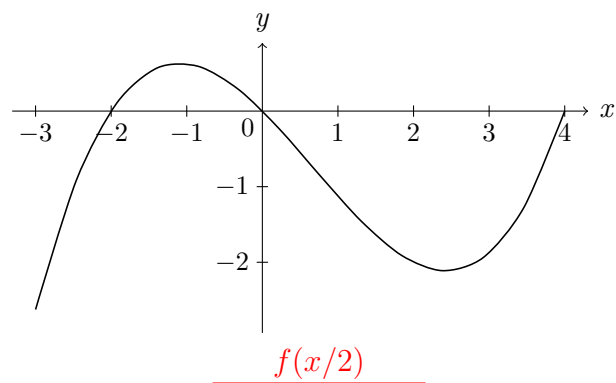
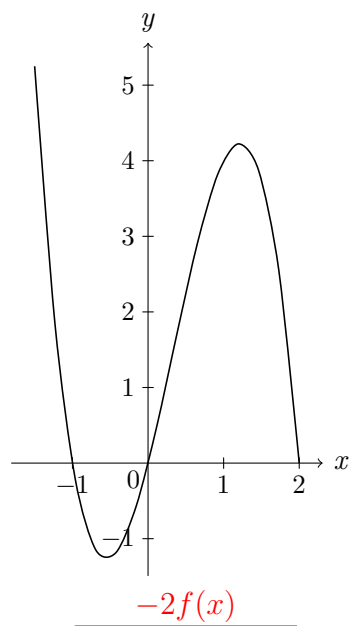
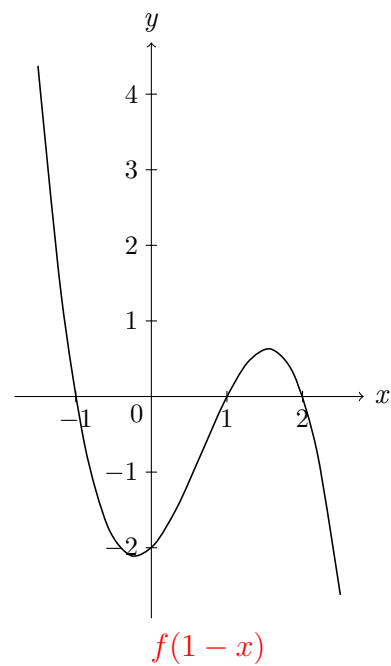
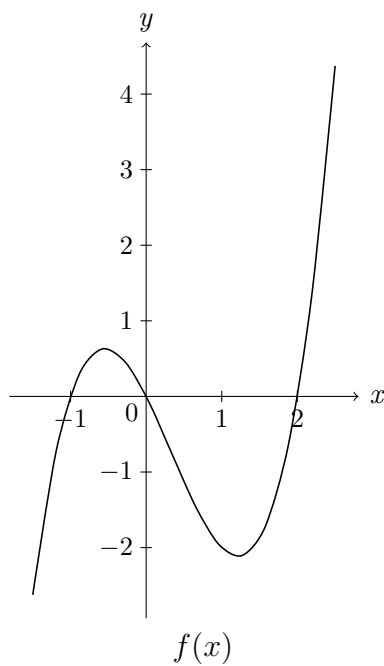
False The graph of  $y = e^{\ln x}$  is a parabola.

True The slope of a secant line passing through the point  $(a, f(a))$  and a nearby point on the graph of  $f(x)$  approximates the instantaneous rate of change of  $f(x)$  at  $a$ .

**Problem 4.** [7 points]

(1) Match the transformations of  $f(x)$  with their graphs.

**Options:**  $-2f(x)$ ,  $f(x/2)$ ,  $f(1-x)$



(2) Is  $f(x)$  even, odd, or neither?

neither

**Problem 5.** [12 points]

(a) Plot the graph of  $f(x) = e^x$  and its inverse function  $f^{-1}(x) = \ln(x)$ .

