

123 Problem Sheet Hillary 1¹

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1. Use L'Hôpital's rule to calculate

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x \log_e x}{1 - x} \quad (1)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{\sin x - 1}{(x - \pi/2)^2} \quad (2)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 - \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{1 - x}} \quad (3)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log_e \cos x}{\sin^2 x} \quad (4)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{x + 3} - 2}{1 - x}. \quad (5)$$

If these limits are taking you a long time, then leave them after doing one or two and go on to the Taylor series questions.

(1) $\log_e 1 = 0$ and $1 - x$ is also zero when $x = 1$ so differentiate top and bottom. Using the product rule

$$\frac{d}{dx} x \log_e x = \log_e x + x \frac{1}{x} = \log_e x + 1$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dx} (1 - x) = -1$$

so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x \log_e x}{1 - x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (-\log_e x - 1) = -1$$

(2) $\sin \pi/2 = 1$ so again, this limit looks like zero over zero and so we differentiate.

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\sin x - 1) = \cos x$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dx} (x - \pi/2)^2 = 2(x - \pi/2)$$

Thus

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{\sin x - 1}{(x - \pi/2)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{\cos x}{2(x - \pi/2)}$$

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which is still zero over zero and so we differentiate again. The differential of the $\cos x$ gives $-\sin x$ and the differential of the bottom gives 2, this

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{\sin x - 1}{(x - \pi/2)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{\cos x}{2(x - \pi/2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/2} \frac{-\sin x}{2} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

(3) This time

$$\frac{d}{dx}(1 - \sqrt{x}) = -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dx}\sqrt{1-x} = -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-x}}$$

so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 - \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{1-x}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} = -\frac{\sqrt{1-x}}{\sqrt{x}} = 0.$$

(4)

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_e \cos x = -\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$$

and

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin^2 x = 2 \sin x \cos x$$

so

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log_e \cos x}{\sin^2 x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{2 \cos^2 x} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

(5)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{x+3} - 2}{1-x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{x+3}} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

2. Find the first three terms of the Taylor expansion of $\tan x$ around $x = 0$.

So to do this, lets first work out the relevant differentials:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan x = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$$

and if $x = 0$ this is one. Furthermore

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \tan x = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = -2 \frac{\sin x}{\cos^3 x}$$

and if $x = 0$ this is zero. Thus the first three terms are $\tan x = -x + O(x^3)$. because the constant part and the x^2 term are zero. Often when people say the first three terms they mean the first three non-zero terms, that would be a very long question in this case and would give

$$\tan x = x + \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{2}{15}x^5 + O(x^6)$$

3. Find the first three term of the Taylor expansion of $1/x$ around $x = 1$.

So, let $x = 1 + h$. If $x = 1$ $1/x = 1$.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{x} = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

and this means

$$\left. \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{x} \right|_{x=1} = -1$$

As to the second derivative

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \frac{1}{x} = 2\frac{1}{x^3}$$

and this means

$$\left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \frac{1}{x} \right|_{x=1} = 2$$

and the Taylor series near $x = 1$ is

$$\frac{1}{x} = 1 + h + h^2 + O(h^3)$$

4. Expand

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+h}}$$

for small h . Include terms of order two in h but stop there.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+h}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}h + \frac{3}{8}h^2 + O(h^3)$$

Again, differentiate and evaluate.

5. Expand $(2+x)^{1/3}$ near $x = 2$. What is the third order term.

Let $x = 2 + h$. The third order term in the expand of $f(x)$ for $x = a + h$ is the term with h^3 in it. It is third order in h , that is, h is to the third power. The third order term is

$$\frac{1}{3!} \left. \frac{d^3}{dx^3} f(x) \right|_{x=a} h^3$$

Now

$$\frac{d}{dx}(2+x)^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3}(2+x)^{-2/3}$$

so

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2}(2+x)^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{-2}{3} \right) (2+x)^{-5/3}$$

and finally

$$\frac{d^3}{dx^3}(2+x)^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{-2}{3} \right) \left(\frac{-8}{3} \right) (2+x)^{-5/3}$$

and so

$$\left. \frac{d^3}{dx^3}(2+x)^{1/3} \right|_{x=2} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{-2}{3} \right) \left(\frac{-5}{3} \right) (2+2)^{-5/3} = \frac{10}{27} 4^{-8/3}$$

and this means that the answer is $(5/81)4^{-8/3}h^3$. A neater way of writing that would be to write $4^{-8/3} = 4^{-3}4^{1/3} = (4^{1/3})/64$ giving

$$\frac{5}{5184} 4^{1/3} h^3.$$