

## Differentiation of inverse trigonometric functions

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We have learnt the differentiation of inverse function.

**Example** Given  $x = y^3 + 2y$ . Find  $\frac{dx}{dy}$ . Hence find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}} = \frac{1}{3y^2 + 2}$$

Now, given  $y = \sin^{-1} x = \arcsin(x)$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ . (Note that  $\sin^{-1} x \neq \frac{1}{\sin x}$ )

$$x = \sin y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \cos y \cdot \frac{dy}{dy} = \cos y$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}} = \frac{1}{\cos y}$$

Can you express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $x$  only?

$$\because x = \sin y$$

$$\therefore \cos y = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 y} = \pm \sqrt{1 - x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1} x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad \text{or} \quad -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad (\text{rejected})$$

If  $u$  is a function of  $x$ , then  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin^{-1} u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$

Given  $y = \cos^{-1} x = \arccos(x)$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

$$x = \cos y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = -\sin y$$

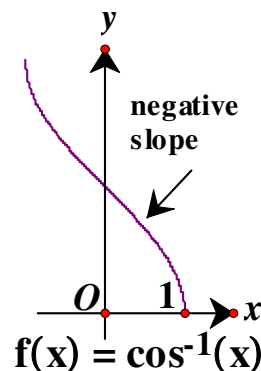
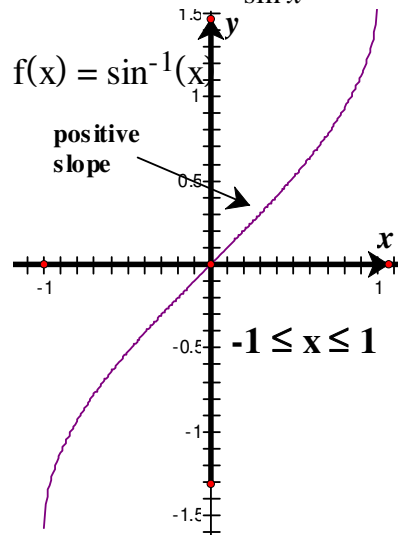
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}} = -\frac{1}{\sin y}$$

$$\because x = \cos y$$

$$\therefore \sin y = \pm \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 y} = \pm \sqrt{1 - x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1} x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad (\text{rejected})$$

If  $u$  is a function of  $x$ , then  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos^{-1} u) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$



Given  $y = \tan^{-1} x = \arctan(x)$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

$$x = \tan y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \sec^2 y$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}} = \frac{1}{\sec^2 y} = \frac{1}{1 + \tan^2 y} = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} x) = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

If  $u$  is a function of  $x$ , then  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan^{-1} u) = \frac{1}{1 + u^2} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$

$$\frac{d(\arcsin x)}{dx} = \frac{d(\sin^{-1} x)}{dx} = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \quad \text{for } x < -1 \text{ or } x > 1.$$

$$\frac{d(\operatorname{arccsc} x)}{dx} = \frac{d(\csc^{-1} x)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \quad \text{for } x < -1 \text{ or } x > 1.$$

$$\frac{d(\operatorname{arccot} x)}{dx} = \frac{d(\cot^{-1} x)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

The proofs are left to you as exercises.