MATH 200 (Bueler) Spring 2008

Midterm Exam # 2: SOLUTIONS

1. (a)

$$f'(t) = \frac{1}{2}t^{-1/2} + \frac{1}{2}t^{-3/2}.$$

(b)

$$f'(x) = e^{x^2}\left(2x^4 + 7x^2 + 2\right).$$

(c)

$$y' = \frac{1}{\ln 10}\,\frac{2x}{x^2+1}.$$

(d)

$$y' = \frac{(\cos x)(e^x + \cot x) - (\sin x)(e^x - \csc^2 x)}{(e^x + \cot x)^2}$$

and simplifications thereof.
(e)

$$h'(t) = \frac{1}{t} + \frac{t}{t^2+1} - \frac{1}{t-1}.$$

2. (a) The tangent line is $y + 1 = 0(x - \pi)$ or $y = -1$.
(b) First,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x - y}{x + 4y^3},$$

so tangent line is $y - 1 = -\frac{5}{6}(x - 2)$ or $y = -\frac{5}{6}x + \frac{8}{3}$.

3. Write $y = \arccos x$ as $\cos y = x$. Apply implicit differentiation to this, to get

$$-\sin y \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

or

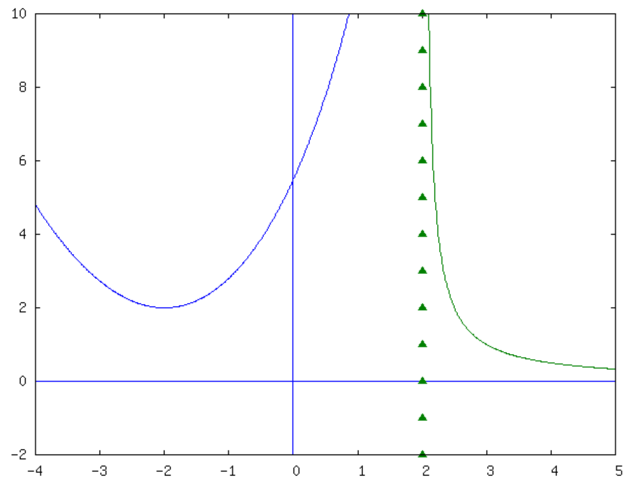
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sin y} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2 y}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}.$$

4. (a) The velocity function is $v(t) = s'(t) = 3t^2 - 9t - 7$. We want to find t when $v(t) = 5$, so we solve

$$3t^2 - 9t - 7 = 5 \quad \text{or} \quad 3t^2 - 9t - 12 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 3(t-4)(t+1) = 0.$$

The problem says the position function is only meaningful for $t \geq 0$ so we ignor $t = -1$. Thus the velocity is 5 when $t = 4$ seconds.
(b) The acceleration switches from negative to positive when it goes through zero. On the other hand, the acceleration function is $a(t) = s''(t) = 6t - 9$. Thus we solve $a(t) = 0$ or $6t - 9 = 0$ to get $t = 3/2$ seconds. (To check that the particle switches from decelerating to accelerating, note $a(0) < 0$ and $a(2) > 0$.)

5. An example is shown below. Note that the graph is always concave up but is decreasing on $(-\infty, -2)$ and $(2, \infty)$, while it is increasing on $(-2, 2)$.



6. We apply the closed interval method, that is, we check both the critical numbers and the endpoints. Note

$$f'(x) = \frac{1-x^2}{(x^2+1)^2} \quad \text{so we solve} \quad 1-x^2=0 \quad \text{to get} \quad x=\pm 1.$$

We are only interested in the critical number $x = +1$ because it is on the interval $[0, 5]$.

Therefore we check this one critical number and the two end points:

x	y
0	0
1	$\frac{1}{2}$
5	$\frac{5}{26} \approx \frac{1}{5}$

We conclude that the absolute maximum of $1/2$ is attained at $x = 1$ and an absolute minimum of 0 is attained at $x = 0$.

7. Let x be the distance from the bottom of the ladder to the wall. Let y be the height up the wall of the top of the ladder. Because we naturally assume the wall is vertical, and perpendicular to the floor, we have a Pythagorean equation, $x^2 + y^2 = 12^2$. Here x and y are functions of t. So the rates of change are related by the equation that comes from differentiating the Pythagorean equation:

$$2x\frac{dx}{dt} + 2y\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.$$

We want dy/dt at the time when $x = 6$. At this same time, $y = \sqrt{12^2 - 6^2} = \sqrt{108} = 6\sqrt{3}$. Note that $dx/dt = +1$ at any time, because the base of the ladder is sliding away from the wall at that speed. Therefore

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{x\frac{dx}{dt}}{y} = -\frac{6 \cdot 1}{6\sqrt{3}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}.$$

As a technicality, the speed is $+1/\sqrt{3}$, but dy/dt is negative because the top of the ladder is sliding down.

Extra Credit. Several possibilities, but most possibilities are waves with sharp points. For example: A sawtooth wave, with maximum of 1 at $\ldots, -4, -2, 0, 2, 4, \ldots$ and minimum of -1 at $\ldots, -3, -1, 1, 3, 5, \ldots$ and sharp points at each maximum and minimum.