2017-2018 Summer MAT123-07 Midterm (24/07/2018)

1. Evaluate

$$\lim_{x \to 3^+} (x - 3)^{\ln(x - 2)}$$

2. Find constants a and b such that f(2) + 3 = f(0) and f(x) is continuous at x = 1 where f(x) is defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + b, & \text{if } x > 1\\ 3, & \text{if } x = 1\\ x^2 - 4x + b + 3, & \text{if } x < 1 \end{cases}$$

and f(x) is continuous everywhere.

- 3. The top of a ladder leaning against a wall slides down the wall at the rate of 6 m/s. When the bottom of the ladder is 9 m from the wall, it is moved away from the wall at the rate of 5 m/s. How long is the ladder?
- 4. Sketch the graph of

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

5. Evaluate the following integrals.

(a)
$$\int \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}} \, dx$$

(b)
$$\int (\ln x)^2 dx$$

- 6. Let us consider the area A of the region bounded by the curve $x = y^2 6y$ and the straight line x = -y. Write an integral (but don't evaluate) corresponding to the area A
- (i) with respect to the y-axis and
- (ii) with respect to the x-axis.

2017-2018 Summer Midterm (24/07/2018) Solutions (Last update: 29/08/2025 21:13)

1. Let L be the limit value. Then, take the logarithm of both sides.

$$L = \lim_{x \to 3^+} (x - 3)^{\ln(x - 2)}$$

$$ln(L) = ln \left[\lim_{x \to 3^+} (x - 3)^{\ln(x-2)} \right]$$

The function is continuous for x > 3. So, we can take the logarithm function inside the limit. Using the property of logarithms, we get:

$$\ln(L) = \lim_{x \to 3^+} \ln\left[(x-3)^{\ln(x-2)} \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^+} \left[\ln(x-2) \cdot \ln(x-3) \right]$$

If we substitute x=3, we see that $\ln(1)=0$. However, $\ln(x-3)$ becomes undefined (in other words, tends to negative infinity as $x\to 3^+$). We can apply L'Hôpital's rule if we treat these two expressions as a single fraction. Rewrite the limit as follows:

$$\lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\ln(x - 2) \cdot \ln(x - 3) \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\frac{\ln(x - 2)}{\frac{1}{\ln(x - 3)}} \right]$$

The limit is now in the form ∞/∞ . Apply the rule where indeterminate forms occur.

$$\lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\frac{\ln(x-2)}{\frac{1}{\ln(x-3)}} \right] \stackrel{\text{L'H.}}{=} \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{x-2}}{-\frac{1}{\ln^{2}(x-3)} \cdot \frac{1}{x-3}} \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[-\frac{\ln^{2}(x-3)}{\frac{x-2}{x-3}} \right] \quad \left[\frac{\infty}{\infty} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{L'H.}}{=} \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[-\frac{2\ln(x-3) \cdot \frac{1}{x-3}}{\frac{(x-3)-(x-2)}{(x-3)^{2}}} \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\frac{2\ln(x-3)}{\frac{1}{x-3}} \right] \quad \left[\frac{\infty}{\infty} \right]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{L'H.}}{=} \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[\frac{\frac{2}{x-3}}{-\frac{1}{(x-3)^{2}}} \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} \left[-\frac{2(x-3)}{1} \right] = \lim_{x \to 3^{+}} (6-2x)$$

$$= 0$$

Recall that we evaluated ln(L) = 0, so L = 1.

2. We need to ensure continuity at x=1. The one-sided limits must be equal to the value of the function at that point. The function is a polynomial expression for x<1, and another polynomial expression for x>1. Both expressions are defined for x=1 (x=1 is actually in the domain with another condition), so we can just substitute x=1 in the limits.

$$\lim_{x \to 1^+} (ax + b) = a + b = 3$$

$$\lim_{x \to 1^{-}} (x^{2} - 4x + b + 3) = 1^{2} - 4 + b + 3 = 3$$

$$\boxed{b = 3}, \text{ so } a + 3 = 3 \to \boxed{a = 0}.$$

Remark: Condition f(2) + 3 = f(0) is redundant because we already found the values of a and b. It does not provide any further useful information, and it is unknown why it was included in the question.

3. Let x = f(t), y = g(t) and L be the length of the ladder. f(t) and g(t) represent the location of the bottom and top of the ladder, respectively. The length of the ladder remains constant as time goes on. We can write the following using the Pythagorean theorem. Apply the Chain Rule appropriately.

$$L = \sqrt{f^2(t) + g^2(t)}$$

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}\sqrt{f^2(t) + g^2(t)}$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{f^2(t) + g^2(t)}} \cdot [2f(t)f'(t) + 2g(t)g'(t)]$$

$$\therefore f(t)f'(t) = -g(t)g'(t) \tag{1}$$

For $t = t_0$, given $g(t_0) = 9$ m, $f'(t_0) = -6$ m/s, $g'(t_0) = 5$ m/s. Find $f(t_0)$ using (1).

$$f(t_0) = -\frac{g(t_0)g'(t_0)}{f'(t_0)} = -\frac{9 \cdot (-5)}{6} = \frac{15}{2}$$

Now, we can find L.

$$L = \sqrt{f^2(t_0) + g^2(t_0)} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{15}{2}\right)^2 + 9^2} = \sqrt{\frac{549}{4}}$$

$$L = \frac{3\sqrt{61}}{2}$$

4. First off, find the domain. The expression is undefined when the denominator is zero. Therefore, $x^2 \neq 0 \rightarrow x \neq 0$. The only vertical asymptote occurs at x = 0.

