

1 (12 points) Determine if the following limits exist. If they exist, compute them. Justify your answers.

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

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

(b) (4 points) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{2x-1}}{x^2 - 6x + 8}$

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{2x-1}}{x^2 - 6x + 8} \text{ is continuous at } x = 3.$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) = f(3) = -\sqrt{5}$$

(c) (4 points) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x^2 - x - 6}{x^3 - 5x^2 + 12}$

This is a $\frac{0}{0}$ limit.

$$2x^2 - x - 6 = (x - 2)(2x + 3)$$

Use long division to see that $x^3 - 5x^2 + 12 = (x - 2)(x^2 - 3x - 6)$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x^2 - x - 6}{x^3 - 5x^2 + 12} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{2x + 3}{x^2 - 3x - 6} \\ &= -\frac{7}{8} \end{aligned}$$

- 2 (7 points) Do not use any differentiation formulas in this problem. Use limits where appropriate. Calculate the derivative of the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{3-x}$.

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3-x-h} - \frac{1}{3-x} \right) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{(3-x) - (3-x-h)}{(3-x)(3-x-h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{h}{(3-x)(3-x-h)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(3-x)(3-x-h)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(3-x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

- 3 (7 points) Calculate the equation of the tangent line to $g(x) = \frac{1+x}{1+x+x^2}$ at $x = 2$.

$$g(2) = \frac{3}{7}$$

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

$$g'(2) = \frac{7 - 3 \cdot 5}{7^2} = -\frac{8}{49}$$

$$\text{The tangent line is } y - \frac{3}{7} = -\frac{8}{49}(x - 2)$$

4 (7 points) Let $H(x) = \begin{cases} (x-1)^2 & \text{if } x < 0; \\ e^{x^2} & \text{if } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$

Is $H(x)$ a continuous function? Use limits to give a careful justification of your answer.

$H(x) = (x-1)^2$ if $x < 0$. This is continuous.

$H(x) = e^{x^2}$ if $x > 0$. This is continuous.

Thus $H(x)$ is continuous if $x \neq 0$

$$H(0) = e^{0^2} = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} H(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} e^{x^2} = 1$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} H(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (x-1)^2 = 1$$

Thus $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} H(x) = H(0)$ and $H(x)$ is continuous everywhere.

5 (7 points) Find all the points (a, b) on the curve $y = (x^2 - 15)e^x$ where the tangent line is horizontal.

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

The points are $(-5, 10e^{-5})$ and $(3, -6e^3)$.

The solution can also be written $(-5, 0.067)$ and $(3, -120.5)$.

- 6 (10 points) Find all points (a, b) on the curve $y = x^3 - 4x^2$ where the tangent line has a x -intercept of 6.

Let $x = a$ be the x -coordinate of such a point.

The tangent line has the form $y - b = m(x - a)$

$$b = a^3 - 4a^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 8x$$

$$m = 3a^2 - 8a$$

The general tangent line is $y - a^3 + 4a^2 = (3a^2 - 8a)(x - a)$

We plug in $x = 6$ and $y = 0$ to get

$$\begin{aligned} -a^3 + 4a^2 &= (3a^2 - 8a)(6 - a) \\ -a^3 + 4a^2 &= -3a^3 + 26a^2 - 48a \\ 0 &= -2a^3 + 22a^2 - 48a \\ &= -2a(a^2 - 11a + 24) \\ &= -2a(a - 3)(a - 8) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $a = 0, 3$ or 8 .

The points are $(0, 0)$, $(3, -9)$ and $(8, 256)$.