## 2024-2025 Fall MAT123 Midterm (02/12/2024)

1. Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\tan ax}{\tan bx}, & \text{if } x < 0\\ 4, & \text{if } x = 0\\ ax + b, & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

Determine the values of a and b such that f is continuous at the point x = 0.

2. Use differential to approximate  $3\sqrt[3]{66} + 2\sqrt{66}$ .

3.

- (a) Without using L'Hôpital's rule, evaluate  $\lim_{x\to 0} \frac{5-6\cos x+\cos^2 x}{x\sin x}$ .
- (b) Prove that  $\lim_{x\to -3} \sqrt{-x-2} = 1$  by using the formal definition of limit.
- (c) Evaluate  $\lim_{x \to 1^+} v\left(\sqrt{x}\right)^{\ln(x-1)}$ .
- 4. Coffee is draining out of a conical filter at a rate of  $2.25 \text{ in.}^3/\text{min.}$  If the cone is 5 in. tall and has a radius of 2 in., how fast is the coffee level dropping when the coffee is 3 in. deep?
- 5. Using the mean value theorem, show that  $\ln(x+1) < x$  for x > 0.

6. Let 
$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2}{(x - 1)^2}$$
.

- (a) Determine the interval of increase, decrease and concavity of f.
- (b) Construct a table.
- (c) Sketch the graph of f.

## 2024-2025 Fall Midterm (02/12/2024) Solutions (Last update: 30/08/2025 00:09)

1. To ensure continuity at x = 0, the one-sided limit values must be equal to the value of the function at that point.

$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \frac{\tan ax}{\tan bx} = \lim_{x \to 0^{+}} (ax + b) = f(0) = 4$$

The easy part is that we can calculate the limit from the right.

$$\lim_{x \to 0^+} (ax + b) = 0 + b = b$$

Hence, b = 4. To calculate from the left, we need another technique.

$$\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \frac{\tan ax}{\tan bx} = \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \left( \frac{\sin ax}{\cos ax} \cdot \frac{\cos bx}{\sin bx} \cdot \frac{bx}{bx} \cdot \frac{ax}{ax} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \left( \frac{\sin ax}{ax} \right) \cdot \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \left( \frac{1}{\frac{\sin bx}{bx}} \right) \cdot \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \left( \frac{\cos(bx) \cdot ax}{\cos(ax) \cdot bx} \right)$$

$$= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{\lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \frac{\sin bx}{bx}} \cdot \lim_{x \to 0^{-}} \left( \frac{\cos(bx) \cdot a}{\cos(ax) \cdot b} \right) = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \left( \frac{\cos(0) \cdot a}{\cos(0) \cdot b} \right)$$

$$= \frac{a}{b}$$

Now, set 
$$\frac{a}{b} = b \implies a = 16$$
.  $\boxed{a = 16, b = 4}$ 

2. Let  $f(x) = x^{1/3}$  and  $g(x) = x^{1/2}$ . Using the differential approximation, we get

$$f(x + \Delta x) \approx f(x) + f'(x)\Delta x = x^{1/3} + \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}\Delta x$$
  
 $g(x + \Delta x) \approx g(x) + g'(x)\Delta x = x^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}\Delta x$ 

Set x = 64 and  $\Delta x = 2$ .

$$3\sqrt[3]{66} + 2\sqrt{66} \approx 3\left(64^{1/3} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 64^{-2/3} \cdot 2\right) + 2\left(64^{1/2} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 64^{-1/2} \cdot 2\right)$$
$$= 3\left(4 + \frac{1}{24}\right) + 2\left(8 + \frac{1}{8}\right) = \boxed{28.375}$$

(a) Factor the numerator and use the conjugate of the expression  $\cos x - 1$ .

$$\lim_{x \to 0} \frac{5 - 6\cos x + \cos^2 x}{x\sin x} = \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{(\cos x - 1)(\cos x - 5)}{x\sin x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{(\cos x - 1)(\cos x - 5)(\cos x + 1)}{(x\sin x)(\cos x + 1)} = \lim_{x \to 0} \left( -\frac{\sin^2 x \cdot (\cos x - 5)}{x\sin x \cdot (\cos x + 1)} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \to 0} \left( -\frac{\sin x \cdot (\cos x - 5)}{x \cdot (\cos x + 1)} \right) = -\lim_{x \to 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} \cdot \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{\cos x - 5}{\cos x + 1} = -1 \cdot \frac{\cos 0 - 5}{\cos 0 + 1} = \boxed{2}$$

(b) For all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 < |x+3| < \delta \implies |f(x)-1| < \epsilon$ .

$$|f(x) - 1| = |\sqrt{-x - 2} - 1| = \left| \sqrt{-x - 2} - 1 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{-x - 2} + 1}{\sqrt{-x - 2} + 1} \right|$$

$$= \left| \frac{-x - 3}{\sqrt{-x - 2} + 1} \right| \le |-x - 3| \qquad \left[ \sqrt{-x - 2} + 1 \ge 0 + 1 = 1 \right]$$

$$= |x + 3| < \delta$$

Let  $\delta = \epsilon$ .

