

Theorem

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Plickers Exercise

Find the derivative of $f(x) = x^3$.

A. $3x^2$

B. $3x$

C. $6x$

D. 6

Fact

$$(x + h)^2 =$$

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$$x^n$$

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$$x^n + nx^{n-1}h$$

Fact

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$$(x + h)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + h^4$$

$$x^n + nx^{n-1}h + (\dots)h^2$$

Proof.

Fix a positive integer n . Let $f(x) = x^n$.

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Then

$$\begin{aligned} & f(x + h) \\ = & x^n + nx^{n-1}h + (\dots)h^2 \end{aligned}$$

Proof.

Fix a positive integer n . Let $f(x) = x^n$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & f(x+h) - f(x) \\ = & x^n + nx^{n-1}h + (\dots)h^2 - x^n \end{aligned}$$

Proof.

Fix a positive integer n . Let $f(x) = x^n$.

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$$\begin{aligned} & f(x+h) - f(x) \\ = & \cancel{x^n} + nx^{n-1}h + (\dots)h^2 - \cancel{x^n} \end{aligned}$$

Proof.

Fix a positive integer n . Let $f(x) = x^n$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (f(x+h) - f(x)) \frac{1}{h} \\ = & (\cancel{x^n} + nx^{n-1}h + (\dots)h^2 - \cancel{x^n}) \frac{1}{h} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (f(x+h) - f(x)) \frac{1}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\cancel{x^n} + nx^{n-1}\cancel{h} + (\dots)h^2 - \cancel{x^n}) \frac{1}{\cancel{h}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (f(x+h) - f(x)) \frac{1}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (\cancel{x^n} + nx^{n-1}\cancel{h} + (\dots)h^2 - \cancel{x^n}) \frac{1}{\cancel{h}} \\ &= nx^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

