

1. (4 points) Given  $f(x) = 6x + 1$ , use the difference quotient to calculate  $f'(x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[6(x+h) + 1] - (6x + 1)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6x + 6h + 1 - 6x - 1}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6h}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 6 \text{ justified since } h \neq 0 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

2. (4 points) Determine the values of the following limits if possible; if they can not be evaluated, explain why.

(a) (2 points)  $\lim_{u \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{7u^2 - 3}{u^4 + u}$ .

Considering only the highest order terms, we can see that

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{7u^2 - 3}{u^4 + u} = \lim_{u \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{7u^2}{u^4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{7}{u^2} = 0$$

If considering only the highest order terms does not appeal, one can instead divide the numerator and denominator by  $u^4$  and reduce the limit using the known fact that  $\lim_{u \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{u^k} = 0$  for positive  $k$ :

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{7u^2 - 3}{u^4 + u} = \lim_{u \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\frac{7}{u^2} - \frac{3}{u^4}}{1 + \frac{1}{u^3}} = \frac{0 - 0}{1 + 0} = 0$$

(b) (2 points)  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{t^6 + 3t^2 - 100}{2t^6 + t^3}$ .

Considering only the highest order terms, we can see that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{t^6 + 3t^2 - 100}{2t^6 + t^3} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{t^6}{2t^6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

If considering only the highest order terms does not appeal, one can instead divide the numerator and denominator by  $t^6$  and reduce the limit using the known fact that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{1}{t^k} = 0$  for positive  $k$ :

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{t^6 + 3t^2 - 100}{2t^6 + t^3} = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1 + \frac{3}{t^4} - \frac{100}{t^6}}{2 + \frac{1}{t^3}} = \frac{1 + 0 - 0}{2 + 0} = \frac{1}{2}$$

3. (4 points) Calculate  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{7}{x^2} - 5 + 3\sqrt{x} \right)$ .

Rephrasing radicals and division, this expression is simply  $\frac{d}{dx} (7x^{-2} - 5 + 3x^{1/2})$ , which is amenable to power rule evaluation to become  $-14x^{-3} + \frac{3}{2}x^{-1/2} = \frac{-14}{x^3} + \frac{3}{2\sqrt{x}}$ .

It is possible to differentiate  $\frac{7}{x^2}$  using the quotient rule, but doing so is generally regarded as more difficult than using the power rule directly.

4. (8 points) Solve the problems given below.

(a) (4 points) Find  $\frac{d}{dt}(t^3 e^t)$ .

We can use the product rule:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}(t^3 e^t) &= \left(\frac{d}{dt}t^3\right)e^t + t^3\frac{d}{dt}e^t \\ &= 3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t\end{aligned}$$

(b) (4 points) Given  $g(x) = \frac{x^2-3x}{2x^3-1}$ , find  $g'(x)$ .

$g'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{x^2-3x}{2x^3-1}$ , which we can evaluate using the quotient rule:

$$\begin{aligned}g'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx} \frac{x^2 - 3x}{2x^3 - 1} \\ &= \frac{(2x^3 - 1)\frac{d}{dx}(x^2 - 3x) - (x^2 - 3x)\frac{d}{dx}(2x^3 - 1)}{(2x^3 - 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{(2x^3 - 1)(2x - 3) - (x^2 - 3x)(6x^2)}{(2x^3 - 1)^2}\end{aligned}$$