

9. Applications of Derivatives – I

Ex. (1). Find the equations of the tangent and normal line to the curve $y = x^3 + e^x$ at $x = 0$.

Solution : Equation of the curve is $y = x^3 + e^x$... (1)

For, $x = 0$ from (1) we get,

$$y = 0^3 + e^0 = 1 \therefore \text{the point is } (0, 1)$$

Diff. (1) w.r.t. x we get,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 + e^x$$

$$\text{slope of tangent} = m = \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{(0,1)} = 3(0)^2 + e^0 = 1$$

$$\therefore \text{slope of the tangent} = m = 1$$

Equation of the tangent is given by

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$\text{i.e. } y - 1 = 1(x - 0) \Rightarrow y - 1 = x$$

$$\text{Equation of the tangent is } x - y + 1 = 0$$

$$\text{Now, slope of the normal} = m' = -\frac{1}{m} = -1$$

Equation of the normal is given by

$$y - y_1 = m'(x - x_1)$$

$$\text{i.e. } y - 1 = -1(x - 0) \Rightarrow y - 1 = -x$$

$$\text{Equation of the normal is } x + y - 1 = 0$$

Ex. (2). Oil from an uncapped circular well is oozing outward in the form of a circular film. If the radius of the circle is increasing at the rate of 0.5 meters per minute, how fast is the area of the oil film growing at the instant when the radius is 100m ?

Solution : Let t be time in minutes, R and A be the radius and area of the circular film, respectively.

$$\text{We know that, } A = \pi R^2$$

Diff. we get,

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \pi \frac{d}{dt}(R^2) = 2\pi R \frac{dR}{dt} \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{It is known that, } \frac{dR}{dt} = 0.5 \text{ meter/min}$$

How fast the oil film is growing is given by (1)

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 2\pi (R) (0.5) = \pi R$$

When $R = 100$ meter we get,

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 100\pi \text{ sq. meter}$$

Ex. (3). Find equation of the tangent and normal to the locus of the astroid given by $x = a \cos^3 t$ and $y = a \sin^3 t$ at the point $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Solution : The parametric equations of the curve are

$$x = a \cos^3 t \quad \dots (1) \quad y = a \sin^3 t \quad \dots (2)$$

When, $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$,

from (1), $x_1 = a \cos^3 \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right) = a \left(\frac{\cos \pi}{4} \right)^3 = \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}}$

from (II), $y_1 = a \sin^3 \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right) = a \left(\frac{\sin \pi}{4} \right)^3 = \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}}$

Therefore the point is $\left(\frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}}, \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} \right)$.

Differentiate (1) w.r.t.t. we get,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = a (3 \cos^2 t) (-\sin t) = -3a (\cos^2 t) (\sin t)$$

Differentiate (2) w.r.t.t. we get,

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = a (3 \sin^2 t) (\cos t) = 3a (\sin^2 t) (\cos t)$$

Now, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{3 \sin^2 t \cos t}{-3 \cos^2 t \sin t} = -\tan t$

Slope of tangent at $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$ is $m = -\tan \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right) = -1$

Slope of normal at $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$ is $m' = -\frac{1}{m} = -\frac{1}{(-1)} = 1$

Equation of the tangent is given by

$$\begin{aligned} y - y_1 &= m (x - x_1) \\ y - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} &= (-1) \left(x - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} \right) \\ \Rightarrow y - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} &= -x + \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow x + y - \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Equation of the normal is given by

$$\begin{aligned} y - y_1 &= m' (x - x_1) \\ y - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} &= (1) \left(x - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} \right) \\ \Rightarrow y - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} &= x - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} \\ \Rightarrow (-x) + y - \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} + \frac{a}{2\sqrt{2}} &= y - x = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Ex. (4). Find the approximate value of $\sin 179^\circ$. Given $1^\circ = 0.0175^\circ$.

