

# Chapter 2 Derivatives

## **CHAPTER EXPECTATIONS**

**In this chapter, you will**

- **understand and determine derivatives of polynomial and simple rational functions from first principles, Section 2.1**
  - **identify examples of functions that are not differentiable, Section 2.1**
  - **justify and use the rules for determining derivatives, Sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5**
  - **identify composition as two functions applied in succession, Section 2.5**
  - **determine the composition of two functions expressed in notation, and decompose a given composite function into its parts, Section 2.5**
  - **use the derivative to solve problems involving instantaneous rates of change,**
- Sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5**

Recall

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

This limit has two interpretations:

1)

2)

This limit has two interpretations:

- 1) the slope of the tangent to the graph  $y=f(x)$  at the point  $(a,f(a))$ .
- 2) The instantaneous rate of change of  $y=f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ , at  $x=a$ .

$$m_{\tan} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}.$$

$$m_{\tan} = \lim_{b \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + b) - f(a)}{b}.$$

- Since this limit plays a central role in calculus, it is given a name and a concise notation. It is called the derivative of  $f(x)$  at  $x=a$
- It is denoted by  $f'(a)$  and is read as “ $f$  prime of  $a$ .”

The derivative of  $f$  at the number  $a$  is given by  $f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h}$ , provided that this limit exists.

### First Principles Definition of the Derivative

The derivative of a function  $f(x)$  is a new function  $f'(x)$  defined by

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}, \text{ if the limit exists.}$$

**Example 1****Determine a Derivative Using the First Principles Definition**

- a) State the domain of the function  $f(x) = x^2$ .
- b) Use the first principles definition to determine the derivative of  $f(x) = x^2$ .  
What is the derivative's domain?
- c) What do you notice about the nature of the derivative? Describe the relationship between the function and its derivative.

Determine the derivative of  $f(x) = x^2$  at  $x = -3$ .

**Solution**

Using the definition, the derivative at  $x = -3$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}f'(-3) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(-3 + h) - f(-3)}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(-3 + h)^2 - (-3)^2}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 - 6h + h^2 - 9}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(-6 + h)}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-6 + h) \\&= -6\end{aligned}$$

Determine the derivative  $f'(t)$  of the function  $f(t) = \sqrt{t}, t \geq 0$ .

Using the definition,  $f'(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t + h) - f(t)}{h}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{t + h} - \sqrt{t}}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{t + h} - \sqrt{t}}{h} \left( \frac{\sqrt{t + h} + \sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{t + h} + \sqrt{t}} \right) \text{ (Rationalize the numerator)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(t + h) - t}{h(\sqrt{t + h} + \sqrt{t})} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{t + h} + \sqrt{t})} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t + h} + \sqrt{t}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}, \text{ for } t > 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Determine an equation of the tangent to the graph of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  at the point where  $x = 2$ .

Determine an equation of the line that is perpendicular to the tangent to the graph of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  at  $x = 2$  and that intersects it at the point of tangency.

# Differentiability

$f(x)$  is differentiable at  $x=a$  if  
the following limit exists:

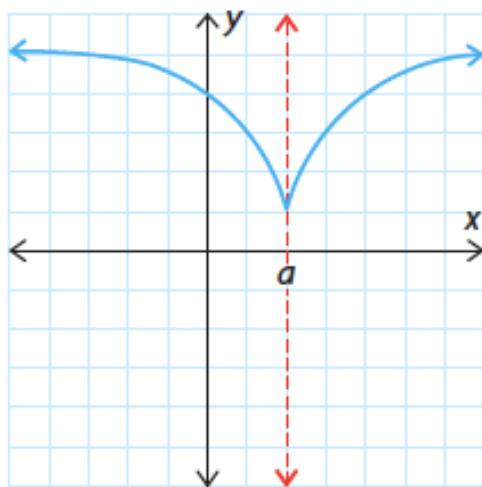
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h}$$

OR

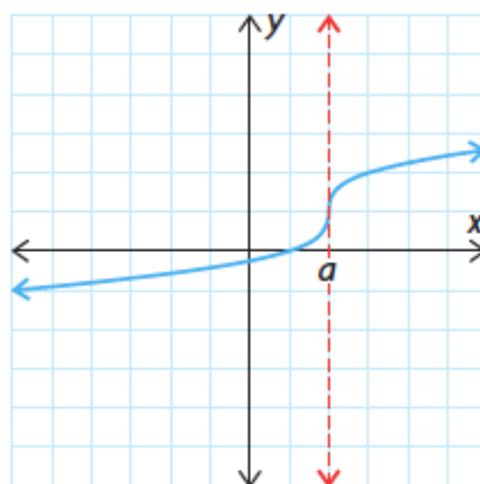
$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h},$$

## The Existence of Derivatives

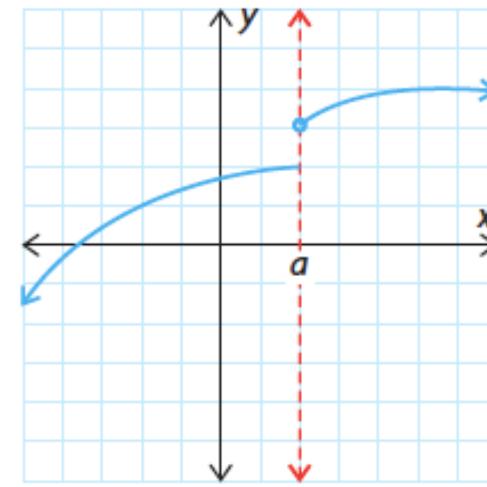
A function  $f$  is said to be **differentiable** at  $a$  if  $f'(a)$  exists. At points where  $f$  is not differentiable, we say that the *derivative does not exist*. Three common ways for a derivative to fail to exist are shown.



