

Calculus I Final Exam - Offline (in-person)  
Howard University Mathematics Department

December 5, 2023

**MUST GIVE STEP BY STEP EXPLANATIONS TO GET CREDIT FOR ANSWERS.**

*No calculators or electronic devices are permitted.*

**PART I: Do all three problems. EACH WORTH 24 POINTS.**

1. Do the following for the function  $f(x) = (x + 2)(x - 2)^3$ .
  - (a) Show that  $f'(x) = 4(x + 1)(x - 2)^2$  and  $f''(x) = 12x(x - 2)$ .
  - (b) Find the open interval(s) where  $f$  is increasing and/or decreasing.
  - (c) Find any local maximum and/or minimum values of  $f$ .
  - (d) Find the open interval(s) where  $f$  is concave up and/or concave down.
  - (e) Find the coordinate(s) of any inflection points of  $f$ .
  - (f) Use the information in parts (b) through (e) to sketch the graph of  $y = f(x)$  that shows the information obtained in (b) through (e).
2. Consider  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$ .
  - (a) Using the limit definition of the derivative, find the slope of the line tangent to  $f(x)$  at  $(3, \frac{1}{2})$ .
  - (b) Give an equation for the tangent line at  $(3, \frac{1}{2})$ .
3. The region  $R$  is bounded by the  $x$ -axis, the curve  $y = x^2$ , the line  $x = 0$ , and the line  $x = 3$ .
  - (a) Approximate the area of  $R$  with the sum of the areas of the following three rectangles. These three rectangles are sitting on the  $x$ -axis, they have equal width, and their upper-right corners are on the curve  $y = x^2$ . Simplify your answer.
  - (b) Approximate the area of  $R$  with the sum of the areas of the following  $n$  rectangles. These  $n$  rectangles are sitting on the  $x$ -axis, they have equal width, and their upper-right corners are on the curve  $y = x^2$   $\left( \text{Hint: } \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \right)$ .
  - (c) Evaluate  $\int_0^3 x^2 dx$  by taking the limit of your previous answer as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Simplify your answer.

**PART II: Choose any 8 problems. EACH WORTH 16 POINTS.**

1. Let  $f$  be a function defined as follows:
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + 3x, & \text{if } x < 1 \\ 4, & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 5x - 2, & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$
  - (a) Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x)$ .
  - (b) Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$ .
  - (c) Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} f(x)$  if it exists. If it does not exist, explain the reason.
  - (d) Is  $f$  continuous at  $x = 1$ ? Explain the reason to your answer.
2. The volume of a growing spherical cell is  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ . Find the instantaneous rate of change of the volume with respect to the radius when  $r = 5\mu m$ .
3. Find the horizontal and vertical asymptotes of the curve  $f(x) = \frac{3x^2 + 4x + 8}{x^2 - 2x - 15}$ . Justify your work for each by computing a limit.
4. (a) Find the linearization (linear approximation) of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2x - 1}$  at  $a = 0$ .  
(b) Using your answer from part (a) approximate  $f(0.1)$ .
5. The base of a triangle is shrinking at a rate of 1 cm/min and the height of the triangle is increasing at a rate of 5 cm/min. Find the rate at which the area of the triangle changes when the height is 22 cm and the base is 10 cm.

