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1 Definition and The First Principle

1.1 Definition

Let f be a function defined on an open interval containing a . The **derivative** of f at the point a , denoted by $f'(a)$, is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \end{aligned}$$

1.2 The derivative at a Point a

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

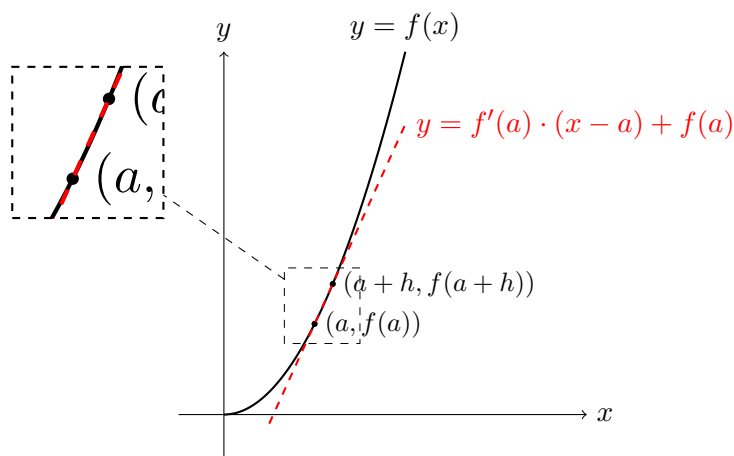
provided the limit exists.

1.3 Geometric Meaning

To find the slope of the tangent line to the curve $y = f(x)$ at a point $x = a$, we consider the slope of the secant line between two points:

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

As $h \rightarrow 0$, this secant slope approaches the derivative $f'(a)$, which is the slope of the tangent line at $x = a$.



1.4 Symbols for the Derivative

$$D_x f, \frac{d}{dx} f(x), y', \dot{y}$$

2 Rules and Derivatives of Elementary Functions

2.1 Derivative Rules

1. Constant Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}c = 0$
2. Power Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}x^n = nx^{n-1}$
3. Sum/Difference Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}[f \pm g] = \frac{d}{dx}f \pm \frac{d}{dx}g$
4. Product Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}[f \cdot g] = \frac{d}{dx}f \cdot g + f \cdot \frac{d}{dx}g$
5. Quotient Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{\frac{d}{dx}f \cdot g - f \cdot \frac{d}{dx}g}{g^2}$

2.2 Trigonometric Functions

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) &= \cos x & \frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) &= -\sin x \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) &= \sec^2 x & \frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) &= -\csc^2 x \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) &= \sec x \tan x & \frac{d}{dx}(\csc x) &= -\csc x \cot x\end{aligned}$$

2.3 Inverse Trigonometric Functions

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1} x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} & \frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1} x) &= \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} x) &= \frac{1}{1+x^2} & \frac{d}{dx}(\cot^{-1} x) &= \frac{-1}{1+x^2} \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\sec^{-1} x) &= \frac{1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \frac{d}{dx}(\csc^{-1} x) &= \frac{-1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}}\end{aligned}$$

2.4 Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(e^x) &= e^x, & \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) &= \frac{1}{x}, x > 0 \\ \frac{d}{dx}(a^x) &= a^x \ln a, a > 0 \& \neq 1 & \frac{d}{dx}(\log_a x) = \frac{1}{x \ln a}, a > 0 \& \neq 1\end{aligned}$$

2.5 Derivative of Inverse Function

Let f be a one-to-one differentiable function with inverse f^{-1} , and suppose $f'(f^{-1}(x)) \neq 0$. Then,

$$(f^{-1})'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}$$

Example:

Let $f(x) = e^x$, so $f^{-1}(x) = \ln x$. Then,

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) = \frac{1}{\frac{d}{dx}(e^x)|_{x=\ln x}} = \frac{1}{e^{\ln x}} = \frac{1}{x}$$

2.6 Chain Rule

If $h(x) = f(g(x))$ where both f and g are differentiable, then

$$h'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}f(g(x)) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x).$$

3 Advanced Differentiation**3.1 Implicit Differentiation**

If a function y is given implicitly by an equation involving both x and y , such as

$$F(x, y) = 0.$$

To find the derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$, we differentiate both sides of the equation with respect to x , treating y as a function of x .

Example:

If

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25,$$

then differentiating both sides gives

$$2x + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0.$$

Solving for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ gives

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}.$$

3.2 Higher-Order Derivatives

The second derivative, third derivative, and beyond are called higher-order derivatives. These describe how the rate of change itself changes

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \frac{d^ny}{dx^n} \\ &f'(x), f''(x), f'''(x), f^{(n)}(x) \\ &\dot{y}, \ddot{y}, \dddot{y} \end{aligned}$$

3.3 Parametric Derivatives

Given a parametric curve:

$$x = x(t) \quad y = y(t)$$

the derivative of y w.r.t x is given by

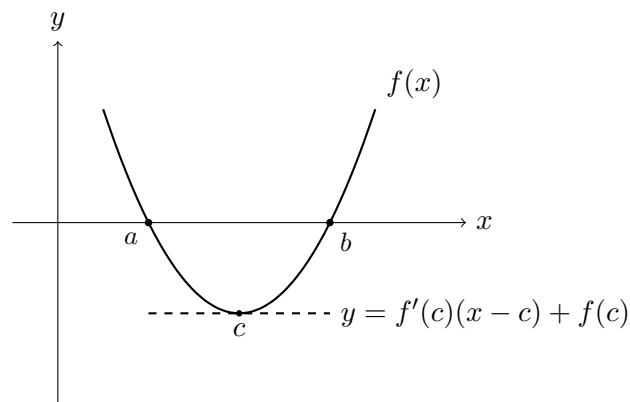
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{dx} \quad (\text{provided } \frac{dx}{dt} \neq 0)$$