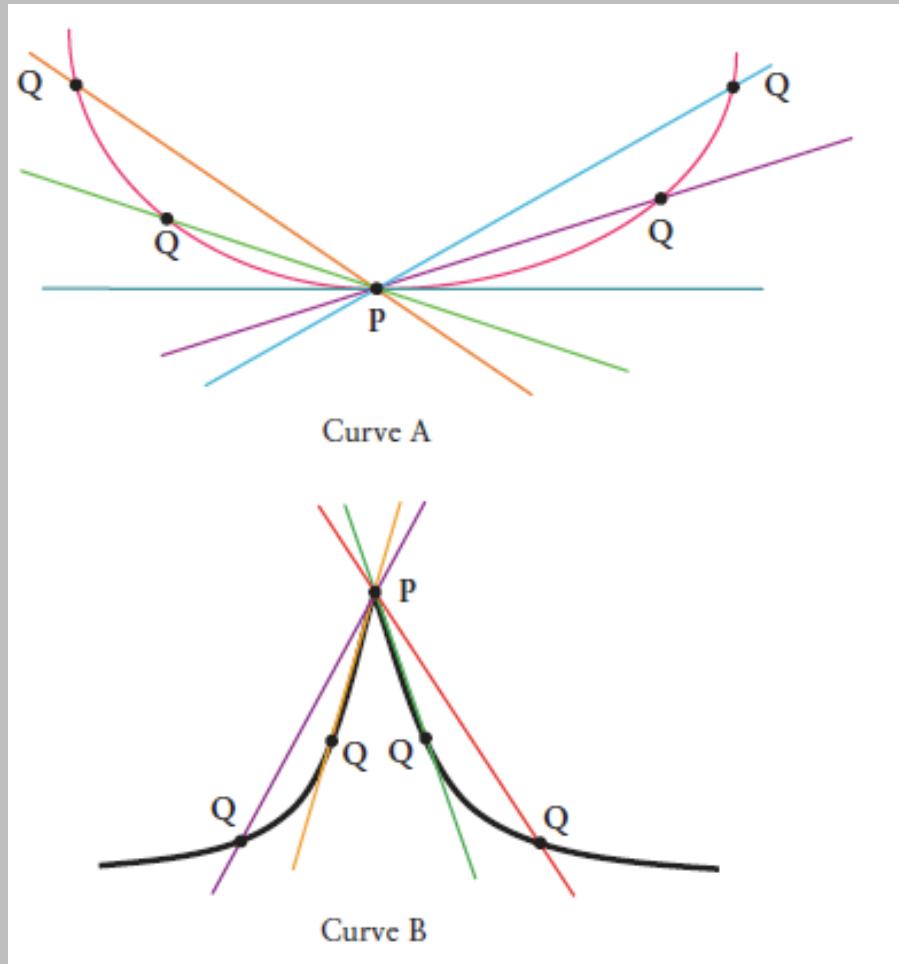
Cusp



Vertical Tangent



Discontinuity



Show that the absolute value function  $f(x) = |x|$  is not differentiable at  $x = 0$ .

# Existence of Limit, Continuity, Differentiability

- p.73 #1, 6c, 7b, 8 (no sketch- use formula) , 14, 15, 18, 19 (14-19 use formulas if needed)

- *Section 2.2—The Derivatives of Polynomial Functions*

Leibniz Notation expresses the derivative of the function  $y = f(x)$  as  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ , read as “dee  $y$  by dee  $x$ .” Leibniz’s form can also be written  $\frac{d}{dx}f(x)$ .

The expression  $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=a}$  in Leibniz notation means “determine the value of the derivative when  $x = a$ .”

## The Constant Function Rule

If  $f(x) = k$ , where  $k$  is a constant, then  $f'(x) = 0$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}(k) = 0$ .

## The Power Rule

If  $f(x) = x^n$ , where  $n$  is a real number, then  $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$ .

## The Constant Multiple Rule

If  $f(x) = kg(x)$ , where  $k$  is a constant, then  $f'(x) = kg'(x)$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}(ky) = k\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

Differentiate the following functions:

a.  $f(x) = 7x^3$

b.  $y = 12x^{\frac{4}{3}}$

## The Sum Rule

If functions  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are differentiable, and  $f(x) = p(x) + q(x)$ , then  $f'(x) = p'(x) + q'(x)$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}(f(x)) = \frac{d}{dx}(p(x)) + \frac{d}{dx}(q(x))$ .

