2022 James S. Rickards Fall Invitational

For all questions, answer choice (E) NOTA means that none of the given answers is correct. Good Luck!

- 1. Compute the first derivative of $f(x) = x^4 + 2x^2 + 1$ at x = 3.

 (A) 112
 (B) 115
 (C) 120
 (D) 125
 (E) NOTA
- 2. Compute the second derivative of $f(x) = x^4 + 2x^2 + 1$ at x = 3. (A) 112 (B) 115 (C) 120 (D) 125 (E) NOTA

3. Compute the value of a such that for the function $f(x) = x^4 + ax^2 + 1$, we have f'(3) = f''(3). (A) -1 (B) 0 (C) 1 (D) 2 (E) NOTA

4. Fill in the two blanks to make a true statement: The function $f(x) = \sin(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)$ has a local _______ that is not absolute, and the function $g(x) = \cos(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)$ has a local ______ that is not absolute.

- (A) maximum, maximum
- (B) maximum, minimum
- (C) minimum, maximum
- (D) minimum, minimum
- (E) NOTA

5. Compute the maximum **slope** of a line tangent to $f(x) = \ln(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)$. (A) 1 (B) $\frac{e}{2}$ (C) 2 (D) e (E) NOTA

6. If $\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{x^4 + 2x^2 + 1}{x^a} = b$, where *a* and *b* are positive integers, compute a + b. (A) 2 (B) 3 (C) 4 (D) 5 (E) NOTA

7. Compute the following limit

(A)
$$\sin(1)$$
 (B) $\cos(1)$ (C) $2\sin(1)$ (D) $2\cos(1)$ (E) NOTA

8. The derivative of $y = (x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)^2$ at x = a is a perfect cube, and a is an integer. Which of the following could not be a?

(A) 1 (B) 8 (C) 36 (D) 216 (E) NOTA

9. Compute the product of the *x*-coordinates of the points of inflection of $f(x) = (x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)^{-1}$. (A) -3^{-1} (B) -5^{-1} (C) -7^{-1} (D) -9^{-1} (E) NOTA

10. Compute the slope of the line tangent to $x = y^4 + 2y^2 + 1$ at (100, 3). (A) 100^{-1} (B) 112^{-1} (C) 120^{-1} (D) 150^{-1} (E) NOTA

- 11. Let f(x) be a differentiable function defined on all real numbers such that the function $g(x) = f(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)$ is non-decreasing. Compute f(2) f(0).
 - (A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 2 (D) Not enough info (E) NOTA (C) 2 (D) Not enough info (E) NOTA (C) 2 (D) Not enough info (C) 2 (D) NOTA (C) 2 (

