

2.7

Derivatives and Rates of Change

Definition

The Derivative of a function f at a point a is denoted

$$f'(a)$$

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

$$(ii) f'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \quad \checkmark$$

Exercise

use definition (i) to find the derivative of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 8x + 9$$

① at $x=2$

$$f(2) = 2^2 - 8(2) + 9$$

$$f'(2) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(2+h) - f(2)}{h}$$

$$f(2+h) = (2+h)^2 - 8(2+h) + 9$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(2+h)^2 - 8(2+h) + 9 - (2^2 - 8(2) + 9)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4+4h+h^2 - 16 - 8h + 9 - 4 + 16 - 9}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4h+h^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h(-4+h)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -4 + h$$

$$= \boxed{-4}$$

⑤ $f'(a)$ Exercise

In summary, 2.7:

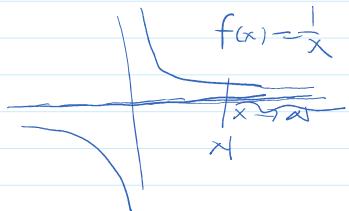
Remark

The tangent line to the curve $y = f(x)$ at $(a, f(a))$ is the line passing through $(a, f(a))$ whose slope is $\boxed{f'(a)}$ where f' is the derivative of f at 'a'

Exercise:

use $(\varepsilon-N)$ definition to prove

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$$



Solution:

given $\boxed{\varepsilon > 0}$, find N such that

$$\text{if } x > N \text{ then } |f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$$

$$\left| \frac{1}{x} - 0 \right| < \varepsilon$$

$$\left| \frac{1}{x} \right| < \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{1}{x} < \varepsilon$$

$$x > \boxed{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}}$$

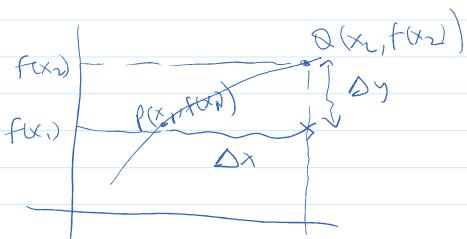
↑

$$\text{choose } N = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$



Rates of change

$$\text{and } L = \underline{\underline{\alpha(x_1, f(x_2))}}$$



Instantaneous
rate of
change

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{x_2 - x_1}$$



2.8 The derivative as a function

(derivative of function at a point a)

Previously

Derivative at a point a

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

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

Now suppose we let a vary
(replace a with x)

Find derivative at every point x in the domain of f

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

given any x in the domain of f
and as long as this limit exists

we say $[f']$ is the derivative of $[f]$

\uparrow \uparrow
function function

Remark 1
at every point on the graph of f we can draw a tangent line to construct the graph of f'

Exercise

If $f(x) = x^3 - x$, find $f'(x)$

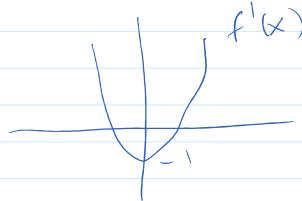
$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$f(x+h) = (x+h)^3 - (x+h)$$

$$f(x) = x^3 - x$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & h \rightarrow 0 \quad h \\
 & f(x) = x^3 - x \\
 & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[(x+h)^3 - (x+h)] - (x^3 - x)}{h} \\
 & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - x - h] - [x^3 - x]}{h} \\
 & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - h}{h} \\
 & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1)}{h} \\
 & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1 \\
 & = 3x^2 + 3x\cancel{h} + \cancel{h^2} - 1 \\
 f'(x) & = 3x^2 - 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = x^3 - x \quad , \quad f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1$$



Exercise

① Using $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$

Show that if $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, then $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ ✓

② Show that

(if $f(x) = \frac{1-x}{2+x}$, then $f'(x) = -\frac{3}{(2+x)^2}$) ✓

→ ...

$\dots \cdot \cancel{h} - \cancel{h}$

Definition

- (1) A function is "differentiable" at ' a ' if $f'(a)$ exists.
- (2) It is differentiable on an open interval (a, b) or (a, ∞) , $(-\infty, a)$, $(-\infty, \infty)$ if it is differentiable at every point in the open interval.

