

# 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:

*f increasing*  
*concave down*

- (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.

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

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

1.1 Derivative Rules

Rule	Formula	Example
Constant Rule <i>→ for any function just = a constant #</i>	$f(x) = c$ $f'(x) = 0$	$\frac{d}{dx}(5) = 0$ $\frac{d}{dx}(\pi e - 42) = 0$
$x$ <i>↗ ↘</i>	$f(x) = x$ $f'(x) = 1$	
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 <i>for any real # c: (follows from: <math>\lim_{x \rightarrow a} c \cdot f(x) = c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)</math>)</i>	$\frac{d}{dx}(c \cdot f(x)) = c \cdot \frac{d}{dx} f(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(3x) = 3$   $\frac{d}{dx}(2x^{-3}) = 2 \frac{d}{dx}(x^{-3}) = 2(-3x^{-4}) = -6x^{-4}$
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	$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) - g(x)) = f'(x) - g'(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx}(\frac{1}{3}x^6 - 4) = 2x^5$
<b>*NO PRODUCT OR QUOTIENT RULES*</b>		

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

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

## 1.1.1 Proof of Power Rule

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

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

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

"Binomial expansion"  $= x^n + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} h + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} h^2 + \dots$

higher powers of  $h$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{n x^{n-1} h + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} h^2 + \dots}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[ n x^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} h + \dots \text{other } h \text{ terms} \right] \\
 &\quad \downarrow 0 \text{ b/c } h \rightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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

## 1.1.2 Proof of Sum Rule

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 (f+g)'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(f+g)(x+h) - (f+g)(x)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) + g(x+h) - (f(x) + g(x))}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right] \quad \star \frac{A+B}{C} = \frac{A}{C} + \frac{B}{C} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right) \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right) + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right) \\
 &= f'(x) + g'(x) \quad \checkmark
 \end{aligned}$$

What goes wrong with  $f \cdot g$ ?

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

mult.

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

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

if you come to the MARC for quiz results now!

## 1.2 Examples

Find the derivatives of the following functions using the rules:

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

$$f'(x) = 12x^3 - 2x^{-2/3} + 2 \rightsquigarrow f'(x) = 12x^3 - \frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{x^2}} + 2$$

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

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

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

$$\frac{A+B}{C} = \frac{A}{C} + \frac{B}{C}$$

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

$$\frac{x^3}{x} - \frac{4x^2}{x} + \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x} \rightarrow x^2 - 4x + x^{-1/2}$$

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

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

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

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

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

Common mistake:

$$f'(x) = 6x - 2\pi$$

Don't make this mistake!  
 $\pi$  is a constant.

### 1.3 Exponential Functions: $e^x$ , $2^x$ , $(\frac{1}{2})^x$ , ...

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

Definition 1.2

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

help us find  $\frac{d}{dx} e^x$ :

$$\frac{d}{dx} e^x = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x+h} - e^x}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x e^h - e^x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x (e^h - 1)}{h} = e^x$$

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

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

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

$$f'(x) = 2e^x - 6x$$

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

Step 1: find  $f'(x)$ :  $f'(x) = 2e^x - 3$

Step 2: "parallel to  $3x - y = 5$ " means what slope?  
 $3x - y = 5 \rightarrow y = 3x - 5 \rightarrow \text{slope} = 3$

Step 3: When is tangent line to  $f(x)$  slope = 3?

$$f'(x) = 3$$

$$2e^x - 3 = 3$$

$$2e^x = 6$$

$$e^x = 3$$

$$\ln(3) = x$$

Step 4: find  $y$ :

$$y = 1 + 2e^{\ln(3)} - 3\ln(3)$$

$$y = 1 + 6 - 3\ln(3)$$

$$y = 7 - 3\ln(3)$$

Point:

$$(\ln(3), 7 - 3\ln(3))$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} 2^x = \ln(2) \cdot 2^x \quad \text{in general:}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (b^x) = \ln(b) \cdot b^x$$