

# FIRST AND SECOND DERIVATIVE OF A GIVEN TABULAR DATA

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## 1 First and second derivatives

The derivative of a function  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  is the limit

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

# Difference formula

There are 3 main difference formulas for numerically approximating derivatives.

The forward difference formula with step size  $h$  is

$$f'(a) \approx \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

The backward difference formula with step size  $h$  is

$$f'(a) \approx \frac{f(a) - f(a-h)}{h}$$

The central difference formula with step size  $h$  is the average of the forward and backwards difference formulas

$$f'(a) \approx \left( \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} + \frac{f(a) - f(a-h)}{h} \right)$$

To calculate the first and second derivative of the tabular values, let's define a function called `derivative`. which takes input parameters `f`, `a`, `method` and `h` (with default values `method='central'` and `h=0.01`) and returns the corresponding difference formula for  $f'(a)$  with step size  $h$ .

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
%matplotlib inline
```

```
In [2]: def derivative(f,a,method='central',h=0.01):
        '''Compute the difference formula for f'(a) with step size h.

        Parameters
        -----
        f : function
            Vectorized function of one variable
```

```

a : number
    Compute derivative at  $x = a$ 
method : string
    Difference formula: 'forward', 'backward' or 'central'
h : number
    Step size in difference formula

Returns
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float
    Difference formula:
        central:  $f(a+h) - f(a-h))/2h$ 
        forward:  $f(a+h) - f(a))/h$ 
        backward:  $f(a) - f(a-h))/h$ 
'''
if method == 'central':
    return (f(a + h) - f(a - h))/(2*h)
elif method == 'forward':
    return (f(a + h) - f(a))/h
elif method == 'backward':
    return (f(a) - f(a - h))/h
else:
    raise ValueError("Method must be 'central', 'forward' or 'backward'.")

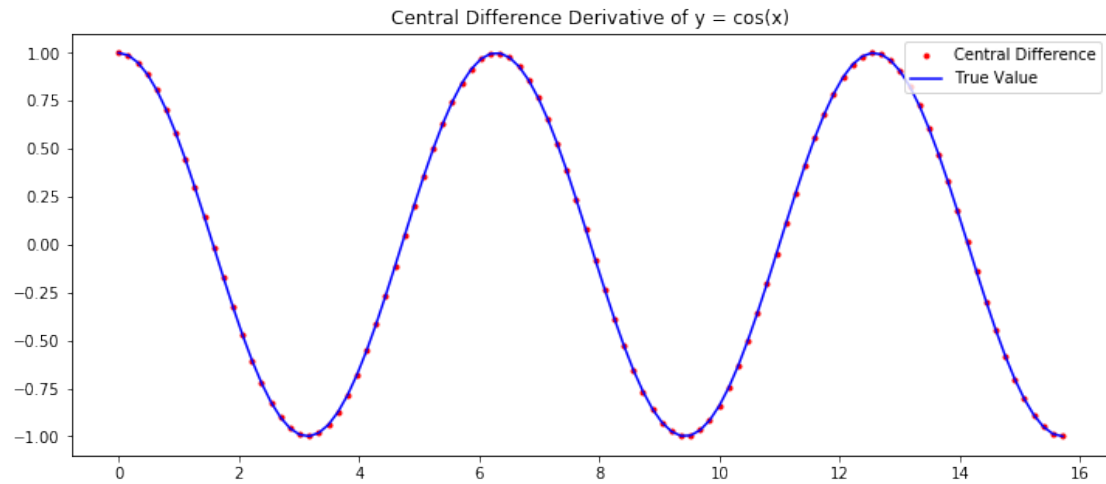
```

```

In [6]: x = np.linspace(0,5*np.pi,100)
        dydx = derivative(np.sin,x)
        #print(x)
        #print(dydx)
        dYdx = np.cos(x)
        d2ydx = derivative(np.cos,x)
        #print(d2ydx)
        plt.figure(figsize=(12,5))
        plt.plot(x,dydx,'r.',label='Central Difference')
        plt.plot(x,dYdx,'b',label='True Value')

        plt.title('Central Difference Derivative of  $y = \cos(x)$ ')
        plt.legend(loc='best')
        plt.show()

```



## 2 References

1. <https://www.math.ubc.ca/~pwalls/math-python/differentiation/differentiation/>
2. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFI\\_l96Oss4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFI_l96Oss4)
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f31LNHPUqb4>

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