

Differentiation

Examples

- Basic Rules

$$\frac{dy}{dx} x^n = n \cdot x^{n-1} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} x^3 = 3x^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} e^{nx} = n \cdot e^{nx} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} e^{3x} = 3e^{3x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \sin(nx) = n \cdot \cos(nx) \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} \sin 3x = 3 \cos 3x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \cos(nx) = -n \cdot \sin(nx) \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} \cos 3x = -3 \sin 3x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \ln(nx) = \frac{1}{x} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} \ln(3x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad \text{Using chain rule}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} n = 0 \quad \text{where } n \text{ is a constant}$$

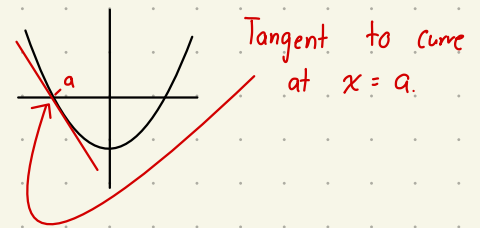
A common way to write derivatives is using an apostrophe instead of dy/dx .

↳ If $y \Leftrightarrow f(x)$ then $y' \Leftrightarrow f'(x)$

Slope

The slope of a tangent line at a point (a, b) on a curve can be found by deriving the curve's equation and substituting $x = a$.

↳ For curve $f(x)$, the slope of tangent at (a, b) is $m = f'(a)$.



Rules

1. Product Rule → Used when 2 functions are multiplied

$$\text{If } y = f(x) \cdot g(x), \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x) \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

Basically multiply each function with the derivative of the other.

$$\begin{aligned} y &= x^2 e^{3x} & f(x) &= x^2 & f'(x) &= 2x \\ & & g(x) &= e^{3x} & g'(x) &= 3e^{3x} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 2x \cdot 3e^{3x} + x^2 \cdot 3e^{3x} \end{aligned}$$

2. Quotient Rule → Used when 2 functions are divided

$$\text{If } y = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f'(x) \cdot g(x) - f(x) \cdot g'(x)}{g^2}, \quad g \neq 0$$

Order matters.

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \frac{x^2 + 1}{x - 1} & f(x) &= x^2 + 1 & f'(x) &= 2x \\ & & g(x) &= x - 1 & g'(x) &= 1 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{(2x)(x-1) - (x^2+1)(1)}{(x-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

3. Chain Rule

$$\text{If } y = f(g(x)), \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$$

Separate into inner and outer functions and differentiate separately. Use substitutions if necessary

$$\begin{aligned} y &= (2x^3 + 3x^2)^4 & \text{Inner} &= 2x^3 + 3x^2 & \text{Outer} &= (\quad)^4 \\ \text{Inner}' &= 3x^2 + 6x & \text{Ignore Inner} & \uparrow & \text{Function} \\ \text{Outer}' &= 4(\quad)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4(2x^3 + 3x^2)^3 \cdot (3x^2 + 6x)$$