4 Theorems

4.1 Rolle's Theorem

Let f be continuous on $[a, b]$, differentiable on (a, b) , and $f(a) = f(b)$. Then there exists $c \in (a, b)$ such that

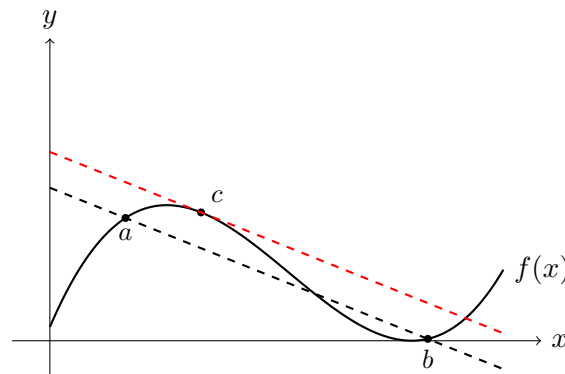
$$f'(c) = 0.$$



4.2 Mean Value Theorem

If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) , then there exists $c \in (a, b)$ such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$



4.3 Cauchy's Mean Value Theorem

Let f and g be functions continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$, and differentiable on the open interval (a, b) , with $g'(x) \neq 0$ for all $x \in (a, b)$. Then there exists at least one point $c \in (a, b)$ such that:

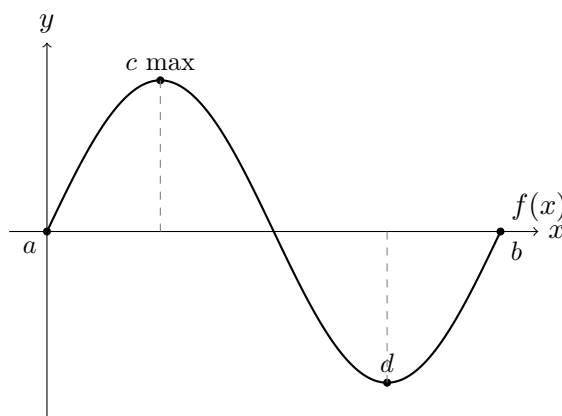
$$\frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{g(b) - g(a)}$$

For $g(x) = x$, Cauchy's Mean Value Theorem reduces to Mean Value Theorem.

4.4 Extreme Value Theorem

If f is continuous on $[a, b]$, then there exist points $c, d \in [a, b]$ such that

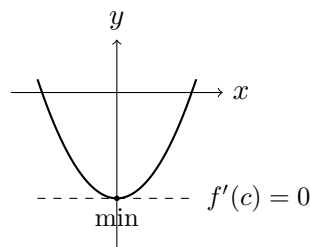
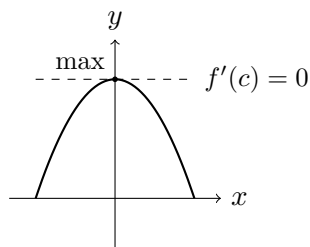
$$f(c) \leq f(x) \leq f(d), \quad \forall x \in [a, b].$$



5 Behavior of Functions

5.1 Critical Points and Extrema

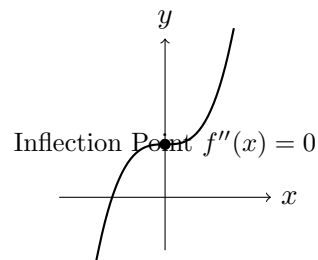
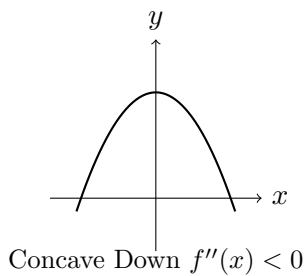
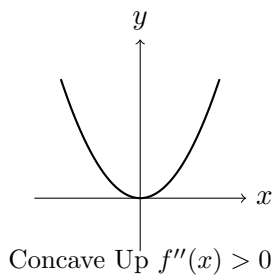
- **Critical Point:** A point c in the domain of f where $f'(c) = 0$ or $f'(c)$ does not exist.
- **Local Maximum:** $f(c)$ is a local maximum if $f(c) \geq f(x)$ for all x near c .
- **Local Minimum:** $f(c)$ is a local minimum if $f(c) \leq f(x)$ for all x near c .



5.2 Concavity and Inflection Points

- **Concave Up:** $f''(x) > 0$ on an interval \implies graph lies above tangent lines.
- **Concave Down:** $f''(x) < 0$ on an interval \implies graph lies below tangent lines.

- **Inflection Point:** A point where $f''(x)$ changes sign.



6 Applications

6.1 Related Rates

6.2 Optimization Problems

6.3 Linear Approximation (First-Order Taylor Expansion)

If f is differentiable at $x = a$, then near a , the function $f(x)$ is approximated by

$$f(x) \approx f(a) + f'(a)(x - a)$$

Example:

for x near 0, $\sin x$ can be approximated by $\sin x \approx \sin(0) + \cos(0) \cdot x = x$

