

Differentiation Rules and Rates of Change

If $f(x) = c$, find the derivative.

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

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

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} 0 = 0$$

The Constant Rule

The derivative of a constant function $f(x) = c$ is zero

$$\frac{d}{dx} [c] = 0$$

$$f'(c) = 0$$

Use the definition of the derivative to find the derivative of each function. **What patterns do you see?** Use your results to find the derivative of $f(x) = x^n$.

a. $f(x) = x^1$ 1 b. $f(x) = x^2$ $2x$ c. $f(x) = x^3$ $3x^2$
 d. $f(x) = x^4$ $4x^3$ e. $f(x) = x^{1/2}$ $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ f. $f(x) = x^{-1}$ $-\frac{1}{x^2} = -x^{-2}$

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

The Power Rule

If n is a rational number, then the function $f(x) = x^n$ is differentiable and

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x^n] = nx^{n-1}$$

$$x^4$$

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

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2} \hookrightarrow = x^{-2}$$

$$g'(x) = -2x^{-3} = \frac{-2}{x^3}$$

Find the slope of the function $f(x)=x^4$ when

1. $x=-1$

2. $x=0$

3. $x=1$

① Find
derivative

$$f'(x) = 4x^3$$

② Plug
in

$$4(-1)^3$$

$$m=0$$

$$m=4$$

$$m=-4$$

Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph $f(x)=x^2$ at $x=-2$ $(-2, 4)$

$$f'(x) = 2x'$$

$$2(-2)$$

$$m = -4$$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - 4 = -4(x - (-2))$$

$$y - 4 = -4x - 8$$

$$y = -4x - 4$$

eq. of
Tangent line

① Derivative

② Plug in x

③ pt. Slope

If f is a differentiable function and c is a real number, then cf is also differentiable.

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

$$c \quad f(x)$$
$$3 \quad x^4$$

$$3(4x^3)$$

$$f'(x) = 12x^3$$

$$g(x) = \frac{2}{x} \quad 2x^{-1} = \frac{2x^2}{x^4}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{4t^2}{5} \quad \frac{4}{5}t^2 \quad \frac{8}{5}t$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [cx^n] = cnx^{n-1}$$

$$y = \frac{7}{(3x)^{-2}}$$

$7(3x)^2 \rightarrow 7 \cdot 9x^2$
 $2 \cdot 63x^{2-1}$
 $126x^1$

$$\frac{\pi}{(3x)^2} = \frac{\pi}{9x^2}$$

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

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

$\frac{d}{dx}$ The derivative
with respect to x

$$3x^4 - 2x^3 + x^1 + 10$$
$$12x^3 - 6x^2 + 1$$

Derivative of Sin and Cos

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sin x] = \cos x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\cos x] = -\sin x$$

$$y = 2 \sin x$$
$$y' = 2 (\cos x)$$
$$y' = 2 \cos x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \cos x$$

$$y = \frac{\sin x}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sin x$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{2} \cos x$$

$$y = x + \cos x$$

$$y' = 1 - \sin x$$