

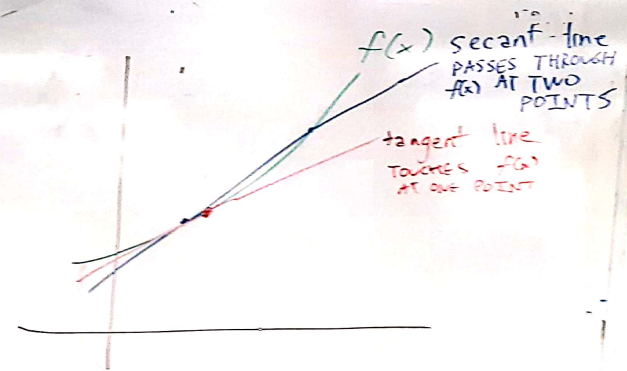
4.1 Formal Definition of the Derivative

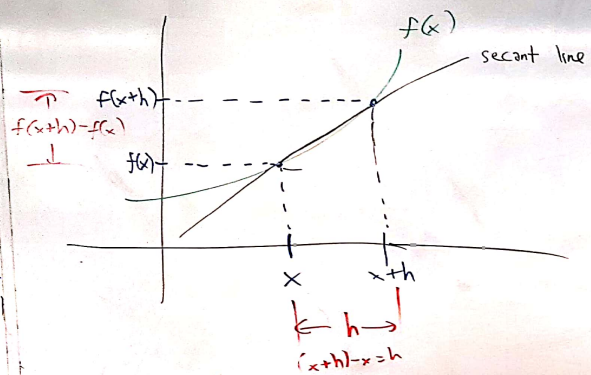
Definition The derivative of a function f at x , denoted $f'(x)$, is

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

provided that the limit exists.

difference
quotient



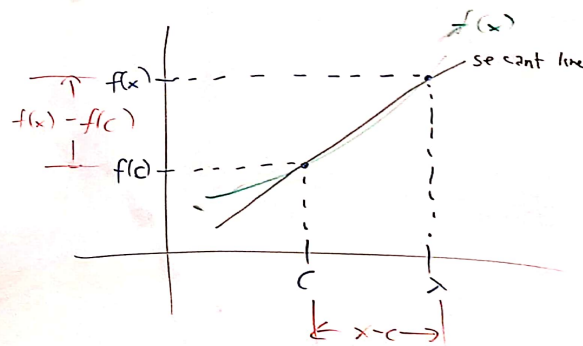


As $h \rightarrow 0$, the secant line becomes the tangent line.

$f'(x)$ denotes the slope of the tangent line

If we want to compute the derivative at $x=c$, we can also write

$$f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$$



Notations for the derivative of $y = f(x)$:

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x) = \boxed{\frac{df}{dx}} = \frac{d}{dx} f(x)$$

Leibniz notation

Example 1 - Use the limit definition of the derivative to compute the derivative of

$$f(x) = x^2$$

Solution:

$$f(x) = x^2$$

$$f(x+h) = (x+h)^2$$

Difference quotient

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h}$$

$$= \frac{(x^2 + 2hx + h^2) - x^2}{h}$$

$$= \frac{2hx + h^2}{h}$$

$$= \frac{h(2x + h)}{h}$$

$$= 2x + h$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2x + h)$$

$$= 2x + 0$$

$$= \boxed{2x}$$

The derivative of x^2 is $2x$.

(b) What is the slope of the tangent line of $y = x^2$ at:

(i) $x = 0$

(ii) $x = 1$

(iii) $x = 2$

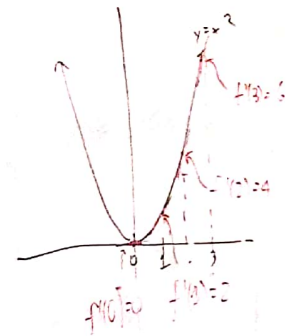
(iv) $x = 3$

$$(i) f'(0) = 2 \cdot 0 \\ = \boxed{0}$$

$$(ii) f'(1) = 2 \cdot 1 \\ = \boxed{2}$$

$$(iii) f'(2) = 2 \cdot 2 \\ = 4$$

$$f'(3) = 2 \cdot 3 \\ = 6$$



Example: Find the derivative of

$$f(x) = 4x + 7$$

using the limit definition.

