

# Computing derivatives

Notation:  $y = f(x)$

Derivative

$$f'(x) \quad y' \quad \underbrace{\frac{dy}{dx} \quad \frac{df}{dx} \quad \frac{d}{dx} f(x)}_{\text{Leibniz notation}}$$

Leibniz notation  
 $d$  is not a variable, just a symbol.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$\text{set } h = \Delta x \quad \Delta y = f(x+h) - f(x)$$

$$f'(a) = \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=a}$$

higher derivatives

$$f(x) \xrightarrow{\text{deriv.}} f'(x) \xrightarrow{\text{deriv.}} f''(x)$$

$$\longrightarrow f'''(x) \longrightarrow f^{(4)}(x)$$

$$\longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow f^{(n)}(x)$$

Differentiation = taking the derivative.

$$f(x) = c \quad \text{constant} \quad f'(x) = 0$$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 0 = 0$$

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$$f(x) = x \quad f'(x) = 1$$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$$

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$$f(x) = x^2 \quad f'(x) = 2x$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h}$$

$$(x+h)^2 = (x+h)(x+h) = x^2 + hx + xh + h^2 = x^2 + 2xh + h^2$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2xh + h^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2x + h)$$

$$= 2x$$



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

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

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} nx^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2}x^{n-2}h + \binom{n}{3}x^{n-3}h^2 + \dots$$

$$= nx^{n-1} + 0 + 0 + 0$$

$$= nx^{n-1}$$

Note all other terms have positive power of  $h$  so they go to zero.

$$\text{Eg. } f(x) = x^{1000} \quad f'(x) = 1000x^{999}$$

$$y = t^4 \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = 4t^3$$

$$\text{Rules } \frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0 \quad \frac{d}{dx}[x^n] = nx^{n-1}$$

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

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

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

$$\frac{d}{dx} [4x^{99} + 2x^3 + 7x^{50} + 1]$$

$$= \frac{d}{dx} [4x^{99}] + \frac{d}{dx} [2x^3] + \frac{d}{dx} [7x^{50}] + \frac{d}{dx} [1]$$

$$= 4 \frac{d}{dx} [x^{99}] + 2 \frac{d}{dx} [x^3] + 7 \frac{d}{dx} [x^{50}] + \frac{d}{dx} [1]$$

$$= 4 \cdot 99 \cdot x^{98} + 2 \cdot 3 \cdot x^2 + 7 \cdot 50 \cdot x^{49} + 0$$

More generally:  $\frac{d}{dx} [x^r] = r x^{r-1}$

where  $r$  is any real number.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right] = \frac{d}{dx} [x^{-1}] = (-1) x^{-2} = \frac{-1}{x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (x^{-2}) = -2 x^{-3}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (x^{1/2}) = \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\sqrt{x})$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (x^\pi) = \pi x^{\pi-1}$$

Exponential functions:  $f(x) = a^x$  (not  $x^a$ )

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

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

$$= a^x \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^h - 1}{h}$$

↑ doesn't depend on  $x$ . doesn't depend on  $h$   
only depends on  $a$ .

$$f(x) = a^x$$

$$f'(x) = (\text{something depending on } a) \cdot a^x$$
$$= f'(0) a^x$$

Derivative of exponential is proportional to itself

Choose a particular  $a$  that makes the proportionality an equality

$e$  Euler's number base of natural logarithm.

$$e = 2.718281828 \dots$$

Theorem  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1$

$f(x) = e^x$  then  $f'(x) = e^x$

Problem  $y = e^x$  find the point where the tangent line has slope 3.

$$3 = y' = e^x \quad x = \ln 3$$
$$y = 3$$

Product rule

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

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

$$u = f(x)$$
$$v = g(x)$$

$$(uv)' = u \cdot v' + u' \cdot v$$

$$\Delta x = h$$

	$x$	versus	$x + \Delta x$
$f(x) = u$	$\longrightarrow$		$u + \Delta u = f(x+h)$
$g(x) = v$	$\longrightarrow$		$v + \Delta v = g(x+h)$

$$\Delta u = f(x+h) - f(x)$$

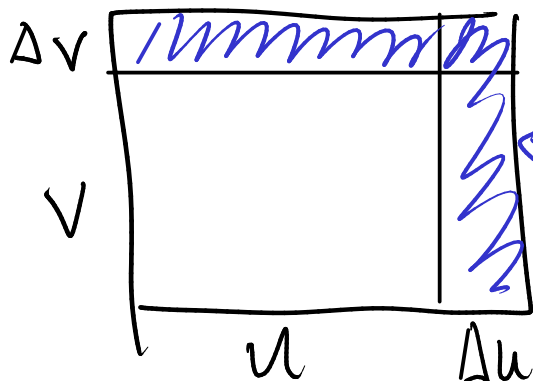
$$\Delta v = g(x+h) - g(x)$$

$$uv \longrightarrow (u + \Delta u)(v + \Delta v)$$

$$\Delta(uv) = (u + \Delta u)(v + \Delta v) - uv$$

$$= uv + v \Delta u + u \Delta v + \Delta u \Delta v - uv$$

$$= v \Delta u + u \Delta v + \Delta u \Delta v$$



$$(uv)' = \frac{d}{dx}(uv) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta(uv)}{\Delta x}$$

$$= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \left[ v \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x} + u \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta x} + \Delta u \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta x} \right]$$

use fact  $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x} = u' = \frac{du}{dx}$

$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta x} = v' = \frac{dv}{dx}$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(uv) = v \frac{du}{dx} + u \frac{dv}{dx} + 0 \cdot \frac{dv}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(uv) = v \frac{du}{dx} + u \frac{dv}{dx}$$

$$(uv)' = vu' + uv'$$

Quotient rule:  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{u}{v} \right) = \frac{vu' - uv'}{v^2}$

$$= \frac{1}{v} u' - \frac{u}{v^2} v'$$



