



Given function $y = f(x)$. We want to know the location of the points A, B, C, D

If we can graph $f(x)$, we can visually tell the location of these points.

What if we do not know the graph of $f(x)$?

For example:

$$f(x) = \sqrt{2e^x + x^2 + 2x + 1}$$

How do we find these points (local max, local min)?

We will use "Derivatives" to find these points.

Goal: Given ANY function $f(x)$, we want to

find the derivative of $f(x)$.

⊗ Derivative notation:

The derivative of a function $f(x)$ is denoted by $f'(x)$, reading as "f prime of x".

notice: $f'(x)$ is a function of x .

⊗ How to find $f'(x)$?

To find $f'(x)$ we will use several "rules".

For example: addition rule, quotient rule, chain rule

⊗ Some basic rules:

① If $f(x) = c$ (constant)

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = 0$$

OR we can write: $(c)' = 0$

② If $f(x) = x$

$$\text{then } f'(x) = 1$$

OR we can write: $(x)' = 1$

③ (Power Rule)

$$\text{If } f(x) = x^n$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = n \cdot x^{n-1}$$

OR we can write: $(x^n)' = n \cdot x^{n-1}$

Example:

Find $f'(x)$:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad f(x) = 2025 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f'(x) = 0 \quad (\text{rule 1})$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad f(x) = x^{10} \quad \Rightarrow \quad f'(x) = 10 \cdot x^9$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad f(x) = x^{1000} \quad \Rightarrow \quad f'(x) = 1000 \cdot x^{999}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad f(x) = \sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} x^{1/2 - 1} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2}}$$

In general, $\sqrt[k]{x} = x^{1/k}$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad f(x) = \sqrt[5]{x} = x^{1/5}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{5} x^{1/5 - 1} = \frac{1}{5} x^{-4/5}$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{x^{10}} = x^{-10}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = -10 \cdot x^{-10-1}$$

$$= \boxed{-10 \cdot x^{-11}}$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = -1 \cdot x^{-1-1}$$

$$= \boxed{-x^{-2}}$$

Assignment: Find $f'(x)$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad f(x) = 10000$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad f(x) = x$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad f(x) = x^{20}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{x^{100}}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad f(x) = \sqrt[7]{x}$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad f(x) = x^{2015}$$