slope: 4

SOLUTION:

$$f(x) = 4x + 7$$

$$f(x+h) = 4(x+h) + 7$$

Difference quotient $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(4(x+h) + 7) - (4x + 7)}{h}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{4x} + 4h + \cancel{7} - \cancel{4x} - \cancel{7}}{h}$$

$$= \frac{4h}{h}$$

$$= 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 4 \\ &= \boxed{4} \end{aligned}$$

Example: Find the derivative of $f(x) = x^3 - x$ using the limit definition.

SOLUTION:

$$f(x) = x^3 - x$$

$$f(x+h) = (x+h)^3 - (x+h)$$

$$= (x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3) - (x+h)$$

$$= x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - x - h$$

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} =$$

$$\frac{(x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - x - h) - (x^3 - x)}{h}$$

$$= \frac{x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - x - h - x^3 + x}{h}$$

$$= \frac{3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - h}{h}$$

$$= \frac{h(3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1)}{h}$$

$$= 3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1)$$

$$= 3x^2 + 3x \cdot 0 + 0^2 - 1$$

$$= \boxed{3x^2 - 1}$$

	1			$n=0$
	1	1		$n=1$
	1	2	1	$n=2$
1	3	3	1	$n=3$

BINOMIAL THEOREM FOR $(a+b)^3$

$$(a+b)^3 = \binom{3}{0}a^3b^0 + \binom{3}{1}a^2b^1 + \binom{3}{2}a^1b^2 + \binom{3}{3}a^0b^3$$

$$= 1a^3b^0 + 3a^2b^1 + 3a^1b^2 + 1a^0b^3$$

$$= a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} 5! &= 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \\ 4! &= 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \\ 3! &= 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \\ 2! &= 2 \cdot 1 \\ 1! &= 1 \\ 0! &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\binom{3}{0} = \frac{3!}{0!(3-0)!} = 1$$

$$\binom{3}{1} = \frac{3!}{1!(3-1)!} = 3$$

$$\binom{3}{2} = \frac{3!}{2!(3-2)!} = 3$$

$$\binom{3}{3} = \frac{3!}{3!(3-3)!} = 1$$

Example: Use the limit definition to find the derivative of

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

Solution:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$f(x+h) = \frac{1}{x+h}$$

Difference quotient

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{\frac{1}{x+h} - \frac{1}{x}}{h}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{h}{x(x+h)}}{h}$$

$$= -\frac{h}{x(x+h)} \cdot \frac{1}{h}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x(x+h)}$$

$$\frac{1}{x+h} - \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x+h} \cdot \frac{x}{x} - \frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{x+h}{x+h}$$

$$= \frac{x - (x+h)}{x(x+h)}$$

$$= \frac{-h}{x(x+h)}$$

$$= \frac{-h}{x(x+h)}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{1}{x(x+h)} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x(x+0)}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\frac{\frac{3}{5}}{2} = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

Example: Use the limit definition to find the derivative of

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

Solution

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$f(x+h) = \sqrt{x+h}$$

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}$$

$$= \frac{(\sqrt{x+h})^2 - (\sqrt{x})^2}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})}$$

$$= \frac{x+h - x}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})}$$

$$= \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$
$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+0} + \sqrt{x}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x}}$$
$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}}$$

Example: Find the equation of the tangent line of
 $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$
at $x = 4$.

SOLUTION:

$$f(4) = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$f'(4) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{4}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Equation of the tangent line

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

$$y - f(4) = f'(4)(x - 4)$$

$$y - 2 = \frac{1}{4}(x - 4)$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} y - 2 & = & \frac{1}{4}x - 1 \\ +2 & & +2 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{1}{4}x + 1}$$

Mini-Quiz 6/27

Use the limit definition of the derivative to
compute the derivative of

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