(b) Let  $g(x) = e^{2x}$  and  $h(x) = e^{x+1}$ . What are  $g^{-1}(x)$  and  $h^{-1}(x)$ ?

$$g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \ln x$$

$$h^{-1}(x) = \ln x - 1$$

(c) Describe which **basic** transformation we need to

- transform the graph of  $f(x) = e^x$  into the graph of  $g(x) = e^{2x}$ .

horizontal compression by a factor of 2

- transform the graph of  $f^{-1}(x) = \ln(x)$  into the graph of  $g^{-1}(x)$ , as found above.

vertical compression by a factor of 2

(d) Describe which **basic** transformation we need to

- transform the graph of  $f(x) = e^x$  into the graph of  $h(x) = e^{x+1}$ .

shift left by 1

- transform the graph of  $f^{-1}(x) = \ln(x)$  into the graph of  $h^{-1}(x)$  as found above.

shift down by 1

(e) Fill in the blanks below with options from the bank of terms.

If we horizontally compress the original function by a factor of  $a$ , its corresponding inverse function will be vertically compressed by a factor of  $a$  ( $a > 1$ ).

(There are other correct answers)

**Term Bank:** horizontally compress, horizontally stretch, vertically compress, vertically stretch

If we horizontally shift left the original function  $a$  ( $a > 0$ ) units, its corresponding inverse function will be vertically shifted down  $a$  units ( $a > 0$ ).

(There are other correct answers)

**Term Bank:** horizontally shift left, horizontally shift right, vertically shift up, vertically shift down

**Problem 6.** [8 points]

The number of hours of daylight in a northeastern city is modeled by the function

$$N(t) = 12 + 3 \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{365}(t - 79)\right]$$

where  $t$  is the number of days after January 1.

- (a) Find the amplitude and period of  $N(t)$ .

The amplitude is 3, and the period is 365.

- (b) How many hours of sunlight does the model predict on the longest day of the year?

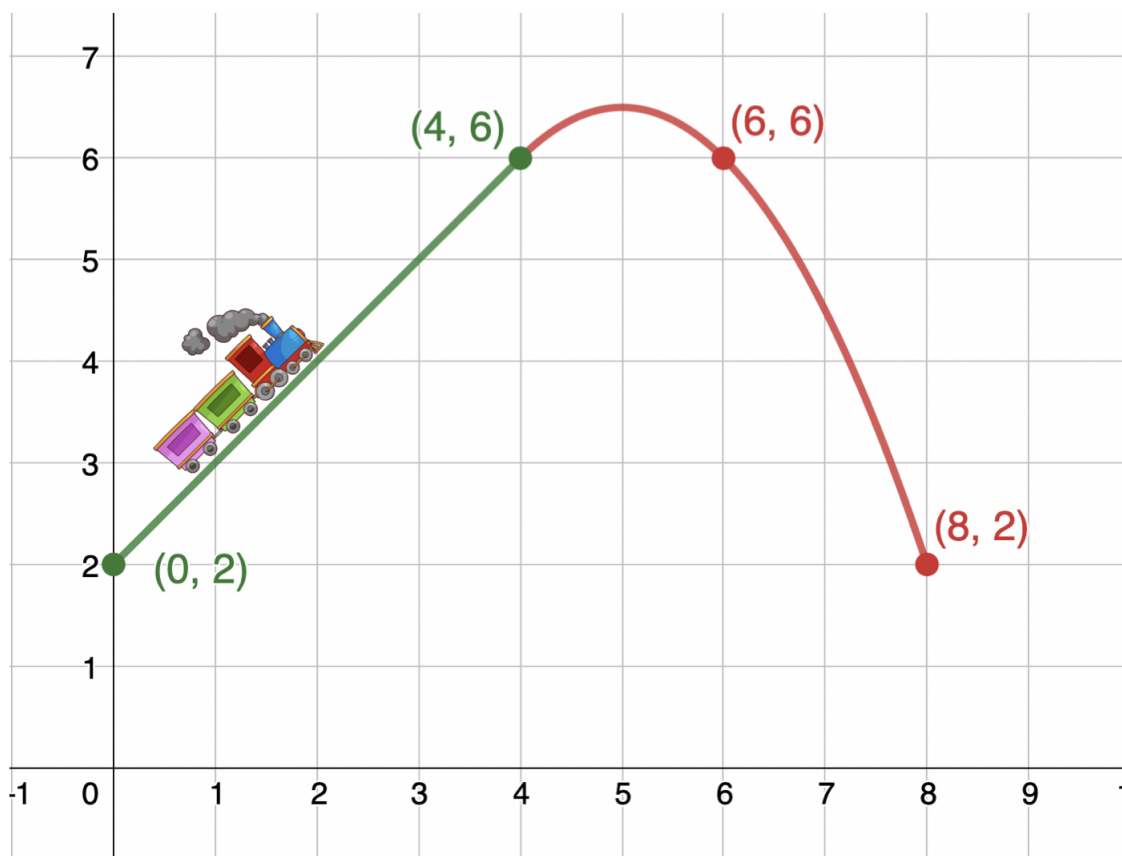
The sine function fluctuates between  $-1$  and  $1$ , so the maximum value of  $\sin(x)$  is  $1$ . Therefore, the maximum value of  $N(t)$  is  $12 + 3(1) = 15$ . On the longest day of the year, the model predicts 15 hours of sunlight.

