

高等数学习题课

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1. Suppose that f is an even function. What can you conclude about f' ?
Prove your answer.

Answer to the 1st question

It follows that f' is an odd function, because

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

Here the third equation came from substituting h for $-h$ in the limit.
(Why is this valid?)

2. Express the following in the form x^c for an appropriate choice of c .

$\sqrt[n]{x}$

$(x^a)^b$

$x^a x^b$

$\frac{1}{x^a}$

$\sqrt[3]{x} \sqrt[4]{x}$

$\frac{1}{x^{5/2} \sqrt[3]{x}}$

Answer to the 2nd question

$x^{1/n}$

x^{ab}

x^{a+b}

x^{-a}

$x^{7/12}$

$x^{-17/6}$

3. a) Find the derivative of $f(x) = (2x^2 - 1)(x^2 + x)$ in two ways: by using the Product Rule and by multiplying first. Do the answers agree? Which method is faster?

b) Find the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{2x^3 + \sqrt{x} - x}{x^2}$ in two ways: by using the Quotient Rule and by simplifying first. Do the answers agree? Which method is faster?

Answer to the 3rd question

- a) Both methods give $f'(x) = 8x^3 + 6x^2 - 2x - 1$. I found it quicker to multiply first and then differentiate.
- b) Both methods give $f'(x) = 2 - \frac{3}{2}x^{-\frac{5}{2}} + x^{-2}$. It is faster to simplify first.

4. Find the equation of the tangent line to the curve at the given point.

$$y = \frac{x}{2x - 1}, (1, 1).$$

$$y = x^3 + 2x^2 + 1, (1, 4).$$

Answer to the 4rd question

Worked Solution: $y = \frac{x}{2x-1}$, so

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{(2x-1) \cdot 1 - x \cdot (2-0)}{(2x-1)^2} = \frac{2x-1-2x}{(2x-1)^2} = \frac{-1}{(2x-1)^2}.$$

So when $x = 1$ we have $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-1}{(2 \cdot 1 - 1)^2} = -1$. Thus the equation of the tangent line through $(1, 1)$ is $y - 1 = -1(x - 1)$ or in other words $y = -x + 2$.

$$y = 7x - 3$$

5. Remember the special limits

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta} = 1,$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(\theta) - 1}{\theta} = 0.$$

Use the first one to compute the following.

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta^2}{\sin(\theta)}$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta + \sin(\theta)}$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta + \theta^2}$$

Answer to the 5rd question

Worked Solution:

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta}{\sin(\theta)} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}} = \frac{1}{\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}} = \frac{1}{1} = 1.$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta^2}{\sin(\theta)} = 0.$$

Worked Solution: We divide top and bottom of the fraction by θ so that the expression now consists of terms whose limits we know.

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta + \sin(\theta)} = \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}}{1 + \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}} = \frac{\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}}{1 + \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta}} = \frac{1}{1 + 1} = 1/2$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(\theta)}{\theta + \theta^2} = 1.$$

Thank you!