

2.2: Basic Differentiation Rules and Rates of Change

Basic differentiation formulas:

$$1. \frac{d}{dx}(c) = 0 \text{ for any constant } c.$$

in other words, if $f(x) = c$, then $f'(x) = 0$

$$2. \frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1} \text{ for any real number } n.$$

if $f(x) = x^n$, then $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$ ← Power Rule

$$3. \frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)]$$

$$4. \frac{d}{dx}[f(x) + g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] + \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)]$$

$$5. \frac{d}{dx}[f(x) - g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] - \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)]$$

Example 1: Find the derivative of $f(x) = 7$.

$$f'(x) = 0$$

Ex 1.2: $f(x) = 6x^4$
 $f'(x) = 6 \frac{d}{dx}(x^4) = 6(4x^{4-1}) = 6(4x^3) = \boxed{24x^3}$

Example 2: Find the derivative of $f(x) = 5x^3 - x^7 + 12x$.

$$f'(x) = 15x^2 - 7x^6 + 12x^0 = \boxed{15x^2 - 7x^6 + 12}$$

Note:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(kx) = k$$

where k is a constant

Example 3: Find the derivative of $g(x) = x^{17} + x^{3/2}$.

$$g(x) = x^{17} + x^{3/2}$$

$$g'(x) = 17x^{16} + \frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{3}{2}-1} = \boxed{17x^{16} + \frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \boxed{17x^{16} + \frac{3\sqrt{x}}{2}}$$

Recall:

$$\sqrt[n]{x} = x^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

$$\frac{1}{x^n} = x^{-n}$$

Example 4: Find the derivative of $f(x) = \sqrt[5]{x} + \frac{1}{x^2}$.Rewrite: $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{5}} + x^{-2}$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{5} x^{\frac{1}{5}-1} - 2x^{-2-1} = \frac{1}{5} x^{-4/5} - 2x^{-3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{5x^{4/5}} - \frac{2}{x^3}$$

Example 5: Find the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt[4]{x}}$.

$$f(x) = 2x^{-\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$f'(x) = 2\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)x^{-\frac{1}{4}-1} = -\frac{2}{4}x^{-5/4}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sqrt[4]{x^5}}$$

$$= \left[\frac{1}{5\sqrt[5]{x^4}} - \frac{2}{x^3} \right]$$

Example 6: Find the derivative of $h(x) = (\sqrt{x})^5$.

$$h(x) = (x^{1/2})^5 = x^{5/2}$$

$$h'(x) = \frac{5}{2} x^{\frac{5}{2}-1} = \frac{5}{2} x^{3/2} = \frac{5\sqrt{x^3}}{2}$$

Example 7: Find the derivative of $f(x) = -\sqrt[3]{6x^4}$.

$$f(x) = -\sqrt[3]{6x^4} = -(6x^4)^{1/3} = -6^{1/3} x^{4/3}$$

$$f'(x) = -6^{1/3} \cdot \frac{4}{3} x^{\frac{4}{3}-1} = -6^{1/3} \cdot \frac{4}{3} x^{1/3} = -\frac{4}{3} (6x)^{1/3}$$

$$\text{OR } f(x) = -\sqrt[3]{6} \sqrt[3]{x^4} = -\sqrt[3]{6} x^{4/3}$$

$$f'(x) = -\sqrt[3]{6} \left(\frac{4}{3} x^{1/3} \right) = -\sqrt[3]{6} \left(\frac{4}{3} \right) \sqrt[3]{x} = -\frac{4}{3} \sqrt[3]{6x}$$

$$= \left[-\frac{4}{3} \sqrt[3]{6x} \right]$$

Example 8: Find the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{10}{x^4}$.

Example 9: Find the derivative of $g(x) = \frac{2\sqrt{x}}{7}$.

Example 10: Find the derivative of $f(t) = \frac{3}{4t^2} - \sqrt[3]{7t}$.

Example 11: Find the derivative of $f(u) = \frac{7u^5 + u^2 - 9\sqrt{u}}{u^2}$.

$$f(u) = \frac{7u^5}{u^2} + \frac{u^2}{u^2} - \frac{9u^{1/2}}{u^2} = 7u^3 + 1 - 9u^{\frac{1}{2}-2}$$

$$= 7u^3 + 1 - 9u^{-3/2}$$

$$f'(u) = 21u^2 + 0 - 9\left(-\frac{3}{2}u^{-3/2-1}\right)$$

$$= \boxed{21u^2 + \frac{27}{2}u^{-5/2}} = \boxed{21u^2 + \frac{27}{2\sqrt{u^5}}}$$

Example 12: Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $f(x) = 3x - x^2$ at the point $(-2, -10)$.

$$f'(x) = 3 - 2x$$

Find slope: $m = f'(-2) = 3 - 2(-2) = 3 + 4 = 7$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - (-10) = 7(x - (-2))$$

$$y + 10 = 7(x + 2)$$

$$y + 10 = 7x + 14$$

$$\boxed{y = 7x + 4}$$

Example 13: Find the point(s) on the graph of $f(x) = x^2 + 6x$ where the tangent line is horizontal.

