

1. Find an equation for the line tangent to the graph of the given function f at the point $(a, f(a))$:

(a) $f(x) = (3x^2 + 2)\tan(x)$, $a = 0$.

The product rule gives us

$$f'(x) = 6x \tan(x) + (3x^2 + 2) \sec^2(x).$$

Thus,

$$f'(0) = 6(0) \tan(0) + (3(0^2) + 2) \sec^2(0) = 0 + 2(1) = 2$$

is the slope of the tangent line at the point $(0, f(0)) = (0, 0)$. The equation of the tangent line is therefore $y = 2x$.

(b) $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2x + 3}{x^2 + 4}$, $a = 1$.

Using the quotient rule, we have

$$f'(x) = \frac{(2x - 2)(x^2 + 4) - (x^2 - 2x + 3)(2x)}{(x^2 + 4)^2}.$$

When $x = 1$, this gives us the slope

$$f'(1) = \frac{(2 - 2)(5) - (1 - 2 + 3)(2)}{5^2} = \frac{4}{25}.$$

Since $f(1) = \frac{2}{5}$, we get the equation

$$y - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{4}{25}(x - 1)$$

for the tangent line. (Equivalently, this can be written as $4x - 25y = -6$.)

(c) $f(x) = (x^4 + 2x)^5$, $a = -1$

Using the Chain rule, we find

$$f'(x) = 5(x^4 + 2x)^4 \frac{d}{dx}(x^4 + 2x) = 5(x^4 + 2x)^4(4x^3 + 2),$$

so

$$f'(-1) = 5(1 - 2)^4(-4 + 2) = 5(1)(-2) = -10$$

is the slope of the tangent line, and when $x = -1$, $y = f(-1) = -1$, so our equation is $y + 1 = -10(x + 1)$, or $y = -10x - 11$.

2. Compute the derivative of $f(x) = \sin(2x)$:

(a) Using the Chain Rule.

$$\text{We find } f'(x) = \cos(2x) \frac{d}{dx}(2x) = 2 \cos(2x).$$

(b) Using the identity $\sin(2x) = 2 \sin(x) \cos(x)$.

Using the constant and product rules,

$$f'(x) = 2 \left(\frac{d}{dx}(\sin(x))(\cos(x)) + \sin(x) \frac{d}{dx}(\cos(x)) \right) = 2(\cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x)).$$

Do your answers in parts (a) and (b) agree?

Yes, because $\cos(2x) = \cos^2(x) - \sin^2(x)$.

3. Given $f(x) = \tan(x)$, compute $f''(x)$ (also denoted $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}(\tan(x))$).

The first derivative is given by $f'(x) = \sec^2(x) = (\sec(x))^2$. Applying the Chain Rule to this expression, we find

$$\begin{aligned} f''(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sec(x))^2 \\ &= 2 \sec(x) \frac{d}{dx}(\sec(x)) \\ &= 2 \sec(x)(\sec(x) \tan(x)) \\ &= 2 \sec^2(x) \tan(x). \end{aligned}$$

4. Discuss with your classmates, but don't hand in:

Determine values of A and B such that the derivative of

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} Ax^2 + Bx + 2, & \text{if } x \leq 2, \\ Bx^2 - A, & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$$

is everywhere continuous. (Hint: note that if $f'(x)$ exists, $f(x)$ itself must be continuous.)

Note that continuity of $f(x)$ requires that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x)$, which implies that $4A + 2B + 2 = 4B - A$.

For $x < 2$, we have $f'(x) = 2Ax + B$, and for $x > 2$, we have $f'(x) = 2Bx$. If we want $f'(x)$ to be continuous at 2, we need $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f'(x)$, so we must have $4A + B = 4B$. This second equation suggests $4A = 3B$, or $B = \frac{4}{3}A$. Plugging this into our earlier equation, we find

$$4A + 2 \left(\frac{4}{3}A \right) + 2 = 4 \left(\frac{4}{3}A \right) - A,$$

which simplifies to $A = -\frac{6}{7}$, and thus $B = -\frac{8}{7}$.