First Midterm Solutions

Autumn 2007

1 (6 points) Let $p(x) = 5x^2 - 8x$. Compute $\frac{p(x+h) - p(x)}{h}$ and simplify as much as possible (assume $h \neq 0$).

$$p(x+h) = 5(x+h)^2 - 8(x+h)$$

= $5x^2 + 10xh + 5h^2 - 8x - 8h$
$$p(x+h) - p(x) = (5x^2 + 10xh + 5h^2 - 8x - 8h) - (5x^2 - 8x)$$

= $10xh + 5h^2 - 8h$

 $\frac{p(x+h) - p(x)}{h} = 10x + 5h - 8$

2 (6 points) For which value(s) of α does $12x^2 + 2\alpha x + 3 = 0$ have exactly one solution?

This is a quadratic equation of form $Ax^2 + Bx + C = 0$ with A = 12, $B = 2\alpha$ and C = 3. By the quadratic formula, it has exactly one solution if $B^2 - 4AC = 0$.

$$(2\alpha)^2 - 4 \cdot 12 \cdot 3 = 0$$

$$4\alpha^2 - 144 = 0$$

$$4\alpha^2 = 144$$

$$\alpha = \pm 6$$

So there are two solutions, $\alpha = 6$ and $\alpha = -6$.

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3 (13 points) The green at the 13th hole of the golf course is a circle of radius 20 feet. The hole is located 8 feet due North of the center of the green. Clovis starts walking from a point 22 feet East and 14 feet North of the center of the green. He walks straight towards the westernmost point of the green at a constant rate of 2 feet per second. (See the figure.)

(a) (6 points) At what point does Clovis enter the green?

Circle: $x^2 + y^2 = 400$

Line: It joins (-20, 0) and (22, 14). The slope is

$$m = \frac{14 - 0}{22 - (-20)} = \frac{1}{3}$$

The equation is $y = \frac{1}{3}(x+20)$.

Intersection:

$$x^{2} + \left[\frac{1}{3}(x+20)\right]^{2} = 400$$

$$\frac{10}{9}x^{2} + \frac{40}{9}x - \frac{3200}{9} = 0 \qquad \text{multiply through by} \quad \frac{9}{10}$$

$$x^{2} + 4x - 320 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4^{2} - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (-320)}}{2 \cdot 1} = 16, -20$$

Thus x = 16 and $y = \frac{1}{3}(16 + 20) = 12$. The point is (16, 12).

(b) (7 points) When he reaches the point due East of the hole, Clovis turns and heads straight South. If he maintains a constant speed, what is the total time he spends in the green?

He turns when
$$y = 8$$
, so $8 = \frac{1}{3}(x+20)$ and $x = 4$.
$$d_1 = \sqrt{(16-4)^2 + (12-8)^2} = \sqrt{160}$$

He exits the circle where x = 4, so $4^2 + y^2 = 400$ and $y = -\sqrt{384}$. (It must be the negative one, look at the picture.)

$$d_2 = y_{\rm hi} - y_{\rm lo} = 8 - (-\sqrt{384}) = 8 + \sqrt{384}$$

The total time is $t = \frac{\sqrt{160} + 8 + \sqrt{384}}{2}$ or about 20.12 seconds.



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- 4 (13 points) Ida has 640 feet of fencing to make a rectangular enclosure for her goats. She will use the wall of her house for one side of the enclosure. She also wants to use some of the fencing to split the enclosure into four parts. (See the figure.)
 - (a) (7 points) What is the maximum possible area of the enclosure?

Let x be the width of the enclosure and y be its height.

We wish to maximize A = xy.

There are 5 horizontal pieces of fence and 1 vertical one. Thus our constraint is

5x + y = 640

Hence y = 640 - 5x and $A = x(640 - 5x) = -5x^2 + 640x$.

This is a downward opening parabola so the vertex gives a maximum. The x-coordinate of the vertex is

$$x_{\max} = \frac{-640}{2 \cdot (-5)} = 64$$

by the Vertex Formula.

The maximum area is $A(64) = -5 \cdot (64)^2 + 640 \cdot 64 = 20480$ square feet.

(b) (6 points) Find dimensions that would give the enclosure an area of 19,500 square feet. (Using all the fencing.)

Set A = 19500 and solve for x.

$$19500 = -5x^{2} + 640x$$

$$5x^{2} - 640x + 19500 = 0 \quad divide \ both \ sides \ by \ 5$$

$$x^{2} - 128x + 3900 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{128 \pm \sqrt{128^{2} - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3900}}{2}$$

$$= 78, \ 50$$

Thus there are two possible answers.

x = 78 feet and $y = 640 - 5 \cdot 78 = 250$ feet or x = 50 feet and $y = 640 - 5 \cdot 50 = 390$ feet



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5 (12 points) Let f(x) = 2x + 1 and $g(x) = \begin{cases} -x + 1 & \text{if } x \le -2; \\ 7 - x^2 & \text{if } x \ge -2. \end{cases}$

(a) (6 points) Give a multipart formula for the composition
$$f(g(x))$$
.

$$f(g(x)) = \begin{cases} 2(-x+1)+1 & \text{if } x \le -2; \\ 2(7-x^2)+1 & \text{if } x \ge -2. \end{cases}$$

or

$$f(g(x)) = \begin{cases} -2x+3 & \text{if } x \le -2; \\ 15-2x^2 & \text{if } x \ge -2. \end{cases}$$

(b) (6 points) Give all values of x that satisfy g(x) = 2.

Solve -x + 1 = 2 to get x = -1.

But x = -1 is not in the domain of this part of g(x) because $-1 \leq -2$ and so it is not a solution.

Solve $7 - x^2 = 2$ to get $x = \sqrt{5}$ and $x = -\sqrt{5}$. Only $x = \sqrt{5}$ is greater or equal to -2.

The only solution is $x = \sqrt{5}$.