Find derivative:

$$f'(x) = 2x + 6$$

For a horizontal tangent, the slope is 0. So set

$$f'(x) = 0:$$

$$2x + 6 = 0$$

$$2x = -6$$

$$x = -3 \quad \text{It asked for a point, so we need the y-value:}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(-3) &= (-3)^2 + 6(-3) \\ &= 9 - 18 \\ &= -9 \end{aligned}$$

Tangent is horizontal at $(-3, -9)$.

Definition: The normal line to a curve at the point P is defined to be the line passing through P that is perpendicular to the tangent line at that point.

Example 14: Determine the equation of the normal line to the curve $y = \frac{1}{x}$ at the point $\left(3, \frac{1}{3}\right)$.

Recall: The slopes of perpendicular lines are opposite reciprocals.

So, we first find slope of tangent line:

$$y = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1}$$

$$\text{slope of tangent line is: } \frac{dy}{dx} = -1x^{-1-1} = -x^{-2} = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\text{slope of tangent line at } \left(3, \frac{1}{3}\right) \text{ is } -\frac{1}{3^2} = -\frac{1}{9} = m_1$$

$$\text{slope of normal line is } m_2 = +\frac{9}{1} = 9$$

$$\text{Find eqn: } y - y_1 = m(x - x_1) \Rightarrow y - \frac{1}{3} = 9(x - 3)$$

Derivatives of trigonometric functions:

Know these!

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \cos x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\csc x) = -\csc x \cot x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) = -\sin x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \sec x \tan x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \sec^2 x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) = -\csc^2 x$$

$$\begin{aligned} y - \frac{1}{3} &= 9x - 27 \\ y &= 9x - 27 + \frac{1}{3} \\ y &= 9x - \frac{81}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \\ y &= 9x - \frac{80}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Example 15: Find the derivative of $y = 2 \cos x - 4 \tan x$.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2(-\sin x) - 4(\sec^2 x) = -2\sin x - 4\sec^2 x$$

Example 16: Find the derivative of $y = \frac{\sin x}{4} + 3x^4 + \pi^2$.

$$y = \frac{1}{4} \sin x + 3x^4 + \pi^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{4} \cos x + 12x^3 + 0 = \frac{1}{4} \cos x + 12x^3$$

Example 17: Determine the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $y = \sec x$ at the point

where $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Find the derivative: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sec x \tan x$

Slope at $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$ is: $m = \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=\frac{\pi}{4}}$

Find y-value: $y|_{x=\frac{\pi}{4}} = \sec \frac{\pi}{4} = \sqrt{2}$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2} \left(x - \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$$

$$y = \sqrt{2}x - \frac{\pi\sqrt{2}}{4} + \sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sec\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\cos(\pi/4)} \cdot \frac{\sin(\pi/4)}{\cos(\pi/4)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}/2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}/2}{\sqrt{2}/2} \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot (1) = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} = \sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Example 18: Find the points on the curve $y = \tan x - 2x$ where the tangent line is horizontal.

The derivative as a rate of change:

The average rate of change of $y = f(x)$ with respect to x over the interval $[x_0, x_1]$ is

$$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}, \text{ where } h = x_1 - x_0 \neq 0.$$

This is the same as the slope of the secant line joining points $P(x_0, f(x_0))$ and $Q(x_1, f(x_1))$.

The instantaneous rate of change (or, equivalently, just the rate of change) of f when $x = a$ is the slope of the tangent line to graph of f at the point $(a, f(a))$.

Therefore, the instantaneous rate of change is given by the derivative f' .

Δ = delta = "change in"

Example 19: Find the average rate of change in volume of a sphere with respect to its radius r as r changes from 3 to 4. Find the instantaneous rate of change when the radius is 3.

Volume of a sphere: $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ (r = radius)

Average rate of change in volume = $\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta r} = \frac{\text{change in } V}{\text{change in } r} = \frac{V_2 - V_1}{r_2 - r_1} = \frac{V(4) - V(3)}{4 - 3}$

$$= \frac{\frac{4}{3}\pi(4)^3 - \frac{4}{3}\pi(3)^3}{4 - 3} = \frac{4}{3}\pi(64 - 27) = \frac{4}{3}\pi(37) = \boxed{\frac{148}{3}\pi}$$

avg rate of change

Instantaneous rate of change: $V'(r) = \frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \right) = \frac{4}{3}\pi (3r^2) = 4\pi r^2$

At $r=3$, this is $V'(3) = 4\pi(3)^2$

Example 20: Find the rate of change of the area of a circle with respect to (a) the diameter; (b) the circumference.

