

03.01 Derivatives of Polynomials and Exponential Functions

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Lecture: Section 3.1: Derivatives of polynomials and exponential functions

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Today's Goal: Avoid using the limit definition of derivative in some cases

Logistics: We should be starting this on a Monday and finishing on a Tuesday. On the Monday we have a check-in!

Tuesday here's an activity

Warm-Up 1.1 If $f'(x) > 0$ and $f''(x) < 0$, then f is:


- (A) increasing and concave up.
- (B) increasing and concave down.
- (C) decreasing and concave up.
- (D) decreasing and concave down.
- (E) None of the above.

f increasing
concave down

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \quad \text{slope}$$

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{b \rightarrow a} \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b-a}$$

1.1 Derivative Rules

Rule	Formula	Example
Constant Rule → for any function just a constant #	$f(x) = c$ $f'(x) = 0$	$\frac{d}{dx}(5) = 0$ $\frac{d}{dx}(\pi e - 42) = 0$
x 	$f(x) = x$ $f'(x) = 1$	
Power Rule	$f(x) = x^n$ $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$	$\frac{d}{dx}(x^{24}) = 24x^{23}$; $\frac{d}{dx}(x^{\pi}) = \pi x^{\pi-1}$
Constant Multiple Rule for any real #c: (follows from: $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c \cdot f(x) = c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)$)	$\frac{d}{dx}(c \cdot f(x)) = c \cdot \frac{d}{dx} f(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(3x) = 3$ $\frac{d}{dx}(2x^{-3}) = 2 \frac{d}{dx}(x^{-3}) = 2(-3x^{-4}) = -6x^{-4}$
Sum Rule $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (f(x) + g(x)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) + g(x)) = f'(x) + g'(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(3x^2 + x^{1/2}) = 6x + \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}$
Difference Rule	$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) - g(x)) = f'(x) - g'(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(\frac{1}{3}x^6 - 4) = 2x^5$
NO PRODUCT OR QUOTIENT RULES		

$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) \cdot g(x)) \neq f'(x) \cdot g'(x)$
NOOOOOO

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$$

1.1.1 Proof of Power Rule

Gives us a derivative of $f(x) = x^n$ where n is any real number.

$$f(x) = x^n$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^n - x^n}{h}$$

need to expand $(x+h)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i h^{n-i}$ (higher powers of h)

'Binomial expansion'

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{n x^{n-1} h + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} h^2 + \dots}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[n x^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} h + \dots \text{other } h \text{ terms} \right]$$

$\downarrow 0$ b/c $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = n x^{n-1}} \quad \star$$

1.1.2 Proof of Sum Rule

Recall: $(f+g)'(x) = f'(x) + g'(x)$

$$(f+g)'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(f+g)(x+h) - (f+g)(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) + g(x+h) - f(x) - g(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right] \quad \star \frac{A+B}{c} = \frac{A}{c} + \frac{B}{c}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right) + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right)$$

$$= f'(x) + g'(x) \quad \checkmark$$

What goes wrong with $f \cdot g$?

$$(f \cdot g)'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(f \cdot g)(x+h) - (f \cdot g)(x)}{h}$$

mult.

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h}$$

$$\neq f'(x)g'(x)$$

Stuck!
I'll show you how to get unstuck in 3.2

1.2 Examples

Find the derivatives of the following functions using the rules:

(1) $f(x) = 3x^4 - 6x^{1/3} + 2x - 1$

* (2) $f(x) = \underbrace{\sqrt{x}}_{x^{1/2}} - 34x - \underbrace{\frac{1}{x}}_{x^{-1}} = x^{1/2} + 34x - x^{-1}$

$\rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} + 34 - (-1x^{-2})$

$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} + 34 + \frac{1}{x^2}$

(3) $f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + \sqrt{x}}{x}$

(4) $f(x) = \frac{2x^3}{2} - \frac{\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{2}$

(5) $f(x) = \sqrt{2x} + \sqrt{5x}$

(6) $f(x) = 3x^2 - \pi^2$

1.3 Exponential Functions

You may recall e being vaguely defined in Precalculus: $e \approx 2.718\dots$. The definition of e involves **limits**, so we are ready for it now!

Definition 1.2

e is the number such that $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1$

Definition 1.3 (Definition of Derivative of $y = x^x$)

$$\frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x$$

Example 1.4 Compute the derivative of the function $f(x) = 2e^x - 3x^2 + 54e$

Example 1.5 At what point on the curve $y = 1 + 2e^x - 3x$ is the tangent line parallel to the line $3x - y = 5$?