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

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

Continuous ✓
differentiable ✓
*
*
*

Conjectures (a statement we do not know to be true)

Conjecture 1 If f is continuous at a point ' a '
then f is differentiable at point ' a '



Conjecture 2 If f is differentiable at a point ' a '
then f is continuous at a point ' a '

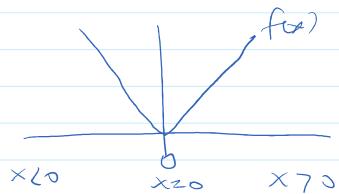


Exercise

where ~~f~~ is the function

$f(x) = |x|$ differentiable?

$$f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$



If $x > 0$, $|x| = x$

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

$x+h > 0$ (for an h small enough)

$$f(x+h) = |x+h| = x+h$$

$$f(x) = |x| = x$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+h - x}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 1 = 1$$

$$\text{if } (x < 0), \quad |x| = -x$$

$$|x+h| = -(x+h) \quad \text{for small enough } h$$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(x+h) - (-x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x - h + x}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-h}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -1$$

$$= -1$$

for $x > 0$,

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h| - 0}{h}$$

$$f(0) = |0| = 0$$

$$f(0+h) = |0+h| = |h|$$

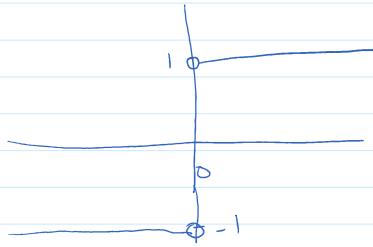
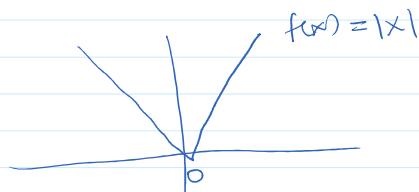
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} -1 = -1$$

$f'(0)$ does not exist

$$f(x) = |x| \Rightarrow x \text{ if } x \geq 0, \quad f'(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ \text{does not exist} & \text{at } x = 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}, \quad f'(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$



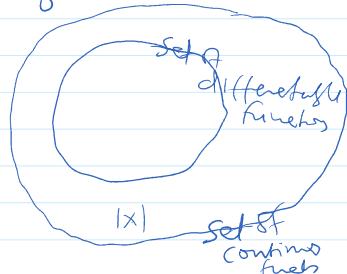
$f(x) = |x|$ is ^{nst} continuous at '0' because
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} |x| = 1$ $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} |x| = -1$

Theorem A

is ^{nst} differentiable at '0'

If f is differentiable at a point a

then f is continuous at point a



Recall

Logic

$\frac{\text{If } p \text{ then } q}{\sim}$

p, q are statements

$(p \Rightarrow q)$

contrapositive If $\sim q$ then $\sim p$ ($\sim q \Rightarrow \sim p$)

Take the contrapositive of Theorem A

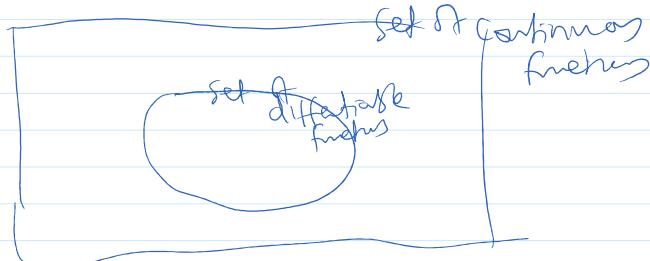
If f is not continuous at a point $'a'$

then f is not differentiable at a point $'a'$

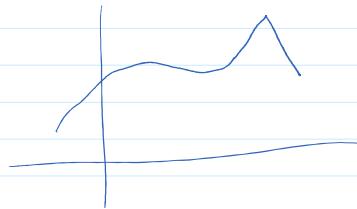
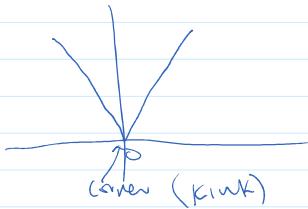
Example

