

Lecture 12: Higher Order Derivatives

Goal: Compute derivatives of derivatives. Interpret the second and third derivative in a physics context.

Summary:

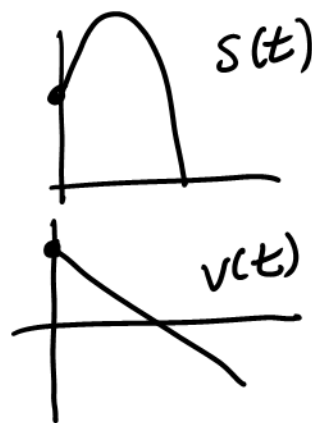
$$\frac{d^n f}{dx^n} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^{n-1} f}{dx^{n-1}} \right) \quad f^{(n)}(x) = [f^{(n-1)}(x)]'$$
$$a(t) = v'(t) = s''(t) \quad j(t) = a'(t) = v''(t) = s'''(t)$$

Recall that a ball tossed straight into the air can be modeled by a parabola say

$$s(t) = -4.9t^2 + 7t + 6$$

We called $\frac{ds}{dt} = v(t)$ the velocity

$$v(t) = -9.8t + 7$$



So, $\frac{dv}{dt} = -9.8 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{The acceleration of the ball}$

Def The quantity $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{df}{dx} \right) = \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2}$

$$[f'(x)]' = f''(x)$$

is called the second derivative of f w.r.t. x

Def The acceleration of an object with position function $s(t)$ is the fun $a(t)$

$$a(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2 s}{dt^2}$$

Ex1/ The position of particle is given by

$$s(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t$$

@ Find $v(t)$ and $a(t)$

$$v(t) = s'(t) = 3t^2 - 12t + 9$$

$$a(t) = v'(t) = 6t - 12$$

⑥ If t is measured in seconds and $s(t)$ is measured in meters, find $v(4)$ and $a(4)$

$$v(4) = 3(4)^2 - 12(4) + 9 = 9 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

$$a(4) = 6(4) - 12 = 12 \frac{\text{m/s}}{\text{s}} = 12 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}$$

Ex2/ Same Setup as Ex1, but

$$s(t) = \cos 2t$$



@ Find $v(t)$ and $a(t)$

$$v(t) = s'(t) = (-\sin 2t)(2) = -2 \sin 2t$$

$$a(t) = v'(t) = -2 \cos 2t (2) = -4 \cos 2t$$

⑥ Find $a\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} a\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) &= -4 \cos 2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = -4 \cos \pi = (-4)(-1) \\ &= 4 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} \end{aligned}$$

Ex 3/ Given $s(t) = \frac{t}{1+t^2}$ ($t \geq 0$), when is the acceleration 0?

$$v(t) = s'(t) = \frac{(1)(1+t^2) - (t)(2t)}{(1+t^2)^2} = \frac{1+t^2 - 2t^2}{(1+t^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1-t^2}{(1+t^2)^2}$$

$$a(t) = v'(t) = \frac{(-2t)(1+t^2)^{\cancel{2}} - (1-t^2)(2)(1+t^2)(2t)}{(1+t^2)^4}$$

$$= \frac{-2t(1+t^2) \left[1+t^2 + \overbrace{2(1-t^2)}^{2-2t^2} \right]}{(1+t^2)^4}$$

$$= \frac{-2t(1+t^2)[3-t^2]}{(1+t^2)^4} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{set } \bigcirc}}$$

Never equals 0



$$\Rightarrow -2t(1+t^2)[3-t^2] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Either } -2t=0 \text{ OR } 1+t^2=0 \text{ OR } 3-t^2=0$$

$\boxed{t=0}$ impossible $t^2=3$

$t \geq 0 \rightarrow t = \pm\sqrt{3}$

$a(t) \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$, solve for t

$t = \sqrt{3}$

Ex 4/ If $f(x) = 2\sin x + 3\cos x$, What is $f(0)$, $f'(0)$, and $f''(0)$?

$$f(x) = 2\sin x + 3\cos x \rightarrow f(0) = 3$$

$$f'(x) = 2\cos x - 3\sin x \rightarrow f'(0) = 2$$

$$f''(x) = -2\sin x - 3\cos x \rightarrow f''(0) = -3$$

Higher Order Derivatives

NOTATION: 3rd Derivative: $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} \right) = \frac{d^3 f}{dx^3}$

$$[f''(x)]' = f'''(x)$$

4th Derivative: $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^3 f}{dx^3} \right) = \frac{d^4 f}{dx^4}$

$$[f'''(x)]' = f''''(x)$$

nth Derivative: $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{d^{n-1} f}{dx^{n-1}} \right) = \frac{d^n f}{dx^n}$

$$[f^{(n-1)}(x)]' = f^{(n)}(x)$$

Ex 5/ If $f^{(9)}(x) = 6 \sec(2x-5)$, what is $f^{(10)}(x)$?

$$\begin{aligned} f^{(10)}(x) &= [f^{(9)}(x)]' = 6 \sec(2x-5) \tan(2x-5) (2) \\ &= 12 \sec(2x-5) \tan(2x-5) \end{aligned}$$

Ex 6/ Examine the various derivatives of $\sin x$

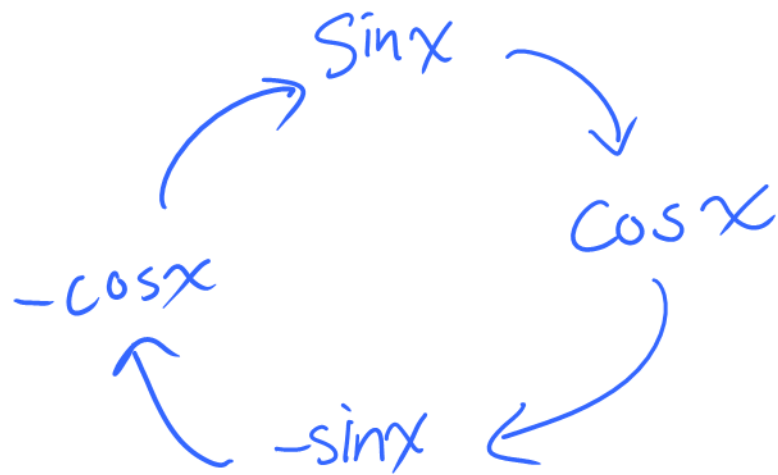
$$f(x) = \sin x$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x$$

$$f''(x) = -\sin x$$

$$f'''(x) = -\cos x$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \sin x$$



Ex 7/ Repeat $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$

$$f(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$$

↓

$$f'(x) = 4x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x + 1$$

↓

$$f''(x) = 12x^2 + 6x + 2$$

↓

$$f'''(x) = 24x + 6$$

↓

$$f^{(4)}(x) = 24$$

↓

$$f^{(5)}(x) = 0$$

Ex 8/ Repeat for e^{2x}

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 f(x) & \rightarrow & f'(x) & \rightarrow & f''(x) & \rightarrow & f'''(x) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow f^{(n)}(x) \\
 \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\
 e^{2x} & \rightarrow & 2e^{2x} & \rightarrow & 2(2e^{2x}) = 4e^{2x} & \rightarrow & 8e^{2x} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 2^n e^{2x}
 \end{array}$$