

1. Determine if the following limits exist. If they exist, compute them. Justify your answers.

(a) (4 points)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} - 2}{x - 2}$

This is a  $\frac{0}{0}$ -type limit. We remove the singularity.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} - 2}{x - 2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} - 2}{x - 2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} + 2}{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} + 2} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(3x^2 - 8) - 4}{(x - 2) \cdot (\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} + 2)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3(x + 2)}{\sqrt{3x^2 - 8} + 2} \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

(b) (4 points)  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{t^2 + 1}{1 + 3t - 5t^2} \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^2 + 1}{1 + 3t - 5t^2} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^2 + 1}{1 + 3t - 5t^2} \cdot \frac{1/t^2}{1/t^2} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{1}{t^2}}{\frac{1}{t^2} + \frac{3}{t} - 5} \\ &= -\frac{1}{5} \end{aligned}$$

So  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{t^2 + 1}{1 + 3t - 5t^2} \right) = \tan^{-1}(-1/5) \approx -0.1974$ .

(c) (4 points)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x)}{10x^2 - x}$

This is a  $\frac{1}{0}$ -type limit. We must determine if it is  $+\infty$ ,  $-\infty$  or DNE.

Near  $x = 0$  the numerator is positive.

$0 = 10x^2 - x = x(10x - 1)$ , so the denominator is 0 at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1/10$ .

Checking values, say  $x = -1$  and  $x = 1/20$ , shows that the denominator is positive when  $x < 0$  and negative when  $0 < x < 1/10$ .

Thus  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\cos(x)}{10x^2 - x} = \infty$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\cos(x)}{10x^2 - x} = -\infty$ .

The limit does not exist.

2. (8 points) Calculate the equation of the tangent line to  $g(x) = |x^2 - 4x|$  at  $x = 3$ .

Calculate  $g(3) = |-3| = 3$ .

Write  $g(x) = \begin{cases} -x^2 + 4x & \text{if } 0 < x < 4; \\ x^2 - 4x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Then  $g'(x) = \begin{cases} -2x + 4 & \text{if } 0 < x < 4; \\ 2x - 4 & \text{if } x < 0 \text{ or } x > 4. \end{cases}$

(Note that the derivative is undefined at  $x = 0, 4$ .)

Thus  $g'(3) = -2 \cdot 3 + 4 = -2$

The equation of the line is  $y - 3 = -2(x - 3)$ .

3. (8 points) Find all the points  $(a, b)$  on the curve  $y = \frac{e^x}{x^2 - 15}$  where the tangent line is horizontal.

We must find all points on the curve where  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{(x^2 - 15) \cdot e^x - (2x) \cdot e^x}{(x^2 - 15)^2} \\ 0 &= \frac{(x^2 - 15) \cdot e^x - (2x) \cdot e^x}{(x^2 - 15)^2} \\ 0 &= (x^2 - 15)e^x - (2x)e^x \\ &= (x^2 - 2x - 15)e^x \\ 0 &= x^2 - 2x - 15 \\ &= (x - 5)(x + 3) \end{aligned}$$

The solutions are  $x = -3, 5$

The points are  $\left(-3, -\frac{1}{6e^3}\right)$  and  $\left(5, \frac{e^5}{10}\right)$ .

These can also be approximated as  $(-3, -0.0083)$  and  $(5, 14.84)$ .

4. (10 points) Find the equations of all the tangent lines to the curve  $y = x^2 + 3x$  that pass through the point  $(2, 1)$ .

First find the points  $(a, b)$  on the curve where this happens.

Note that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x + 3$ .

Since the point is on the curve, we have  $b = a^2 + 3a$ .

Since the line is a tangent line, we have  $m = 2a + 3$

$$\begin{aligned}y - b &= m(x - a) \\y - (a^2 + 3a) &= (2a + 3)(x - a) \\1 - (a^2 + 3a) &= (2a + 3)(2 - a) \\a^2 - 4a - 5 &= 0 \\(a - 5)(a + 1) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

The solutions are  $a = -1, 5$

The points are  $(-1, -2)$  and  $(5, 40)$ .

The lines are  $y + 2 = 1 \cdot (x + 1)$  and  $y - 40 = 13(x - 5)$ .

5. A bug is travelling along the  $x$ -axis so that its  $x$ -coordinate is given by the formula  $x = \frac{1-t}{t+2}$ . Here  $x$  is in feet and  $t$  is in seconds. Assume  $t \geq 0$ .

- (a) (4 points) Calculate the bug's average velocity between  $t = 3$  and  $t = 3.1$  seconds.

$$\text{Note that } x(3) = -\frac{2}{5} = -0.4 \quad \text{and} \quad x(3.1) = -\frac{7}{17} \approx -0.41176$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\text{av}} &= \frac{x(3.1) - x(3)}{3.1 - 3} \\ &= \frac{-\frac{7}{17} + \frac{2}{5}}{0.1} \\ &\approx -0.1176 \text{ feet/sec} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) (8 points) Find the bug's instantaneous velocity at time  $t = 3$ . Do not use any differentiation formulas in this problem. Use the limit definition of the derivative.

$$\begin{aligned} v(3) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(3+h) - x(3)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1-3-h}{3+h+2} + \frac{2}{5}}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{-2-h}{5+h} + \frac{2}{5}}{h} \cdot \frac{5(5+h)}{5(5+h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{5(-2-h) + 2(5+h)}{5h(5+h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-3h}{5h(5+h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -\frac{3}{5(5+h)} \\ &= -\frac{3}{25} \end{aligned}$$

The velocity is  $-0.12$  feet/sec.