

Exercises from the quizzes

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1. Compute the limits

(a)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 1}{(\sqrt{2}x^4 - 17x^3 + 1)^{3/4}}.$$

(b)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 1}{(\pi x^4 - 17x^3 + 1)^{3/4}}.$$

2. The function $f(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by the following formula

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\cos(\pi x)}{x}, & x > 0 \\ 3, & x = 0 \\ x \sin(\pi\sqrt{x^2 + 3}), & -1 \leq x < 0 \\ \sqrt{-(x+1)}, & x < -1 \end{cases}$$

(a) Compute the limit $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ for every real $a \in \mathbb{R}$ (including infinite limits). For every point $a \in \mathbb{R}$ that the limit $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$ doesn't exist, compute the one-sided limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x)$. Explain.

(b) Compute the limits $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x)$. Explain.

3. For every value of the parameter $p \in \mathbb{R}$, the function $f_p(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$$f_p(x) = \begin{cases} (x-p)^2, & x \geq 2p \\ x^3, & x < 2p \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find all the values of the parameter p , such that the function f_p is continuous on \mathbb{R} . Explain.
- (b) For every value of p you found in (a), determine whether the function f is differentiable on \mathbb{R} . Explain.

4. What are the (global and local) extrema of

$$f(x) = \cosh x?$$

Use the definition of the hyperbolic cosine. Deduce that $\cosh x \geq 1$ on \mathbb{R} .

- 5. (a) Write the linear approximation $L(x)$ of $f(x) = e^x$ about $x = 0$ and the error term $E(x) = f(x) - L(x)$ in Lagrange form.
- (b) Using the Lagrange form, bound $|E(x)|$ from above for any $x > 0$. Prove the inequality

$$e^x - (1 + x) > \frac{x^2}{2}$$

for $x > 0$. (Note that this is stronger than the inequality in the midterm).

- (c) Write the second order Taylor polynomial $P_2(x)$ of $f(x)$ about $x = 0$ and the error term $E_2(x) = f(x) - P_2(x)$ in the Lagrange form. Approximate the Euler constant e by $P_2(1)$. Use the Lagrange form to determine if this approximation above or below (in other words, is $P_2(1) \leq e$ or $P_2(1) \geq e$). Bound $|E_2(x)|$ to estimate how many correct decimal digits it gives you.

6. Prove the following inequality:

$$\sqrt{1 - x^2} + x \arcsin x \geq 1$$

on $[-1, 1]$.

7. Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real valued function defined on the interval $I = (-1, 1)$ by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 - x}.$$

- (a) Write the linear approximation $L(x)$ of $f(x)$ about $x = 0$ and the error term $E(x) = f(x) - L(x)$ in Lagrange form. Using the Lagrange form, bound $|E(x)|$ from above for any $|x| < 1/2$.
- (b) Using the Lagrange form of the remainder, check if the approximation $L(x)$ is above or below. Validate your answer by computing explicitly $E(x) = f(x) - L(x)$ in its simplest form.
- (c) Using the explicit computation in (b), for any $x \in I$ find a number s between 0 and x , such that

$$\frac{f''(s)}{2!}x^2 = E(x),$$

guaranteed by the theorem on the remainder in the Lagrange form.

8. (a) What are the (global and local) extrema of the function

$$f(x) = \sin x + \cos x?$$

Note that f is periodic.

- (b) Deduce from (a) that for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$ we have

$$|\sin x| + |\cos x| \leq \sqrt{2},$$

9. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real valued function defined on the whole real line by

$$f(x) = \sin(x) - \cos x.$$

- (a) Write the linear approximation $L(x)$ to f about $x = \pi/4$. Write the expression of the error term $E(x) = f(x) - L(x)$ in the Lagrange form. Using the inequality in (8b), give an upper bound to $|E(x)|$ in the interval $(\pi/4 - 0.01, \pi/4 + 0.01)$.
- (b) Write the second order Taylor polynomial $P_2(x)$ of $f(x)$ about $x = \pi/4$ and the error term $E_2(x) = f(x) - P_2(x)$ in the Lagrange form. Using the inequality in (1b), bound $|E_2(x)|$ from above in the interval $(\pi/4 - 0.01, \pi/4 + 0.01)$.
- (c) In light of (b), can you improve your bound in (a)?

10. Compute the following limits or show they don't exist:

(a) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^4 \sin(x^2 - y^2)}{|x|^3 + |y|^3}$.

(b) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^4 \sin(x^2 + y^2)}{x^3 + y^3}$.

Note: there is no absolute value in the denominator.

(c) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{1 - \cos(x^3 + 2xy + y^3)}{x^3 + 2xy + y^3}$.

(d) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^3 + y^2 x}{|x|^3 + |y|^3}$.

(e) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (1,0)} \frac{\sin^2(xy)}{\cos(xy) - 1}$

(f) $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} f(x, y)$, where

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 - 1}, & x^2 + y^2 \geq 1 \\ 0 & (x, y) = (0, 0) \end{cases}$$

11. Let $f(x, y) : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the 2-variable function defined by

$$f(x, y) = 2 \cos(3x + 4y) - \sin(3x + 4y).$$

(a) For a point $P = (x_0, y_0)$, compute the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}|_P$. Write the equation of the tangent plane π of the surface defined by f at $Q = (\pi/4, \pi/4, -\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2})$. Compute the parametric form of the normal line to π at Q .

(b) Compute the partial derivatives of the second order $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}|_P$ (Hint: you can compute just 3 derivatives and get the remaining one "for free" using the corresponding theorem).

(c) Using the results you got in (b), check that the function f satisfies the partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + 25f = 0.$$

12. Let $f(x, y) : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the 2-variable function defined by

$$f(x, y) = \cosh(x^2 + y^2) + \sinh(x^2 + y^2).$$

- (a) For a point $P = (x_0, y_0)$, compute the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}|_P$. Write the equation of the tangent plane π of the surface defined by f at $Q = (0, 1, e)$. Compute the parametric form of the normal line to π at Q .
- (b) Compute the partial derivatives of the second order $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}|_P$ (Hint: you can compute just 3 derivatives and get the remaining one "for free" using the corresponding theorem).
- (c) Using the results you got in (b), check that the function f satisfies the partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} - 4xyf = 0.$$

13. Let $f(x, y) : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the 2-variable function defined by

$$f(x, y) = e^{x^2 - y^2}.$$

- (a) For a point $P = (x_0, y_0)$, compute the partial derivatives $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial y}|_P$. Write the equation of the tangent plane π of the surface defined by f at $Q = (1, 0, e)$. Compute the parametric form of the normal line to π at Q .
- (b) Compute the partial derivatives of the second order $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2}|_P$, $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x \partial y}|_P$ and $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y \partial x}|_P$.
- (c) Using the results you got in (b), check that the function f satisfies the partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} - 4(x - y)^2 f = 0.$$