$f(x) = |x|$ is not continuous at a point $'a'$

and so $f(x) = |x|$ is not differentiable at $'a'$



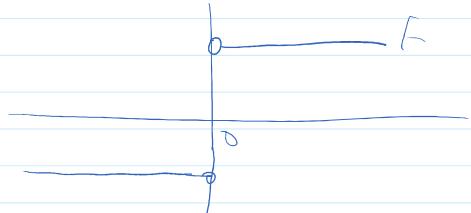
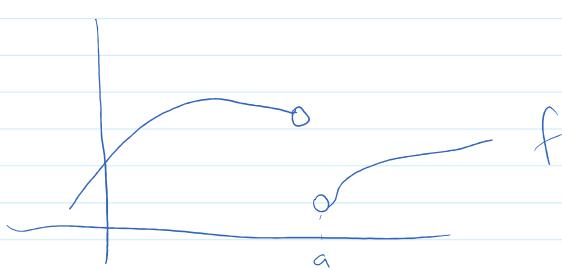
Q How can a function fail to be differentiable?



Answer 1 if the function has a kink or corner, then f has no tangent line at the kink or corner so f is not differentiable there.



Answer 2 If there is a point of discontinuity, the function is not differentiable there



Answer → If there is a vertical tangent line, then the function is not differentiable at that point



Higher derivatives

f'	f''	$f^{(n)}$ (derivative)
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f	f' (derivative of f)	f'' (derivative of f')	\dots	$f^{(n)}$ (derivative of $f^{(n-1)}$)
	$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$	$f''(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x+h) - f'(x)}{h}$		$f^{(n)}(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f^{(n-1)}(x+h) - f^{(n-1)}(x)}{h}$

as long as the limits exist

The above notation for the derivative (higher derivatives) are due to Sir Isaac Newton (English mathematician)
Independently both developed calculus
Gottfried Leibniz (German mathematician)

	Newton	Leibniz
$f(x)$ (f a function of x)	$f'(x)$	$\frac{df(x)}{dx}$
	$f''(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right) = \frac{d^2 f(x)}{dx^2}$
	$f'''(x)$	$\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^2 f(x)}{dx^2} \right) = \frac{d^3 f(x)}{dx^3}$
	⋮	⋮
$f^{(n)}(x)$ nth derivative of f		$\frac{d^n f(x)}{dx^n}$

$$f' \Rightarrow \frac{df}{dx} \Rightarrow Df \Rightarrow D_x f$$

Exercise

$$\text{if } r(x) = x^3 - x$$

Result

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Exercise

$$\text{If } f(x) = x^3 - x$$

Recall

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1 \quad \checkmark$$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{[3(x+h)^2 - 1] - (3x^2 - 1)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) - 1 - 3x^2 + 1}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{3x^2} + 6xh + \cancel{3h^2} - 1 - \cancel{3x^2} + \cancel{1}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6xh + 3h^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{h}(6x + 3h)}{\cancel{h}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 6x + 3h$$

$$f''(x) = 6x$$

$$f(x) = x^3 - x$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1$$

Exercise

$$f(x) = x^2$$

① find $f'(0)$

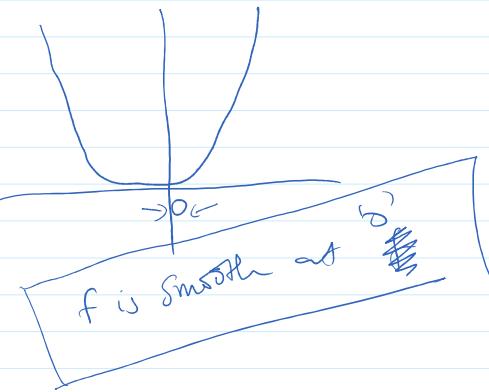
② $f'(\frac{1}{n})$

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(0+h)^2 - 0^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2 - 0}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2}{h}$$



$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h}$$



$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h$$

$$= 0$$

find ② $f'(x)$ when $f(x) = x^2$

③ $f''(x)$

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

$$f(x) = x^2$$

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

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

$$f'(x+h) = 2(x+h)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(2x+h)}{h} \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{b} \quad f''(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x+h) - f'(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2x + h$$

$$= 2x$$