	kards Fall Invitational aximum value of $f(x) = 0$	$(r^4 \perp 2r^2 \perp 1)^{1/2} = 4r^2 \cdots h$		ulus Individu
			ere the function has domain $[-$	
(A) 1	(B) 2	(C) 4	(D) 6	(E) NOTA
B. What is the val $1)^{1/2} - 4x$ on the value of the second sec	ue of c guaranteed by the ne interval $[-1, 2]$?	Mean Value Theorem for	Derivatives on the function $f(x)$	$x) = (x^4 + 2x^2)$
(A) 0	(B) 0.5	(C) 1	(D) Does Not Exist	(E) NOTA
4. Let $f(x) = x^4 +$	$-2x^2 + 1$. Compute the su	um of the squares of all rea	al values of x such that $f(x) =$	f'(x).
(A) 10	(B) 12	(C) 14	(D) 15	(E) NOTA
				. ,
5. Let $f(x) = x^4 +$	$-2x^2 + 1$ and $g(x) = f(x)$	+ f'(x) + f''(x) + f'''(x) + f'''(x) + f'''(x)	+ Compute $g(3) - g'(3)$.	
(A) 96	(B) 100	(C) 120	(D) 144	(E) NOTA
5. Compute the m	aximum <i>u</i> -coordinate of a	In inflection point of $y = \ln x$	$n(x^4 + 2x^2 + 1).$	
(A) $\ln 2$	(B) 1	(C) $\ln 3$	(D) $\ln 4$	(E) NOTA
()	(-) -	(0) 0	(-)	(_) - · · ·
7. Compute the fo	llowing limit:	1 2 1		
		$\lim_{x \to 0} (x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)^{\frac{1}{x}}$		
(A) 0.5	(B) 1	(C) 2	(D) 4	(E) NOTA
8. Let $f(x) = x^4 +$	- $2x^2 + 1$. Compute $f'(1)$	$+ f''(1) + f'''(1) + \cdots$		
(A) 24	(B) 48	(C) 72	(D) 84	(E) NOTA
	$2x^2 + 1$. The unique line mpute the nearest integer		that is tangent to $f(x)$, that has	as positive slop
(A) 7	(B) 8	(C) 9	(D) 10	(E) NOTA
) Let $F(x) = (x^4)$	$\pm 9r^2 \pm 1)^5$ Compute th	e constant term of $F''(x)$.		
(A) 5	(B) 10 (B) 10	(C) 15 (x)	(D) 20	(E) NOTA
(11) 0	(D) 10	(0) 10	(D) 20	(L) 10111
I. Rolle's theorem Compute $a + b$.	can be applied for the fu	nction $f(x) = x^4 + 2x^2 + $	1 on the values $x = a$ and $x =$	b, where $a \neq$
(A) - 1	(B) 0	(C) 1	(D) Not enough info	(E) NOTA
is modeled by N		Haasini's position is model	the origin, and after t seconds, the deby $H(t) = t^8 + 2t^4 + 1$. Consider the deby $H(t) = t^8 + 2t^4 + 1$.	
(A) 1048	(B) 1060	(C) 1096	(D) 1200	(E) NOTA
3. Let $f(x) = x^4 + (a, f(a))$ and (b		nct integers. Which of the	following could be the slope of	the line throu
($a, f(a)$) and (b (A) 20	(B) 25	(C) 26	(D) 27	(E) NOTA

(A) 20 (B) 25 (C) 26 (D) 27 (E) NOTA

2022 James S. Rickards Fall Invitational

- 24. Sukeerth's favorite line is y = x. Let $f(x) = x^4 + 2x^2 + 1$. Let s be the x-coordinate of the closest point on y = f(x) to Sukeerth's favorite line. Compute $(s^3 + s)^{-2}$.
 - (A) 16 (B) 18 (C) 20 (D) 24 (E) NOTA

25. Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x^4 + 2x^2 + 1}$. Compute the following sum:

26. Compute the following limit

. . .

0.5

. .

27. The slope of the line tangent to $y = (x^4 + 2x^2 + 1)^{x^4 + 2x^2 + 1}$ at x = 1 can be expressed as $a(1 + \ln b)$ for integers a, b. Compute a + b.

- (A) 1032 (B) 1033 (C) 2052 (D) 2053 (E) NOTA
- 28. The function $f(x) = x^4 + 2x^2 + 1$ is too boring for Akhil. He changes it to $A(x) = x^a + 2x^b + 1$, where a and b are Akhil's favorite positive integers. He notes that both functions are tangent to each other at x = 1, but A(x) is not the same function as f(x). Compute ab.
 - (A) 4 (B) 6 (C) 8 (D) Not enough info (E) NOTA (E) NOT

29. Eric the estimator loves using the tangent-line approximation, but sometimes he uses it too much! Help him approximate $2^4 + 2(2)^2 + 1$ using the tangent-line approximation to the graph of $y = x^4 + 2x^2 + 1$ at (3,100).

- (A) -20 (B) -16 (C) 16 (D) 20 (E) NOTA
- 30. Tanmay has a special cone, which changes its dimensions over time. Its radius is defined by $r(t) = t^4 + 2t^2 + 1$, and its height is defined by $h(t) = r(t)t^{-4}$, where t > 0 is the number of seconds that have elapsed. The minimum volume that Tanmay's cone can attain is $\frac{a}{b}\pi$, where a, b are coprime, positive integers. Compute a + b.
 - (A) 256 (B) 257 (C) 258 (D) 259 (E) NOTA