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$$

Let us find the limit at infinity.

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{x^2 + 1}{x} \stackrel{\text{L'H.}}{=} \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{2x}{1} = \infty$$

Similarly,

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

There is no horizontal asymptote. However, there exists a slant asymptote. If we attempt to make a long division, the quotient will be x. So, the slant asymptote is y = x. Let us verify with the limit.

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \left(\frac{x^2 + 1}{x} - x \right) = \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

Take the first derivative by applying the quotient rule.

$$y' = \frac{2x \cdot x - (x^2 + 1)}{x^2} = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2}$$

y' is undefined for x=0, and y'=0 for $x=\pm 1$. Since 0 is not in the domain, the *only* critical points are $x=\pm 1$.

Take the second derivative.

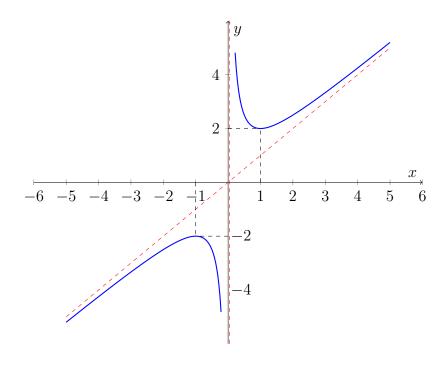
$$y'' = \frac{2x \cdot x^2 - (x^2 - 1) \cdot (2x)}{x^4} = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

There is no inflection point because $\frac{1}{x^3} \neq 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Consider some values of the function. Eventually, set up a table and see what the graph looks like in certain intervals.

$$f(-1) = \frac{(-1)^2 + 1}{-1} = -2, \quad f(1) = \frac{(1)^2 + 1}{1} = 2$$

x	$(-\infty, -1)$	(-1,0)	(0,1)	$(1,\infty)$
y	$(-\infty, -2)$	$(-\infty, -2)$	$(2,\infty)$	$(2,\infty)$
y' sign	+	-	-	+
y'' sign	-	-	+	+



5.

(a) Let
$$u = \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}}$$
.

$$u^{2} = 4 - \sqrt{x} \implies 4 - u^{2} = \sqrt{x} \implies (4 - u^{2})^{2} = x \implies 2(4 - u^{2}) \cdot (-2u) du = dx$$

$$\int \sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}} \, dx = \int u \cdot (8 - 2u^2) \cdot (-2u) \, du = \int \left(4u^4 - 16u^2\right) \, du = \frac{4u^5}{5} - \frac{16u^3}{3} + c$$

$$= \left[\frac{4\left(\sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}}\right)^5}{5} - \frac{16\left(\sqrt{4 - \sqrt{x}}\right)^3}{3} + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}\right]$$

(b) Apply integration by parts.

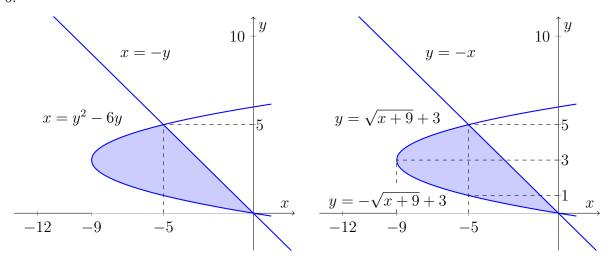
$$u = (\ln x)^2 \implies du = 2\ln x \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx$$
$$dv = dx \implies v = x$$
$$\int (\ln x)^2 dx = x(\ln x)^2 - \int 2\ln x dx$$

Apply integration by parts once again.

$$u = \ln x \implies du = \frac{1}{x} dx$$
$$dv = dx \implies v = x$$
$$\int (\ln x)^2 dx = x(\ln x)^2 - \int 2\ln x dx$$

$$x(\ln x)^{2} - \int 2\ln x \, dx = x(\ln x)^{2} - 2\left[x\ln x - \int dx\right] = \boxed{x(\ln x)^{2} - 2x\ln x + 2x + c, \ c \in \mathbb{R}}$$

6.



(i) We'll take the integral along the y-axis. The lower and upper limits of the integral are 0 and 5, respectively.

$$A = \int_0^5 [(-y) - (y^2 - 6y)] \, dy = \int_0^5 (-y^2 + 5y) \, dy$$

(ii) We have two different regions. y = -x and $y = \sqrt{x-9} + 3$ intersect at the point (-5,5). Therefore, we will write two separate integrals.

$$A = \int_{-9}^{-5} \left[\left(\sqrt{x+9} + 3 \right) - \left(-\sqrt{x+9} + 3 \right) \right] dx + \int_{-5}^{0} \left[\left(-x \right) - \left(-\sqrt{x+9} + 3 \right) \right] dx$$
$$= \int_{-9}^{-5} 2 \left(\sqrt{x+9} \right) dx + \int_{-5}^{0} \left(-x + \sqrt{x+9} - 3 \right) dx$$