

Maths

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Chapter 1

Derivatives

The derivative is the rate of change of a function at a given point:

the derivative of $f(x)$

When $\overbrace{\frac{d}{dx}f(x)} > 0$, $f(x)$ is increasing.

When $\frac{d}{dx}f(x) < 0$, $f(x)$ is decreasing.

When $\frac{d}{dx}f(x) = 0$, $f(x)$ is constant.

1.1 Notation

If x is a variable, then dx is a small change in x .

dx is close to 0, but not equal to 0. 0 is $\frac{1}{\infty}$, and ∞ is evil!

$$dx \rightarrow 0$$

If y is a function of x , then dy and $df(x)$ are the change caused by dx .

$$y = f(x)$$

$$dy = df(x)$$

$$df(x) = \underbrace{f(x) - f(x - dx)}_{\text{left subderivative}} = \underbrace{f(x + dx) - f(x)}_{\text{right subderivative}}$$

If the function is discontinuous, then the derivative is undefined.

$$\frac{d}{dx}f(x) = \frac{df(x)}{dx}$$

Putting all of these ideas together gives us the equation for a derivative:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f(x)' &= \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = \frac{df(x)}{dx} \\ df(x) &= f(x + dx) - f(x) \\ dx &\rightarrow 0 \ (dx \neq 0) \end{aligned} \right\} \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$$

1.2 Elementary derivatives

1.2.1 $\frac{d}{dx} a = 0$

$$a \in R$$

$$f(x) = a$$

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

$$\frac{d}{dx} a = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a - a}{h}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} a = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} a = 0 \quad \because \quad h \neq 0$$

$$\mathbf{1.2.2} \quad \frac{d}{dx}x^a = ax^{a-1}$$

$$d(x^a) = (x + dx)^a - x^a$$

$$d(x^a) = x^a + \underbrace{\left. \begin{array}{l} +(dx + x + x + x + \dots) \\ +(x + dx + x + x + \dots) \\ +(x + x + dx + x + \dots) \\ +(x + x + x + dx + \dots) \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\} \text{a times} + (\dots)dx^2 - x^a}_{x^{a-1}dx}$$

$$d(x^a) = ax^{a-1}dx + (\dots)dx^2$$

$$\frac{d(x^a)}{dx} = ax^{a-1} + (\dots)dx \quad \because dx \neq 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^a = ax^{a-1} \quad \because dx \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}x = 1$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^2 = 2x$$

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

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{1.2.3} \quad \frac{d}{dx}e^x = e^x$$

This is how the value of e is defined.

$$e = 2.718\dots$$

$$\mathbf{1.2.4} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$$

If you have a function of one variable, then take the change in that function with respect to that variable (implicit differentiation).

$$y = \ln x$$

$$e^y = x$$

$$d(e^y) = d(x)$$

$$e^y * dy = 1 * dx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{e^y}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}y = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$$

If you have a function of many variables, apply [section 1.3 Rules](#) to break it down into functions of one variable.

1.2.5 Trigonometric functions

see <https://lbry.tv/@3Blue1Brown:b/derivative-formulas-through-geometry>

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} \sin x &= \cos x \\ \frac{d}{dx} \cos x &= -\sin x\end{aligned}$$

Plus *others* which you probably don't need.

1.3 Rules

1.3.1 The derivative is a linear function

The derivative of a sum is the sum of derivatives.

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

Constants can be multiplied outside.

$$a \in R$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(a * x) = a * \frac{d}{dx}x$$

Proof is left as an excercise to the reader.

1.3.2 Product rule

see <https://lbry.tv/@3Blue1Brown:b/visualizing-the-chain-rule-and-product>

TODO(): put in a picture instead of a link

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(f(x) * g(x)) &= df(x) * g(x) + f(x) * dg(x) \\
 \frac{d(f(x) * g(x))}{dx} &= \frac{df(x)}{dx} * g(x) + f(x) * \frac{dg(x)}{dx} \\
 \frac{d}{dx}(f(x) * g(x)) &= \frac{d}{dx}f(x) * g(x) + f(x) * \frac{d}{dx}g(x) \quad \because dg(x) \rightarrow 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dx}(x \ln x) &= 1 * \ln x + \frac{x}{x} = \ln x + 1 \\
 \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x * x^2) &= \cos x * x^2 + \sin x * 2x \\
 \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x * 1/x) = \frac{\cos x}{x} - \frac{\sin x}{x^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

1.3.3 $\frac{d}{dg(x)}f(g(x))$

Derivative of $f(g(x))$ with respect to $g(x)$.

You simply treat $g(x)$ as if it was x .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{d(x^2)}(\sin x^2) &= \frac{d}{dy}(\sin y) = \cos y = \cos x^2 \\ \frac{d}{d(\sin x)}(\sin x)^3 &= 3(\sin x)^2 \\ \frac{d}{d(\ln x)}(\ln x)^{-1} &= -1(\ln x)^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

1.3.4 Chain rule

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}f(g(x)) &= \frac{df(g(x))}{dx} = \frac{df(g(x))}{g(x)} * \frac{dg(x)}{dx} \\ \frac{d}{dx}f(g(x)) &= \frac{d}{dg(x)}f(g(x)) * \frac{d}{dx}g(x)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x^2) &= \cos x^2 * 2x \\ \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{\sin x} &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x)^{-1} = -1 * (\sin x)^{-2} * \cos x = -\frac{\cos x}{(\sin x)^2} \\ \frac{d}{dx} \ln e^x &= \frac{1}{e^x} * e^x = 1\end{aligned}$$

This also leads to a formula for division.

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

1.3.5 L'Hopital's rule

Relies on geometric proof!

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{g(x)}{h(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{dg(x)}{dh(x)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x * dx}{1 * dx} \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{1} \quad \because dx \neq 0 \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} &= 1\end{aligned}$$

1.3.6 Derivative of inverse function

With $g(x)$ being the inverse of $f(x)$:

$$\begin{aligned}g(f(x)) &= x \\ \frac{d}{dx}f(x) * \frac{d}{dx}g(x) &= 1 \\ \frac{d}{dx}g(x) &= \frac{1}{\frac{d}{dx}f(x)}\end{aligned}$$

1.4 Composite derivatives

1.4.1 $\frac{d}{dx}e^{-x} = -e^{-x}$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}e^{-x} &= e^{-x} * (-1) \\ \frac{d}{dx}e^{-x} &= -e^{-x}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{1.4.2} \quad \frac{d}{dx} a^x = a^x \ln a$$

Note that $\ln a^x = x \ln a$.

$$a^x = e^{\ln a^x}$$

$$a^x = e^{x \ln a}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} a^x = e^{x \ln a} * \ln a$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} a^x = a^x \ln a$$

$$\mathbf{1.4.3} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \log_a x = \frac{1}{x \ln a}$$

$$y = \log_a x$$

$$a^y = x$$

$$d(a^y) = d(x)$$

$$a^y \ln a * dy = 1 * dx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{a^y \ln a}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} y = \frac{1}{a^{\log_a x} \ln a}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_a x = \frac{1}{x \ln a}$$

1.4.4 $\frac{d}{dx}x^x = x^x * (\ln x + 1)$

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

$$\ln f(x) = \ln(x^x)$$

$$\ln f(x) = x \ln x$$

$$f(x) = e^{x \ln x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^x = e^{x \ln x} * (\ln x + 1)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^x = x^x * (\ln x + 1)$$