

DERIVATIVE RULES

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Name: Solutions

Use **only the following rules** to compute the derivative of the given function.

Theorem. Let c and n be constants. If f and g are differentiable functions, then

Derivative of a Constant Function: $\frac{d}{dx}(c) = 0$

Power Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$

Constant Multiple Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}(cf(x)) = cf'(x)$

Sum Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) + g(x)) = f'(x) + g'(x)$

Difference Rule: $\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) - g(x)) = f'(x) - g'(x)$

1. $f(x) = \pi^{400}$

$$f'(x) = 0.$$

2. $f(x) = 10x^4 + 3x^2 - 7x + 500\pi$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 10(4x^3) + 3(2x) - 7(1) + 0 \\ &= 40x^3 + 6x - 7. \end{aligned}$$

3. $f(x) = 6\sqrt[3]{x^2} + 2\sqrt{x^3}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 6(x^2)^{1/3} + 2(x^3)^{1/2} \\ &= 6x^{2/3} + 2x^{3/2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 6\left(\frac{2}{3}x^{-1/3}\right) + 2\left(\frac{3}{2}x^{1/2}\right) \\ &= 4x^{-1/3} + 3x^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{4}{\sqrt[3]{x}} + 3\sqrt{x} \end{aligned}$$

4. $f(x) = (x + 2)^2$

$$\begin{aligned} &= x^2 + 2(2)(x) + 2^2 \\ &= x^2 + 4x + 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$f'(x) = 2x + 4$$

$$5. f(x) = (3x - 1)(x + 2)$$

$$= 3x^2 + 6x - x - 2$$

$$= 3x^2 + 5x - 2$$

$$f'(x) = 6x + 5$$

$$6. f(x) = \frac{1}{x^{12}} + 7x - 21$$

$$= x^{-12} + 7x - 21$$

$$f'(x) = -12x^{-13} + 7$$

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

7. $f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 + 2$, $(1, 3)$.

$$f'(x) = 6x^2 - 2x$$

$$f'(1) = 6 - 2 = 4$$

$$y - 3 = 4(x - 1)$$

or

$$y = 4x - 1$$

8. $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $(1, 1)$.

$$f(x) = x^{1/2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

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

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

or

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}$$

9. $f(x) = x^2$, $(1, 1)$

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

$$f'(1) = 2(1) = 2$$

$$y - 1 = 2(x - 1)$$

or

$$y = 2x - 1$$