## The Difference Rule

If functions  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  are differentiable, and  $f(x) = p(x) - q(x)$ , then  $f'(x) = p'(x) - q'(x)$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}(f(x)) = \frac{d}{dx}(p(x)) - \frac{d}{dx}(q(x))$ .

Differentiate the following functions:

a.  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 5\sqrt{x}$

b.  $y = (3x + 2)^2$

## Example 2

## Rational Exponents and the Power Rule

Determine  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each function. Express your answers using positive exponents.

a)  $y = \sqrt[3]{x}$

b)  $y = \frac{1}{x}$

c)  $y = -\frac{1}{x^5}$

Determine the equation of the tangent to the graph of  $f(x) = -x^3 + 3x^2 - 2$  at  $x = 1$ .

Determine points on the graph in Example 5 where the tangents are horizontal.

**p.82**

**2(c,d,f) 3(c,e), 4(a,e,f) 5b, 6b, 7a, 8b, 9b, 11,  
14, 20(b,c), 25 (I, ii )**

Do more similar problems if you feel you need extra practice

- 2.3 The Product Rule

## The Product Rule

If  $p(x) = f(x)g(x)$ , then  $p'(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$ .

If  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ ,  $\frac{d}{dx}(uv) = \frac{du}{dx}v + u\frac{dv}{dx}$ .

## The Product Rule

If  $P(x) = f(x)g(x)$ , where  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are differentiable functions, then  
 $P'(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$ .

In Leibniz notation,

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

## Applying the product rule

Differentiate  $h(x) = (x^2 - 3x)(x^5 + 2)$  using the product rule.

**Selecting an efficient strategy to determine the value of the derivative**

Find the value  $h'(-1)$  for the function  $h(x) = (5x^3 + 7x^2 + 3)(2x^2 + x + 6)$ .

### Example 2

### Find Equations of Tangents Using the Product Rule

Determine the equation of the tangent to the curve  $y = (x^2 - 1)(x^2 - 2x + 1)$  at  $x = 2$ . Use technology to confirm your solution.

- Homework
- p.90 #1(d,e), 5(c,f), 6,  
7b, 14

# 2-4 The Quotient Rule

### The Quotient Rule

If  $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ , then  $h'(x) = \frac{f'(x)g(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$ ,  $g(x) \neq 0$ .

In Leibniz notation,  $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) = \frac{\frac{du}{dx}v - u\frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2}$ .

Determine the derivative of  $h(x) = \frac{3x - 4}{x^2 + 5}$ .

Determine the equation of the tangent to  $y = \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1}$  at  $x = 0$ .

## **Quotient Rule**

**p.97 4cf, 5bd, 6,7,8,**

- 2.5 The Chain Rule

## Definition of a composite function

Given two functions  $f$  and  $g$ , the **composite function**  $(f \circ g)$  is defined by  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$ .

### Reflecting on the process of composition

If  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  and  $g(x) = x + 5$ , find each of the following values:

- a.  $f(g(4))$
- b.  $g(f(4))$
- c.  $f(g(x))$
- d.  $g(f(x))$

## The Chain Rule

If  $f$  and  $g$  are functions that have derivatives, then the composite function  $h(x) = f(g(x))$  has a derivative given by  $h'(x) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$ .

## The Chain Rule

Given two differentiable functions  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$ , the derivative of the composite function  $f(x) = g[h(x)]$  is  $f'(x) = g'[h(x)] \times h'(x)$ .

The chain rule states how to compute the derivative of the composite function  $h(x) = f(g(x))$  in terms of the derivatives of  $f$  and  $g$ .

If we interpret derivatives as rates of change, the chain rule states that if  $y$  is a function of  $x$  through the intermediate variable  $u$ , then the rate of change of  $y$  with respect to  $x$  is equal to the product of the rate of change of  $y$  with respect to  $u$  and the rate of change of  $u$  with respect to  $x$ .

## Example 1

## Apply the Chain Rule

Differentiate each function using the chain rule.

a)  $f(x) = (3x - 5)^4$

b)  $f(x) = \sqrt{4 - x^2}$

## Alternate Form of the Chain Rule

Consider the function in Example 1 part b):  $f(x) = \sqrt{4 - x^2}$ .

Let  $y = \sqrt{u}$ .

Let  $u = 4 - x^2$ .

**Example 3** Combine the Chain Rule and the Product Rule

Determine the equation of the tangent to  $f(x) = 3x(1 - x)^2$  at  $x = 0.5$ .

Differentiate  $h(x) = (x^2 + 3)^4(4x - 5)^3$ . Express your answer in a simplified factored form.

### Using the derivative to solve a problem

The position  $s$ , in centimetres, of an object moving in a straight line is given by  $s = t(6 - 3t)^4$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , where  $t$  is the time in seconds. Determine the object's velocity at  $t = 2$ .

**•Chain rule**

**p.105 4(a,f), 8, 9a, 12, 15,16**