

1. Compute the derivative with respect to x for each of the following expressions:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \pi x^8 - \sqrt{x} & x^3 + \tan x & x^2 \sin(x^2) & \frac{x^3}{1+x^4} & \sin(\cos(2x+1)) \\ \ln \sqrt{x} & (1+x^2) \arctan x & \frac{\sin(3x)}{3x+1} & e^{\cos x} & x \ln x \end{array}$$

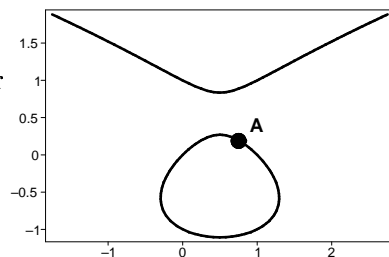
Solution:

- $\frac{d}{dx} (\pi x^8 - \sqrt{x}) = 8\pi x^7 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (x^3 + \tan x) = 3x^2 + \sec^2 x$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (x^2 \sin(x^2)) = 2x \sin(x^2) + 2x^3 \cos(x^2)$
- $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^3}{1+x^4} \right) = \frac{3x^2(1+x^4) - x^3 \cdot 4x^3}{(1+x^4)^2} = \frac{3x^2 - x^6}{(1+x^4)^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (\sin(\cos(2x+1))) = \cos(\cos(2x+1))(-\sin(2x+1))(2) = -2 \sin(2x+1) \cos(\cos(2x+1))$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (\ln \sqrt{x}) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln x \right) = \frac{1}{2x}$
- $\frac{d}{dx} \left((1+x^2) \arctan x \right) = 2x \arctan x + (1+x^2) \frac{1}{1+x^2} = 2x \arctan x + 1$
- $\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\sin 3x}{3x+1} \right) = \frac{(3 \sin 3x)(3x+1) - 3 \sin 3x}{(3x+1)^2} = \frac{9x \sin 3x}{(3x+1)^2}$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (e^{\cos x}) = -e^{\cos x} \sin x$
- $\frac{d}{dx} (x \ln x) = \ln x + x \frac{1}{x} = \ln x + 1$

2. Consider the elliptic curve C which consists of the set of points for which

$$x^2 - x = y^3 - y$$

(see the graph at right).



- a. Write the equation of the line tangent to C at the point $(1, 0)$.

Solution:

We use implicit differentiation to obtain $2x - 1 = 3y^2y' - y'$. Solving for y' gives $y' = \frac{2x - 1}{3y^2 - 1}$.

Plugging in at the point $(1, 0)$ says the slope of the relevant tangent line is $\frac{2-1}{-1} = -1$. Thus, the line tangent to C at $(1, 0)$ is $y = 0 - 1(x - 1)$ — that is, $y = 1 - x$.

- b. Use your answer to part **a** to estimate the y -coordinate of the point with x -coordinate $3/4$ marked A in the figure. Plug your estimate into the equation for C to determine how good it is.

Solution:

Plugging $x = \frac{3}{4}$ into the equation for the tangent line gives $y = \frac{1}{4}$. Trying the point $(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ in the equation for C , we obtain

$$\frac{9}{16} - \frac{3}{4} \approx \frac{1}{64} - \frac{1}{4},$$

which is off from being true by $3/64$, or about 0.0469.

- c. Write the equation of the parabola which best approximates C at the point $(1, 0)$.

Solution:

We need to determine y'' , so we take the derivative of y' from part **a**. Again, we use implicit differentiation, this time together with the quotient rule.

$$y'' = \frac{2(3y^2 - 1) - (2x - 1)(6y)(y')}{(3y^2 - 1)^2}$$

Thus, $y''(1, 0) = \frac{-2}{1} = -2$. This means our desired parabola is $1 - x - (x - 1)^2$.

- d. Use your answer to part **c** to improve your answer from part **b**. How close does this new estimate come to being right?

Solution:

Here we obtain the estimate $y \approx 1 - \frac{3}{4} - \left(1 - \frac{3}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{3}{16}$. Plugging $(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{16})$ into the equation for C gives

$$\frac{9}{16} - \frac{3}{4} \approx \frac{27}{4096} - \frac{3}{16},$$

off by $\frac{27}{4096}$, or about .00659, a dramatic improvement.

3. A mold culture is growing on the world's largest slice of bread. The culture starts in the center of the bread, and remains approximately circular.

- a. The size of the culture grows at a rate proportional to the square of its diameter. Write a differential equation which expresses this relationship.

Solution:

Let's let $y(t)$ be the diameter of the culture. This changes at a rate proportional to (that is, a constant times) its square, so we have

$$y' = ky^2$$

- b. Verify that $y(t) = \frac{1}{C - kt}$ satisfies the differential equation for any choice of k and C .

Solution:

We just need to check that this particular $y(t)$ satisfies the equation in a. Taking the derivative, we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left((C - kt)^{-1} \right) = -(C - kt)^{-2}(-k) = \frac{k}{(C - kt)^2}.$$

This is exactly $k(y(t))^2$, so the equation holds.

- c. If the diameter of the culture was 1 mm at 8 A.M. and 2 mm at noon, what is the size of the culture at 2 P.M.? What about at 3 P.M.? Does anything surprising happen at 4 P.M.?

Solution:

Let's let $t = 0$ correspond to 8 A.M., so we have

$$y(0) = \frac{1}{C} = 1$$

That is, $C = 1$.

