

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

(a) (4 points) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1-x^2}{8x^2-5x}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[3]{\frac{1-x^2}{8x^2-5x}} &= \sqrt[3]{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1-x^2}{8x^2-5x}} && \text{because } f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} \text{ is continuous} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1-x^2}{8x^2-5x} \cdot \frac{1/x^2}{1/x^2}} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1/x^2-1}{8-5/x}} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{-1}{8}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) (4 points) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x - \sqrt{x+2}}{x-2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x - \sqrt{x+2}}{x-2} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x - \sqrt{x+2}}{x-2} \cdot \frac{x + \sqrt{x+2}}{x + \sqrt{x+2}} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 - x - 2}{(x-2)(x + \sqrt{x+2})} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x-2)(x+1)}{(x-2)(x + \sqrt{x+2})} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x+1}{x + \sqrt{x+2}} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

(c) (4 points) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x^2 - x - 5}{x^3 - 4x^2 + 12}$

This function is continuous at $x = 2$.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x^2 - x - 5}{x^3 - 4x^2 + 12} = \frac{1}{4}$$

2. (8 points) Use the limit definition of the derivative on this problem. Do not use differentiation formulas. Find the slope of the tangent line to the curve $y = \frac{5}{x^2 + 1}$ at the point $(2, 1)$.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx}\Big|_{x=2} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{5}{(2+h)^2+1} - 1}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{5 - ((2+h)^2 + 1)}{(2+h)^2 + 1} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{-4h - h^2}{(2+h)^2 + 1} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4 - h}{(2+h)^2 + 1} \\ &= -\frac{4}{5}\end{aligned}$$

3. (7 points) Calculate the equation of the tangent line to $f(t) = 3t^2 \cdot \cos(t)$ at $t = \pi$.

$$f(\pi) = -3\pi^2$$

$$f'(t) = 6t \cos t - 3t^2 \sin t$$

$$f'(\pi) = -6\pi$$

$$\text{The tangent line is } y + 3\pi^2 = -6\pi(t - \pi)$$

4. (8 points) Let c be a constant and $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - 2x + c & \text{if } x \leq 2; \\ cx + 5 & \text{if } x > 2. \end{cases}$

Find all values of c that make $f(x)$ a continuous function. If there are none, explain why. Use limits to give a careful justification of your answer.

If $a \neq 2$ then $f(x)$ is continuous at $x = a$. Indeed, if $a > 2$ then $f(x)$ is a linear polynomial near a . If $a < 2$ then $f(x)$ is a quadratic polynomial near a . All polynomials are continuous.

At $x = 2$ we must look at the left and right limits.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} x^2 - 2x + c \\ &= c \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} cx + 5 \\ &= 2c + 5 \end{aligned}$$

For $f(x)$ to be continuous at $x = 2$ we need $c = 2c + 5$. The solution is $c = -5$.

5. (7 points) Find all the points (a, b) on the curve $y = (x^2 - 3)e^x$ where the tangent line is horizontal.

First, calculate $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

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

Next, set $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ and solve for x .

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (x^2 + 2x - 3)e^x \\ &= (x + 3)(x - 1)e^x \end{aligned}$$

Thus $x = -3, 1$. The points are $(-3, 6/e^3)$ and $(1, -2e)$

6. (8 points) Where does the tangent line to the curve $y = x^3 - 2x^2 + x$ at the point where $x = 0$ intersect the curve a second time? Give both coordinates of the point of intersection.

First compute the equation of the tangent line.

$$x = 0$$

$$y = 0^3 - 2 \cdot 0 + 0 = 0$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 4x + 1 \quad \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=0} = 1$$

The tangent line is $y - 0 = 1 \cdot (x - 0)$, or $y = x$.

Now use elimination to intersect the line with the cubic curve.

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x^3 - 2x^2 + x \\ 0 &= x^3 - 2x^2 \\ &= x^2(x - 2) \end{aligned}$$

The solutions are $x = 0, 2$. The new value is $x = 2$.

At $x = 2$ we compute $y = 2$ (we are on the line $y = x$).

The point of intersection is $(2, 2)$.