Math 150, *Lecture Notes- Bonds* Name____________

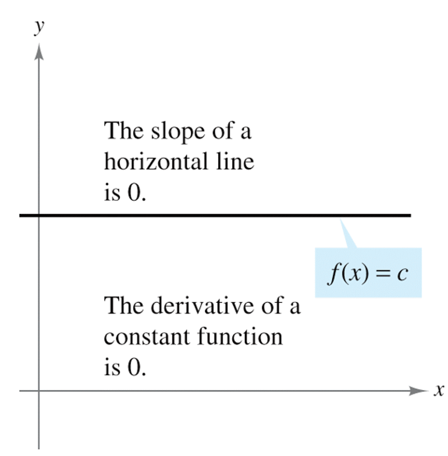
Section 2.2 *Basic Differentiation Rules and Rates of Change*

In section 2.1, we used the limit definition to find derivatives. In this section and the next two sections, we will build on this definition and we will develop " differentiation rules" that will allow us to find derivatives with the direct use of the limit definition.

THEOREM 2.2 The Constant Rule

The derivative of a constant function is 0. That is, if c is a real number, then

$$\frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0.$$



PROOF Let $f(x) = c$. Then, by the limit definition of the derivative,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}[c] &= f'(x)\\ &= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}\\ &= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{c - c}{\Delta x}\\ &= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} 0 = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Ex.1 Find the slope of the tangent line to the graph of $g(x) = 2$ at the point $(-2, 2)$.

Ex.2 Use of the Constant Rule:

	Function	*Derivative*
a.	$y = 7$	$dy/dx = 0$
b.	$f(x) = 0$	$f'(x) = 0$
c.	$s(t) = -3$	$s'(t) = 0$
d.	$y = k\pi^2$, k is constant	$y' = 0$

THEOREM 2.3 The Power Rule

If n is a rational number, then the function $f(x) = x^n$ is differentiable and

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^n] = nx^{n-1}.$$

For f to be differentiable at $x = 0$, n must be a number such that x^{n-1} is defined on an interval containing 0.

PROOF If n is a positive integer greater than 1, then the binomial expansion produces

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dx}[x^n] &= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{(x + \Delta x)^n - x^n}{\Delta x} \\
&= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{x^n + nx^{n-1}(\Delta x) + \frac{n(n-1)x^{n-2}}{2}(\Delta x)^2 + \cdots + (\Delta x)^n - x^n}{\Delta x} \\
&= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \left[nx^{n-1} + \frac{n(n-1)x^{n-2}}{2}(\Delta x) + \cdots + (\Delta x)^{n-1} \right] \\
&= nx^{n-1} + 0 + \cdots + 0 \\
&= nx^{n-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

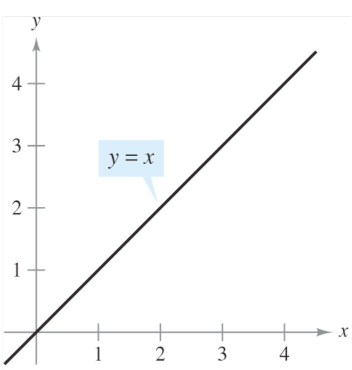
This proves the case for which n is a positive integer greater than 1. You will prove the case for $n = 1$. Example 7 in Section 2.3 proves the case for which n is a negative integer. In Exercise 76 in Section 2.5 you are asked to prove the case for which n is rational. (In Section 5.5, the Power Rule will be extended to cover irrational values of n.) ■

When using the Power Rule, the case for which $n = 1$ is best thought of as a separate differentiation rule. That is,

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x] = 1.$$

Power Rule when $n = 1$

This rule is consistent with the fact that the slope of the line $y = x$ is 1, as shown in Figure 2.15.



The slope of the line $y = x$ is 1.
Figure 2.15

Ex.3 Find the derivative of the following functions:

(a) $y = x^{16}$

(b) $y = \frac{1}{x^9}$

(c) $g(x) = \sqrt[4]{x}$

(d) $h(t) = t^{\frac{2}{3}}$

Ex.4 Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $g(x) = x^3$ when $x = -2$.

THEOREM 2.4 The Constant Multiple Rule

If f is a differentiable function and c is a real number, then cf is also differentiable and $\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = cf'(x)$.