Since the diameter is 2 at noon, four hours later, we have

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

Solving for k gives $1 - 4k = 1/2$, or $k = 1/8$, so our particular solution is

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{1 - t/8}.$$

At 2 P.M., the size of the culture is given by $y(6) = 1/(1 - 6/8) = 4$, so it is 4 mm across.

At 3 P.M., the culture has a diameter of $1/(1 - 7/8)$, doubling to 8mm in one hour.

At 4 P.M., the universe comes to an end, because the size of the mold is now infinite.

4. A spotlight is aimed at a building whose base is 20 feet away. If the light is raised so that its angle increases at a constant rate of 5 degrees per second, how fast is the image rising when the light makes a 45 degree angle with the ground?

Solution:

It is helpful to draw a figure. Let's call the angle the spotlight makes with the ground A , so we have

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 5 \frac{\text{deg}}{\text{sec}} = \frac{\pi \text{ radians}}{36 \text{ sec}}.$$

Let's also call the distance from the ground to where the spotlight hits the building h , so what we want to know is $\frac{dh}{dt}$ when $A = 45$ degrees, or $\frac{\pi}{4}$ radians.

It is probably safe to assume that the building is at least approximately perpendicular to the ground, so

$$\tan A = \frac{h}{20}.$$

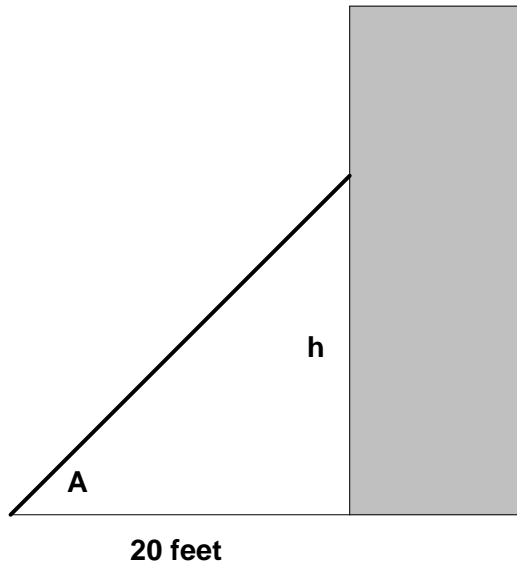
Differentiating this with respect to t gives

$$\sec^2 A \frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{1}{20} \frac{dh}{dt}, \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{20}{\cos^2 A} \frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{dh}{dt}.$$

Plugging in what we know gives the result:

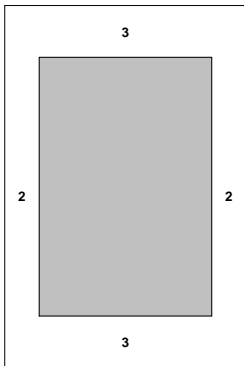
$$\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{20}{(1/\sqrt{2})^2} \cdot \frac{\pi}{36}, \quad \text{so} \quad \frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{10\pi}{9},$$

or about $3.49 \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}}$.



5. A poster is to be made which requires 150 in^2 for the printed part, and is to have a 3" margin at the top and bottom, and a 2" margin on the sides. What should the dimensions be in order to minimize the total area of the poster?

Solution:



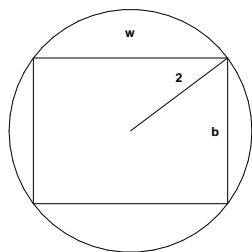
If we let w represent the width of the printed message and h be its height, then $hw = 150$, or $h = 150/w$. The dimensions of the poster are $4 + w$ wide by $6 + h$ tall, so we want to minimize

$$A(w) = (4 + w)(6 + \frac{150}{w}) = 24 + 6w + \frac{600}{w} + 150.$$

Thus, $A'(w) = 6 - \frac{600}{w^2}$, and $A'(w) = 0$ when $w = 10$. So the dimensions of the optimal poster are 14×21 , including the margins. The area for the message is 10×15 .

6. The stiffness of a beam is directly proportional to the product of its width and the cube of its breadth. What are the dimensions of the stiffest beam that can be cut from a cylindrical log with a radius of 2'?

Solution:



We want to maximize the product wb^3 , where $(\frac{w}{2})^2 + (\frac{b}{2})^2 = 4$, that is, $b = \sqrt{16 - w^2}$. We also must have $0 < w < 4$. So, $S(w) = w(16 - w^2)^{3/2}$, and

$$S'(w) = (16 - w^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 3w^2\sqrt{16 - w^2} = (16 - 4w^2)\sqrt{16 - w^2}.$$

S' is zero when $w = 4$ and $w = 2$. For $w = 4$ we have $b = 0$, which gives a strength of 0, as does $w = 0$. When $w = 2$, we have $b = 2\sqrt{3}$, so the optimal dimensions are $2 \times 2\sqrt{3}$.

7. At what x value does the maximum of $\ln(x)/x$ occur? What is the maximum value of the function?

Solution:

Write $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x}$. Then $f'(x) = \frac{1 - \ln x}{x^2}$. Thus, $f'(x) = 0$ if $\ln x = 1$, and $f'(x)$ does not exist if $x = 0$. Thus $x = e$ is a relative maximum, and it is a global maximum because of the shape of the graph. The maximum value is $1/e$.

8. Compute $\frac{dy}{dx}$ for the curve $\sin(x) + \cos(y) = 1$. What is the slope of the tangent line at the point $(\pi/6, \pi/3)$?

Solution:

Using implicit differentiation,

$$\cos x - y' \sin y = 0, \quad \text{so} \quad y' = \frac{\cos x}{\sin y}.$$

At $(\pi/6, \pi/3)$, the slope is 1.