Quiz 3 Solutions, Math 111, Section 5 (Vinroot)

1. Compute the derivative of the following function, but do not simplify:

$$g(x) = \frac{x\sin(x)}{x^2 + \cos(x)}$$

Solution: We have to apply the quotient rule, but we also have to apply the product rule for the numerator. First we find the derivative of the numerator using the product rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x\sin(x)) = \frac{d}{dx}(x)\sin(x) + x\frac{d}{dx}(\sin(x)) = 1 \cdot \sin(x) + x\cos(x) = \sin(x) + x\cos(x).$$

Now we can use the quotient rule for the original function. While you were not expected to simplify on the quiz, I will simplify here just to demonstrate how it goes:

$$g'(x) = \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(x\sin(x))(x^2 + \cos(x)) - x\sin(x)\frac{d}{dx}(x^2 + \cos(x))}{(x^2 + \cos(x))^2}$$

$$= \frac{(\sin(x) + x\cos(x))(x^2 + \cos(x)) - x\sin(x)(2x - \sin(x))}{(x^2 + \cos(x))^2} \qquad (You \text{ can stop here on the quiz.})$$

$$= \frac{x^2\sin(x) + x^3\cos(x) + \sin(x)\cos(x) + x\cos^2(x) - 2x^2\sin(x) + x\sin^2(x)}{(x^2 + \cos(x))^2}$$

$$= \frac{x^3\cos(x) - x^2\sin(x) + \sin(x)\cos(x) + x(\cos^2(x) + \sin^2(x))}{(x^2 + \cos(x))^2}$$

$$= \frac{x^3\cos(x) - x^2\sin(x) + \sin(x)\cos(x) + x}{(x^2 + \cos(x))^2}$$

2. Compute the following limit, and make sure all steps are clearly shown or explained.

$$\lim_{x \to 1} \frac{3\sin(x-1)}{x-1}.$$

Solution: First, notice that x - 1 approaches 0 as x approaches 1. So, if we let t = x - 1, then x approaching 1 means the same as t approaching 0. Substituting t for x - 1 in the limit, and substituting $x \to 1$ with $t \to 0$, we have

$$\lim_{x \to 1} \frac{3\sin(x-1)}{x-1} = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{3\sin(t)}{t}.$$

We have seen that $\lim_{t\to 0} \frac{\sin(t)}{t} = 1$, and so we have

$$\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{3\sin(t)}{t} = 3\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{\sin(t)}{t} = 3 \cdot 1 = 3.$$

Thus, we have

$$\lim_{x \to 1} \frac{3\sin(x-1)}{x-1} = 3.$$