

# Factsheet: List of derivatives

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## Summary

A list of common (and some uncommon) derivatives of functions.

Throughout,  $a, k$  are real numbers.

## Derivatives of polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions

function	derivative w.r.t $x$	notes
$c$	0	$c \in \mathbb{R}$
$mx + c$	$m$	$m, c \in \mathbb{R}$
$x^\alpha$	$\alpha x^{\alpha-1}$	$\alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha \neq 0$
$ae^{kx}$	$ake^{kx}$	
$a \ln(kx)$	$\frac{a}{x}$	
$ac^{kx}$	$akc^{kx} \ln(b)$	$c \in \mathbb{R}, c > 0$ constant
$a \log_c(kx)$	$\frac{a}{x \ln(c)}$	$c \in \mathbb{R}, c > 1$ constant

## Derivatives of trigonometric functions

function	derivative w.r.t $x$
$a \sin(kx)$	$ak \cos(kx)$
$a \cos(kx)$	$-ak \sin(kx)$
$a \tan(kx)$	$ak \sec^2(kx)$
$a \cot(kx)$	$-ak \csc^2(kx)$

function	derivative w.r.t $x$
$a \sec(kx)$	$ak \sec(kx) \tan(kx)$
$a \csc(kx)$	$-ak \csc(kx) \cot(kx)$

## Derivatives of inverse trigonometric functions

function	derivative w.r.t $x$	notes
$a \sin^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 x^2}}$	valid for $x \in (-\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{k})$
$a \cos^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{-ak}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 x^2}}$	valid for $x \in (-\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{k})$
$a \tan^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{1 + k^2 x^2}$	valid for $x \in \mathbb{R}$
$a \cot^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{-ak}{1 + k^2 x^2}$	valid for $x \in \mathbb{R}$
$a \sec^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{a}{ x  \sqrt{k^2 x^2 - 1}}$	valid for $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus (-\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{k})$
$a \csc^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{-a}{ x  \sqrt{k^2 x^2 - 1}}$	valid for $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus (-\frac{1}{k}, \frac{1}{k})$

## Derivatives of hyperbolic functions

function	derivative w.r.t $x$
$a \sinh(kx)$	$ak \cosh(kx)$
$a \cosh(kx)$	$ak \sinh(kx)$
$a \tanh(kx)$	$ak \operatorname{sech}^2(kx)$
$a \coth(kx)$	$-ak \operatorname{csch}^2(kx)$
$a \operatorname{sech}(kx)$	$-ak \operatorname{sech}(kx) \tanh(kx)$
$a \operatorname{csch}(kx)$	$-ak \operatorname{csch}(kx) \coth(kx)$

## Derivatives of inverse hyperbolic functions

Throughout,  $a, k$  are real numbers.

function	derivative w.r.t $x$	notes
$a \sinh^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{\sqrt{1 + k^2 x^2}}$	
$a \cosh^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{\sqrt{k^2 x^2 - 1}}$	$a, k, x$ positive
$a \tanh^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{1 - k^2 x^2}$	
$a \coth^{-1}(kx)$	$\frac{ak}{1 - k^2 x^2}$	
$a \operatorname{sech}^{-1}(kx)$	$-\frac{ak}{x \sqrt{1 - k^2 x^2}}$	$a, k, x$ positive
$a \operatorname{csch}^{-1}(kx)$	$-\frac{ak}{ x  \sqrt{k^2 x^2 + 1}}$	

## Further reading

For more about where these came from, please see [Guide: Introduction to differentiation and the derivative](#) and [\[Proof sheet: Derivatives of other common functions\]](#).

## Version history

v1.0: created in 08/25 by tdhc.

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