MAT 295

Problem 1: Verify that the function $f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+2}$ satisfies the condition for the Mean Value Theorem on [0,2] and find any points $c \in [0,2]$ satisfying the condition guaranteed by the theorem.

Because f(x) is a rational function, f(x) is continuous and differentiable everywhere it is defined, i.e. on every interval not containing x = -2. Therefore, f(x) is continuous on [0,2] and differentiable on (0,2). Therefore, the Mean Value Theorem applies: there exists $c \in (0,2)$ with f(2)-f(0)=f'(c)(2-0).

(0,2). Therefore, the Mean Value Theorem applies: there exists
$$c \in (0,2)$$
 with $f(2)-f(0)=f'(c)(2-0)$.
Now $f(2)=\frac{1}{4}$ and $f(0)=-\frac{1}{2}$. We know that $f'(x)=\frac{(x+2)-1(x-1)}{(x+2)^2}=\frac{3}{(x+2)^2}$. Then

$$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{-1}{2} = 2 \cdot \frac{3}{(c+2)^2}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{6}{(c+2)^2}$$

$$(c+2)^2 = 8$$

$$c+2 = \pm 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$c = -2 \pm 2\sqrt{2} = 2(-1 \pm \sqrt{2})$$

Now $2(-1-\sqrt{2}) \notin (0,2)$. Therefore, $c = 2(\sqrt{2}-1)$.

Problem 2: Find $\lim_{n\to\infty} \left(\cos\frac{1}{n}\right)^{2n^2}$.

Let
$$y = \left(\cos\frac{1}{n}\right)^{2n^2}$$
. Then $\ln y = \ln\left(\cos\frac{1}{n}\right)^{2n^2} = 2n^2 \ln\left(\cos\frac{1}{n}\right)$. Now
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} 2n^2 \ln\left(\cos\frac{1}{n}\right) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{2\ln(\cos 1/n)}{1/n^2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{2\frac{-\sin(1/n)}{\cos(1/n)} \cdot \frac{-1}{n^2}}{-2/n^3}$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{-\tan(1/n)}{1/n}$$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{-\sec^2(1/n) \cdot -1/n^2}{-1/n^2}$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} -\sec^2(1/n) = -1$$

But then $\ln y = -1$ so that $y = e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e}$. Therefore, $\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(\cos \frac{1}{n}\right)^{2n^2} = \frac{1}{e}$.

Problem 3: Assuming a classical model of the atom, Niels Bohr was able to show that the energy of a hydrogen atom with separation r between the proton and the election is given by

$$E(r) = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e r^2} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

where \hbar is the reduced Planck's constant (Dirac constant), m_e is the mass of the election, e is the charge of an electron, and ϵ_0 is permittivity of free space. The Bohr radius for the hydrogen atom, denoted $r_{\rm Bohr}$, is the radius at which E(r) is minimal and it is approximately the expected distance between the proton and the electron in the ground state. Show that

$$r_{\rm Bohr} = \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2}{m_e e^2}$$

$$E(r) = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e r^2} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$E'(r) = \frac{-2\hbar^2}{2m_e r^3} + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} - \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e r^3}$$

If r is minimum value, then E'(r) = 0. But then

$$\begin{split} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} - \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e r^3} &= 0 \\ \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} &= \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e r^3} \\ \frac{e^2 r}{4\pi\epsilon_0} &= \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e} \\ r &= \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar^2}{m_e e^2} \end{split}$$

We check that this is a minimum using the First Derivative Test:

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Therefore,
$$r_{Bohr} = \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar^2}{m_e e^2}$$
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