$$\left|\sqrt{-x-2} - 1\right| \le |x-3| < \epsilon = \delta$$

(c) Let L be the value of the limit. Then, take the logarithm of both sides. Since the expression is continuous for x > 1, we can take the logarithm function inside the limit.

$$L = \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \left(\sqrt{x}\right)^{\ln(x-1)} \implies \ln(L) = \ln\left[\lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \left(\sqrt{x}\right)^{\ln(x-1)}\right]$$

$$\ln(L) = \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \ln\left[\left(\sqrt{x}\right)^{\ln(x-1)}\right] = \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \left[\ln(x-1) \cdot \ln(\sqrt{x})\right] = \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \frac{\ln(x-1)}{\frac{1}{\ln(\sqrt{x})}} \quad \left[\frac{\infty}{\infty}\right]$$

$$\stackrel{\text{L'H.}}{=} \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \frac{\frac{1}{x-1}}{\frac{1}{-\ln^{2}(\sqrt{x})} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}} = \lim_{x \to 1^{+}} \frac{\ln^{2}(\sqrt{x}) \cdot 2x}{1-x} \quad \left[\frac{0}{0}\right]$$

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

$$=2\ln\left(\sqrt{1}\right)+2\ln^2\left(\sqrt{1}\right)=0$$

$$ln(L) = 0$$
. Therefore,  $L = 1$ .

4. Let f(x) represent the volume of coffee in the cone in cubic inches. The coffee in the cone will have a conical shape while draining. We may set up the equation below using the formula of the volume of a cone.

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot h(t) \cdot \pi r^2(t)$$

h(t), r(t) represent the height and radius of the circular area that coffee forms, respectively, in inches. We can eliminate r to proceed with h. r and h are proportional.

$$\frac{r}{h} = \frac{2}{5} \implies r = \frac{2h}{5}$$

$$f(t) = \frac{4\pi h^3(t)}{75}$$

Take the derivative of both sides.

$$f'(t) = \frac{4\pi}{25} \cdot h^2(t) \cdot h'(t)$$

Given that at  $t = t_0$ ,  $f'(t_0) = -2.25$ ,  $h(t_0) = 3$ . We may now find  $h'(t_0)$ . Solve for  $h'(t_0)$ .

$$h'(t_0) = \frac{25f'(t_0)}{4\pi h^2(t_0)} = \frac{25 \cdot (-2.25)}{4\pi \cdot (3)^2} = \boxed{-\frac{1.5625}{\pi} \text{ inches/minute}}$$

5. Let  $f(x) = \ln(1+x) - x$ . We have  $f(0) = \ln(1+0) - 0 = 0$ . The mean value theorem (MVT) states that if a function g(x) is continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b), then there exists a point c such that

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

f is continuous on [0, x] and differentiable on (0, x). By MVT,  $\frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = f'(c)$  provided for some point c such that 0 < c < x.

$$f'(c) = \frac{1}{c+1} - 1 = \frac{\ln(x+1) - x}{x} = \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0}$$
$$\frac{1}{c+1} = \frac{\ln(x+1)}{x} \implies c + 1 = \frac{x}{\ln(x+1)}$$
$$c = \frac{x - \ln(x+1)}{\ln(x+1)}$$

From the inequality 0 < c < x,

$$0 < \frac{x - \ln(x+1)}{\ln(x+1)}$$
$$0 < x - \ln(x+1)$$
$$\ln(x+1) < x$$

(a) First off, find the domain. The expression is undefined when the denominator is zero. Therefore,  $(x-1)^2 \neq 0 \implies x \neq 1$ . The only vertical asymptote occurs at x=1.

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{R} - \{1\}$$

Let us find the limit at infinity.

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

Similarly,

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

The horizontal asymptote occurs only at y = 0.

Take the first derivative by applying the quotient rule.

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

y' is undefined for x = 1, and y' = 0 for x = 2. Since 1 is not in the domain, the *only* critical point is x = 2.

Take the second derivative.

$$y'' = \frac{(-2) \cdot (x-1)^3 - (4-2x) \cdot 3(x-1)^2}{(x-1)^6} = \frac{4x-10}{(x-1)^4}$$

The only inflection point occurs at  $x = \frac{5}{2}$ .

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

$$f\left(-\sqrt{2}\right) = f\left(\sqrt{2}\right) = 0, \ f(0) = -2, \ f(2) = 2, \ f(5/2) = 17/9$$

x	$\left(-\infty,-\sqrt{2}\right)$	$\left(-\sqrt{2},0\right)$	(0, 1)	$(1,\sqrt{2})$	$(\sqrt{2},2)$	$(2, \frac{5}{2})$	$\left(\frac{5}{2},\infty\right)$
y	(1,0)	(-2,0)	$(-\infty, -2)$	$(-\infty,0)$	(0, 2)	$(2,\frac{17}{9})$	$(\frac{17}{9}, 1)$
y' sign	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
y'' sign	-	-	-	-	-	-	+

