

# MATHEMATICA LAB II

Lab report due: October 19<sup>th</sup>



First, read the following sections (pp 20 – 24) of Thomas' [An Introduction to Mathematica](#).

- Built-in commands and constants
- Command options and additional plots

Submit a *printed version* of your Mathematica notebook. You may (*and are encouraged to*) work with other students and compare results, but ultimately you must submit *your own* lab results --- *not* a shared copy. On your front page (using *Mathematica*) state your name and “Mathematica Lab II” using an appropriate style, font, size, and color. *Number* each problem and *restate the problem* before giving the solution. Use *Mathematica* input, not *free-form* input!

1. Plot the curve  $y = x^2 \sin(1/x^2)$ . What happens near  $x = 0$ ? What happens as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ ? Justify your answers by referring to four or five versions of your graphs over different domains.

2. Let  $f(x) = x^4 - \pi x^3 - 19x^2 + 156.1x - 391$
- Plot  $y = f(x)$  and, using the graph, determine the *number of roots* of this polynomial. Explain how you reached this conclusion.  
*You will need to examine the plot with several different domains!*
  - Using the NSolve command, find *all the real roots* of this polynomial.
3. Graph the curve  $y = |x| \cos(1/x)$ .
- Graph the two curves  $y = |x| \cos(1/x)$  and  $y = x/2$  for *several different domains*.  
(Use the built-in function Abs[ ] )
  - Viewing this graph, how many solutions do you think the equation  $|x| \cos(1/x) = x/2$  has?
  - Using NSolve, can you find a solution? What happens?
  - Using FindRoot, find 5 positive solutions.
4. Compare *logarithmic growth* with *linear growth* by plotting the two curves,  $(\ln x)^7$  and  $x$  on the same set of axes.  
Which function tends to infinity faster (as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ )?  $(\ln x)^7$  or  $x$ ? One way of achieving this is by exploring the quotients of these functions for large values of  $x$ . *Explain why your answer is correct by viewing the plot.*  
(Careful, this problem is quite tricky if you are not careful.)
5. Let  $g(x) = 2x + 7 \sin x$ .
- Find equations of the *tangent and normal lines* to  $y = g(x)$  at  $x = 4$  (either by hand or using Mathematica).
  - Graph (*on the same pair of axes*) the curve  $y = g(x)$  together with its *tangent and normal lines* at  $x = 4$ . (You may wish to use AspectRatio→Automatic to make sure that the tangent and normal lines actually *appear to be* perpendicular.)
6. (a) Plot the implicitly defined curve  $2y^3 + y^2 - y^5 = x^4 - 2x^3 + x^2$  for each of  $x$  and  $y$  in the interval  $[-2, 3]$ .
- (b) Compute  $dy/dx$  for this curve.

7. Consider the *Folium of Descartes*:  $x^3 + y^3 - 6xy = 0$ .

Find the equations of the tangent and normal lines to this implicitly defined curve at the point  $P = (4/3, 8/3)$ . Plot the curve and the two lines on the same pair of axes.

*I'm very well acquainted, too, with matters mathematical  
I understand equations, both the simple and quadratical  
About binomial theorem, I'm teeming with a lot o' news  
With many cheerful facts about the square of the hypotenuse*

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*I'm very good at integral and differential calculus  
I know the scientific names of beings animalculous  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General*

- Gilbert and Sullivan: *Pirates of Penzance*