

Pre-calculus Exam

1. (4pts) In the following exercises write h as the composite of $f \circ g$ of two functions f and g (neither of which is equal to h).

a) $h(x) = \sqrt{(x-3)}$

b) $h(x) = \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{5/2}$

2. (4pts) Find the following values.

a) $\sin(11\pi/6)$

b) $\tan(-\pi/4)$

c) $\sec(-\pi/3)$

d) $\csc(-5\pi/3)$

3. (6pts) Solve the inequality.

a) $2\ln x \geq \ln(2x)$

b) $\left| \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right| \leq 1$

4. (6pts) Find the domain of the function.

a) $f(x) = \ln \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1}$

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

5. (5pts) Let r be any rational number and let $f(x) = \sin x + \sin rx$. Show that f is periodic. (Hint: let $r = m/n$, where m and n are integers).

Solution to Pre-Calculus Exam

1. a) $g(x)=x-3$, $f(x)=\sqrt{x}$
 b) $g(x)=x+1/x$, $f(x)=x^{5/2}$
2. a) $\sin(11\pi/6)=\sin(2\pi-\pi/6)=\sin(-\pi/6)=-\sin(\pi/6)=-1/2$
 b) $\tan(-\pi/4)=-\tan(\pi/4)=-1$.
 c) $\sec(-\pi/3)=1/\cos(-\pi/3)=1/\cos(\pi/3)=2$.
 d) $\csc(-5\pi/3)=1/\sin(-5\pi/3)=1/\sin(-5\pi/3+2\pi)=1/\sin(\pi/3)=2/\sqrt{3}$
3. a) $2\ln x \geq \ln 2x \Rightarrow 2\ln x \geq \ln 2 + \ln x \Rightarrow \ln x \geq \ln 2 \Rightarrow x \geq 2$

$$\text{b) } \left| \frac{x+1}{x-1} \right| \leq 1 \Rightarrow -1 \leq \frac{x+1}{x-1} \leq 1 \quad \text{multiplying each term by } x-1,$$

If $x-1 > 0$, then we get $-(x-1) \leq x+1 \leq x-1$, the right inequality doesn't make sense. So there's no solution under this case.

If $x-1 < 0$, then we get $-(x-1) \geq x+1 \geq x-1$, the right inequality always holds. The left inequality gives $-(x-1) \geq x+1 \Rightarrow -x+1 \geq x+1 \Rightarrow -x \geq x \Rightarrow 0 \geq x \Rightarrow x \in (-\infty, 0]$

4. a) The domain of a function is all the value x where the function is well defined. The denominator can not be zero. So $e^x - 1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow e^x \neq 1 \Rightarrow x \neq 0$. The input of the \ln function should be positive. So we must have $\frac{e^x}{e^x - 1} > 0$, but $e^x > 0$ for all x , the

denominator should also be positive: $e^x - 1 > 0 \Rightarrow e^x > 1 \Rightarrow e^x > e^0 \Rightarrow x > 0$.

b) The input of the \ln function is positive. So we have $1-x > 0$, and $x > 0$. Combine these two we get $0 < x < 1$. The denominator can not be zero, so $\ln x \neq 0 \Rightarrow x \neq 1$. Therefore the domain is $(0, 1)$.

5. A function $g(x)$ is periodic if there exist some $T > 0$, such that $g(x+kT)=g(x)$, holds for any integer k . Recall the fact that $\sin(x)$ is periodic: $\sin(x+2k\pi)=\sin(x)$, for any integer k . Since r is a rational number, there exist m, n such that $r=m/n$. So

$$\sin\left(r(x+2kn\pi)\right) = \sin\left(\frac{m}{n}(x+2kn\pi)\right) = \sin\left(\frac{m}{n}x + 2km\pi\right) = \sin\left(\frac{m}{n}x\right) = \sin(rx) \quad (*)$$

Using this result, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x+2kn\pi) &= \sin(x+2kn\pi) + \sin(r(x+2kn\pi)) \\ &= \sin(x) + \sin(rx) \quad (\text{here we use } * \text{ and the periodicity of sin function}) \\ &= f(x) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $f(x)$ is a periodic function.