(a)

Area = πr^2

$A(r) = \pi r^2$

Diameter: $d = 2r$

$r = \frac{d}{2}$

Substitute $r = \frac{d}{2}$ into $A(r) = \pi r^2$;

$$A = \pi \left(\frac{d}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{\pi d^2}{4}$$

Now it's a function of d : $A(d) = \frac{\pi d^2}{4} = \frac{1}{4}\pi d^2$

$A'(d) = \frac{1}{4}\pi (2d) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}\pi d}$

(b) Circumference: $C = 2\pi r = \pi d$

$C = 2\pi r \Rightarrow r = \frac{C}{2\pi}$

Substitute into $A = \pi r^2$:

$$A(C) = \pi \left(\frac{C}{2\pi} \right)^2 = \frac{\pi C^2}{4\pi^2} = \frac{C^2}{4\pi} = \frac{1}{4\pi} C^2$$

$A'(C) = \frac{1}{4\pi} (2C) = \boxed{\frac{C}{2\pi}}$

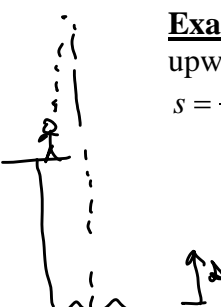
Velocity:

If the independent variable represents *time*, then the derivative can be used to analyze motion.

If the function $s(t)$ represents the position of an object, then the derivative $s'(t) = \frac{ds}{dt}$ is the velocity of the object. (velocity = instantaneous velocity)

(The velocity is the instantaneous rate of change in distance. The average velocity is the average rate of change in distance.)

Example 21: A person stands on a bridge 40 feet above a river. He throws a ball vertically upward with an initial velocity of 50 ft/sec. Its height (in feet) above the river after t seconds is $s = -16t^2 + 50t + 40$.

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- What is the velocity after 3 seconds?
 - How high will it go?
 - How long will it take to reach a velocity of 20 ft/sec?
 - When will it hit the water? How fast will it be going when it gets there?

a) velocity: $v(t) = \frac{ds}{dt} = s'(t) = -32t + 50$

After 3 seconds: $s'(3) = -32(3) + 50 = -96 + 50 = -46 \text{ ft/sec}$
(it is going down)

b) At maximum height, the velocity is 0 (velocity is positive going up, and negative going down)

Set $s'(t) = 0$: $-32t + 50 = 0$
 $50 = 32t$

$t = \frac{50}{32} = \frac{25}{16} \text{ seconds} = 1\frac{9}{16} \text{ sec}$

Put $t = \frac{25}{16}$ into position function $s(t) = -16t^2 + 50t + 40$

$s\left(\frac{25}{16}\right) = -16\left(\frac{25}{16}\right)^2 + 50\left(\frac{25}{16}\right) + 40 = 79.0625 \text{ ft}$

c) set $s'(t) = 20$: $-32t + 50 = 20$

$-32t = -30$
 $t = \frac{-30}{-32} = \frac{15}{16} \text{ sec}$

d) when it hits the water, $s = 0$: $-16t^2 + 50t + 40 = 0$
Need quadratic formula - see next page

$$t = \frac{-50 \pm \sqrt{50^2 - 2(-16)(40)}}{2(-16)} \Rightarrow t \approx 3.785 \text{ sec}$$

$$t \approx -0.66 \text{ sec}$$

Find velocity when it hits water: $v'(3.785) = -32(3.785) + 50 = -71.12 \text{ ft/sec}$

Example 22: Suppose a bullet is shot straight up at an initial velocity of 73 feet per second. If air resistance is neglected, its height from the ground (in feet) after t seconds is given by $h(t) = -16.1t^2 + 73t$.

- The velocity after 2 seconds.
- How high will the bullet go?
- When will the bullet reach the ground?
- How fast will it be traveling when it hits the ground?

$$h'(t) = -32.2t + 73$$

(a) After 2 sec, velocity is $h'(2) = -32.2(2) + 73 = 8.6 \text{ ft/sec}$

(b) Set $h'(t) = 0$: (velocity is 0 at max height)

$$-32.2t + 73 = 0$$

$$73 = 32.2t$$

$$t \approx 2.267 \text{ sec}$$

$$h(2.267) = -16.1(2.267)^2 + 73(2.267) \approx 82.75 \text{ ft}$$

(c) when it hits ground, h is 0:

$$\text{Set } h(t) = 0: -16.1t^2 + 73t = 0$$

$$t(-16.1t + 73) = 0$$

$$t = 0, t = \frac{73}{16.1} \approx 4.53 \text{ sec}$$

$$(d) h'(4.53)$$

$$= -32.2(4.53) + 73$$

$$= -72.866$$

$$\text{Speed is } 72.866 \text{ ft/sec}$$

Example 23: Suppose the position of a particle is given by $f(t) = t^4 - 32t + 7$. What is the velocity after 3 seconds? When is the particle at rest?

At rest: velocity = 0.

$$f'(t) = 4t^3 - 32$$

$$f'(3) = 4(3)^3 - 32 = 4(27) - 32 = 76 \text{ velocity after 3 sec}$$

$$\text{Velocity is 0: } 4t^3 - 32 = 0$$

$$4t^3 = 32$$

$$t^3 = 8$$

$$t = 2 \text{ velocity} = 0 \text{ at } t = 2.$$

It is going at a speed of 71.12 ft/sec when it hits water.