

Exercise 11: Derivatives of Real Functions

1. Draw the following functions on a grid: x^2 , $-x^2$, $x^2 + 3$, $x^2 - 5$, $x^2 - 2x$, $x^2 - 3x + 5$.
2. Calculate the following derivatives:
 - i. $\frac{d}{dx} (5x^4 - 3x^2 + 5)$
 - ii. $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^3 - 6x + 5}{x - 7} \right)$
 - iii. $\frac{d}{dx} P_n(x)$, where $P_n(x)$ is a real polynomial of order n .
 - iv. $\frac{d^n}{dx^n} P_n(x)$
 - v. $\frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x}$, $\frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$
 - vi. $\frac{d}{dx} e^{3x^3 - 2x}$, $\frac{d}{dx} e^{-2\sqrt{x}}$
 - vii. $\frac{d^7}{dx^7} e^{-x}$
 - viii. $\frac{d}{dx} (3x - \sin(x))$, $\frac{d}{dx} \sin(x^2)$
 - ix. $\frac{d^8}{dx^8} \cos(x)$
3. Analyze the following functions (i.e. find points where the function intersects the axes, find all extrema and their type - including inflection points, and where the function is increasing or decreasing):
 - (a) $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - x + 1$.
 - (b) $f(x) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$.
4. **Extra Question** (if time permits)
 - i. Using matrix multiplication, show that if a line has slope m , a perpendicular line would have a slope $-\frac{1}{m}$.
 - ii. Find the slope of the function $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$ at $x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ without using derivatives.
 - iii. Find the derivative of $f(x)$ at $x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ with derivation and compare the result to the one obtained in the previous section.