Solution : Let $f(x) = \sin x \quad \dots (I)$

Differentiate w.r.t.t.x.

$$f'(x) = \cos x \quad \dots (II)$$

Now, $179^\circ = 180^\circ - 1^\circ$

$$= \pi - 0.0175^\circ$$

Let $a = \pi$, $h = -0.0175^\circ$

For $x = a = \pi$, from (I) we get

$$f(a) = f(\pi) = \sin(\pi) = 0 \quad \dots (III)$$

For $x = a = \pi$ from (II) we get $\dots (IV)$

We have, $f(a+h) \doteq f(a) + hf'(a)$
 $-0.0175 \cdot f(\pi + (\dots)) \doteq f(\pi) + (-0.0175) f'(\pi)$
 $f(179^\circ) \doteq (\dots) - (0.0175)(-1) \dots$ [From (III) and (IV)]

Note : As θ gets smaller and smaller $\sin \theta \doteq \theta$ [we know, $\sin(180-\theta) = \sin \theta$]
 $\sin(179^\circ) = \sin(180^\circ - 1^\circ) = \sin 1^\circ \doteq 1^\circ \doteq 0.0175^\circ$

Ex. (5). A triangle has two sides $a = 1\text{ cm}$ and $b = 2\text{ cm}$. How fast is the third side c increasing when the angle α between the given sides is 60° and is increasing at the rate of 3° per second ? [Hint : Use cosine rule]

Solution :

$$a = 1\text{ cm}, b = 2\text{ cm}$$

$$\alpha = 60^\circ = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt} = 3^\circ/\text{sec} = 3 \times \frac{\pi}{180} \text{ rad/sec}$$

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{60} \text{ rad/sec}, \frac{dc}{dt} = ?$$

Using cosine rule

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \alpha$$

$$c^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 - 2(1)(2) \cos \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$c^2 = 1 + 4 - 4 \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore c^2 = 5 - 2 = 3$$

$$c = \sqrt{3}$$

$$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \alpha$$

diff w.r. to t .

$$\therefore 2c \frac{dc}{dt} = 0 + 0 - 2ab \times -\sin \alpha \frac{d\alpha}{dt}$$

where a, b are constant

$$\therefore 2c \frac{dc}{dt} = 2ab \sin \alpha \frac{d\alpha}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{2ab \sin \alpha}{2c} \frac{d\alpha}{dt}$$

$$= \frac{ab \sin \alpha}{c} \frac{d\alpha}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{1 \times 2 \sin \frac{\pi}{3}}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\pi}{60} \text{ cm rad/sec}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \times \frac{\pi}{60} \text{ cm rad/sec}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dc}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{60} \text{ cm rad/sec}$$

Ex. (6). The surface area of a spherical balloon is increasing at the rate of $2\text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$. At what rate is the volume of the balloon is increasing, when the radius of the balloon is 6 cm ?

Solution :

Let r, S, V be the radius, surface area, volume of spherical balloon resp.

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = 2 \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}, r = 6 \text{ cm}$$

$$s = 4\pi r^2$$

diff w.r. to x

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = 4\pi \times 2r \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\therefore 2 = 8\pi r \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{2}{8\pi r} = \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{4\pi r} \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

diff w.r. to t

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{4}{3}\pi \times 3r^2 \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = 4\pi r^2 \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = 4\pi r^2 \times \frac{1}{4\pi r} \quad \text{from (I)}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = r$$

$$\therefore \frac{dv}{dt} = 6 \text{ cm}^3/\text{sec}$$

\therefore The volume is increasing at the rate of $6 \text{ cm}^3/\text{sec}$

Ex. (7). The displacement s of a particle at time t is given by

$$s = 2t^3 - 5t^2 + 4t - 3.$$

Find (i) the time when the acceleration is 14 cm/sec^2 .

(ii) the velocity and the displacement at that time.

Solution:

$$s = 2t^3 - 5t^2 + 4t - 3$$

diff w.r. to t

$$v = \frac{ds}{dt} = 6t^2 - 10t + 4$$

diff w.r. to t

$$a = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 12t - 10$$

$$(i) a = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 14 \text{ cm/sec}^2$$

$$\therefore 14 = 12t - 10$$

$$\therefore 14 + 10 = 12t$$

$$24 = 12t$$

$$t = 2 \text{ sec}$$

$$(ii) v = \frac{ds}{dt} = 6t^2 - 10t + 4$$

$$v_{t=2} = \left(\frac{ds}{dt} \right)$$

$$= 6(2)^2 - 10(2) + 4$$

$$= 24 - 20 + 4$$

$$= 8 \text{ cm/sec}$$

$$s = 2t^3 - 5t^2 + 4t - 3$$

$$= 2(2)^3 - 5(2)^2 + 4(2) - 3$$

$$= 16 - 20 + 8 - 3$$

$$= 1 \text{ cm}$$

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