- (c) How many hours of sunlight does the model predict 90 days after January 1?

$$\begin{aligned} N(90) &= 12 + 3 \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{365}(90 - 79)\right] = 12 + 3 \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{365} \cdot 11\right] \\ &= 12 + 3 \sin\left[\frac{22\pi}{365}\right] \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 7.** [9 points]

The figure below shows a track of the Green-Red Mountain. The first part of the mountain is linear, while the rest is part of the quadratic curve  $-\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 5x - 6$ .



- (a) Suppose the figure depicts the entire mountain, modeled by a function  $f(x)$ . Using the given coordinates and the formula of the quadratic curve, write down a piecewise definition of  $f(x)$ .

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 2 & x \leq 4 \\ -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 5x - 6 & x \geq 4 \end{cases}$$



- (b) Engineers are working to decide if it is safe for a train to travel on the mountain or if they need to build a tunnel through the mountain. If the absolute value of the slope at the foot of the mountain, which is the point  $(8, 2)$ , is greater than 2, it is too dangerous to run a train, and they need to build a tunnel. Compute the slope of the secant line through  $(7, \frac{9}{2})$  and  $(8, 2)$ , and the slope of the secant line through  $(\frac{15}{2}, \frac{27}{8})$  and  $(8, 2)$ . Use these slopes to estimate the slope of the tangent line at  $(8, 2)$  and help the engineers make the decision.

$$m_1 = \frac{2 - \frac{9}{2}}{8 - 7} = \frac{-\frac{5}{2}}{1} = -\frac{5}{2}$$
$$m_2 = \frac{2 - \frac{27}{8}}{8 - \frac{15}{2}} = \frac{-\frac{11}{8}}{\frac{1}{2}} = -\frac{22}{8} = -\frac{11}{4}$$

Based on these two slopes, we estimate that the slope of the tangent line at  $(8, 2)$  is around  $-3$ , or at least steeper than  $-2$ , and thus not safe for the train.

**Problem 8.** [6 points]

Show algebraically whether the following functions are even, odd, or neither:

(a)  $f(x) = e^{|x|}$

$$f(-x) = e^{|-x|} = e^{|x|} = f(x)$$

Therefore,  $f$  must be even.

(b)  $g(x) = \sin x \cos x$

$$g(-x) = \sin(-x) \cos(-x) = -\sin(x) \cos(x) = -g(x)$$

Therefore,  $g$  must be odd.

(c)  $h(x) = x \sin x$

$$h(-x) = (-x) \sin(-x) = (-x) \cdot (-\sin(x)) = x \sin(x) = h(x)$$

Therefore,  $h$  must be even.