PROOF

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{cf(x + \Delta x) - cf(x)}{\Delta x} \quad \text{Definition of derivative}$$

$$= \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} c\left[\frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}\right]$$

$$= c\left[\lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}\right] \quad \text{Apply Theorem 1.2.}$$

$$= cf'(x)$$

Informally, the Constant Multiple Rule states that constants can be factored out of the differentiation process, even if the constants appear in the denominator.

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] = cf'(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{c}\right] = \frac{d}{dx}\left[\left(\frac{1}{c}\right)f(x)\right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{c}\right)\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] = \left(\frac{1}{c}\right)f'(x)$$

Ex.5 Use of the Constant Multiple Rule:

	Function	*Derivative*
a.	$y = \frac{2}{x}$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}[2x^{-1}] = 2\frac{d}{dx}[x^{-1}] = 2(-1)x^{-2} = -\frac{2}{x^2}$
b.	$f(t) = \frac{4t^2}{5}$	$f'(t) = \frac{d}{dt}\left[\frac{4}{5}t^2\right] = \frac{4}{5}\frac{d}{dt}[t^2] = \frac{4}{5}(2t) = \frac{8}{5}t$
c.	$y = 2\sqrt{x}$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}[2x^{1/2}] = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}\right) = x^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$
d.	$y = \frac{1}{2\sqrt[3]{x^2}}$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{1}{2}x^{-2/3}\right] = \frac{1}{2}\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)x^{-5/3} = -\frac{1}{3x^{5/3}}$
e.	$y = -\frac{3x}{2}$	$y' = \frac{d}{dx}\left[-\frac{3}{2}x\right] = -\frac{3}{2}(1) = -\frac{3}{2}$

The Constant Multiple Rule and the Power Rule can be combined into one rule. The combination rule is

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cx^n] = cnx^{n-1}.$$

Ex.6 Use of the Parentheses When Differentiating:

	Original Function	*Rewrite*	*Differentiate*	*Simplify*
a.	$y = \frac{5}{2x^3}$	$y = \frac{5}{2}(x^{-3})$	$y' = \frac{5}{2}(-3x^{-4})$	$y' = -\frac{15}{2x^4}$
b.	$y = \frac{5}{(2x)^3}$	$y = \frac{5}{8}(x^{-3})$	$y' = \frac{5}{8}(-3x^{-4})$	$y' = -\frac{15}{8x^4}$
c.	$y = \frac{7}{3x^{-2}}$	$y = \frac{7}{3}(x^2)$	$y' = \frac{7}{3}(2x)$	$y' = \frac{14x}{3}$
d.	$y = \frac{7}{(3x)^{-2}}$	$y = 63(x^2)$	$y' = 63(2x)$	$y' = 126x$

THEOREM 2.5 The Sum and Difference Rules

The sum (or difference) of two differentiable functions f and g is itself differentiable. Moreover, the derivative of $f + g$ (or $f - g$) is the sum (or difference) of the derivatives of f and g.

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

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

Ex.7 Find the derivatives of the following functions:

(a) $f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 + 3x$

(b) $h(x) = \dfrac{-2x^3 + 3x^2 - 1}{-x^2}$

(c) $p(t) = \sqrt[3]{t} + \sqrt[5]{t}$

(d) $k(w) = w^{\frac{3}{2}} - w^{\frac{1}{3}} + 4$

Ex.8 Find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $N(x) = 3(5-x)^2$ when $x = 5$.

Rates of Change

You have seen how the derivative is used to determine slope. The derivative can also be used to determine the rate of change of one variable with respect to another. Applications involving rates of change occur in a wide variety of fields. A few examples are population growth rates, production rates, water flow rates, velocity, and acceleration.

A common use for rate of change is to describe the motion of an object moving in a straight line. In such problems, it is customary to use either a horizontal or a vertical line with a designated origin to represent the line of motion. On such lines, movement to the right (or upward) is considered to be in the positive direction, and movement to the left (or downward) is considered to be in the negative direction.

