

1. Find the derivatives of the following functions (using the definition of the derivative as a limit).

(a) $f(x) = \sqrt{2x - 1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} - \sqrt{2x - 1}}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} - \sqrt{2x - 1})(\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1})}{h(\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1})} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(2(x+h) - 1) - (2x - 1)}{h(\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1})} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2h}{h(\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1})} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(x+h) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1}} \\
 &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2(x+0) - 1} + \sqrt{2x - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2x - 1}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) $g(x) = \frac{1}{3 - 2x}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 g'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{3 - 2(x+h)} - \frac{1}{3 - 2x}}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3 - 2x) - (3 - 2(x+h))}{h(3 - 2x)(3 - 2(x+h))} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2h}{h(3 - 2x)(3 - 2(x+h))} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{(3 - 2x)(3 - 2(x+h))} \\
 &= \frac{2}{(3 - 2x)(3 - 2(x+0))} = \frac{2}{(3 - 2x)^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Consider the function

$$f(t) = t^3 - t^2 - t + 1.$$

- (a) The derivative of f is given by $f'(t) = 3t^2 - 2t - 1$. Using this, find the largest open intervals on which f is increasing and decreasing. At what values of t does f have local extrema?

The derivative $f'(t)$ factors as $(3t+1)(t-1)$ with roots $-1/3, 1$. The derivative is positive on $(-\infty, -1/3) \cup (1, \infty)$ and negative on $(-1/3, 1)$. There is a local maximum of $f(-1/3) = 11/9$ at $t = -1/3$ and a local minimum of $f(1) = 0$ at $t = 1$.

- (b) The second derivative of f is given by $f''(t) = 6t - 2$. Using this, find the largest open intervals on which f is concave up and concave down. Find any inflection points on the graph of f .

The second derivative has only root, at $t = 1/3$. The second derivative is positive on $(1/3, \infty)$ and negative on $(-\infty, 1/3)$, so that f is concave up on $(1/3, \infty)$ and concave down on $(-\infty, 1/3)$. There is an inflection point of $(1/3, f(1/3)) = (1/3, 16/27)$ where the concavity changes.