The function s that gives the position (relative to the origin) of an object as a function of time t is called a **position function.** If, over a period of time Δt, the object changes its position by the amount $\Delta s = s(t + \Delta t) - s(t)$, then, by the familiar formula

$$\text{Rate} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$$

the **average velocity** is

$$\frac{\text{Change in distance}}{\text{Change in time}} = \frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t}.$$

Average velocity

Ex.9 Find the Average Velocity of a Falling Object

If a billiard ball is dropped from a height of 100 feet, its height s at time t is given by the position function

$$s = -16t^2 + 100$$

Position function

where s is measured in feet and t is measured in seconds. Find the average velocity over each of the following time intervals.

a. $[1, 2]$ **b.** $[1, 1.5]$ **c.** $[1, 1.1]$

Suppose that in Example 9 you wanted to find the *instantaneous* velocity (or simply the velocity) of the object when $t = 1$. Just as you can approximate the slope of the tangent line by calculating the slope of the secant line, you can approximate the velocity at $t = 1$ by calculating the average velocity over a small interval $[1, 1 + \Delta t]$ (see Figure 2.20). By taking the limit as Δt approaches zero, you obtain the velocity when $t = 1$. Try doing this—you will find that the velocity when $t = 1$ is -32 feet per second.

In general, if $s = s(t)$ is the position function for an object moving along a straight line, the **velocity** of the object at time t is

$$v(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \to 0} \frac{s(t + \Delta t) - s(t)}{\Delta t} = s'(t).$$

Velocity function

In other words, the velocity function is the derivative of the position function. Velocity can be negative, zero, or positive. The **speed** of an object is the absolute value of its velocity. Speed cannot be negative.

The position of a free-falling object (neglecting air resistance) under the influence of gravity can be represented by the equation

$$s(t) = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0$$

Position function

where s_0 is the initial height of the object, v_0 is the initial velocity of the object, and g is the acceleration due to gravity. On Earth, the value of g is approximately -32 feet per second per second or -9.8 meters per second per second.

Ex.10 Use the Derivative to Find Velocity

At time $t = 0$, a diver jumps from a platform diving board that is 32 feet above the water (see Figure 2.21). The position of the diver is given by

$$s(t) = -16t^2 + 16t + 32$$

Position function

where s is measured in feet and t is measured in seconds.

a. When does the diver hit the water?

b. What is the diver's velocity at impact?

THEOREM 2.6 Derivatives of Sine and Cosine Functions

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sin x] = \cos x \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[\cos x] = -\sin x$$

$$\lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{\sin \Delta x}{\Delta x} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{1 - \cos \Delta x}{\Delta x} = 0$$

PROOF

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sin x] = \lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{\sin(x + \Delta x) - \sin x}{\Delta x}$$ Definition of derivative

Ex.11 Derivatives involving Sines and Cosines:

	Function	*Derivative*
a.	$y = 2 \sin x$	$y' = 2 \cos x$
b.	$y = \frac{\sin x}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sin x$	$y' = \frac{1}{2} \cos x = \frac{\cos x}{2}$
c.	$y = x + \cos x$	$y' = 1 - \sin x$

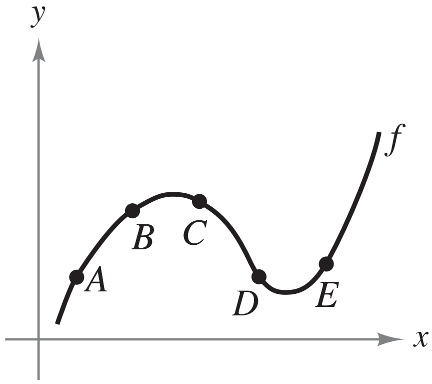
Ex.12 Find the derivatives of the following functions:

(a) $g(t)=\pi\cos(t)-\sin(t)$

(b) $y=\dfrac{5}{(2x)^3}-2\cos(x)$

Ex.13 Determine the point(s) (if any) at which the graph of $y=\sqrt{3}x+2\cos(x)$ has a horizontal tangent line on $[0,2\pi)$.

Ex.14 Use the graph of f to answer each question:



(a) Between which two consecutive points is the average rate of change of the function greatest?

(b) Is the average rate of change of the function between A and B greater than or less than the instantaneous rate of change at B?

(c) Sketch a tangent line to the graph between C and D such that the slope of the tangent line is the same as the average rate of change of the function between C and D.