



Tutorial C6A: Differentiation Techniques

Section A (Basic Questions)

1 Differentiate each of the following with respect to x :

(a) $x(x^3 + 1)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

(b) $\frac{3x}{(x+3)(x+1)}$

(c) $\sec^3(2x-3)$

(d) $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$

(e) $\cos^{-1}\sqrt{x^3}$ giving your answer in non-trigonometric form,

(f) $\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$

(g) $(e^{2x} - e^{-2x})^2$

(h) $\ln((x^3 + 2)^3(x^2 + 2)^2)$

(i) $\log_2(3x^4 - e^x)$

(j) 7^{x^2}

2 Find an expression for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of x and y for each of the following.

(a) $x + y + \sin y = 2$

(b) $y = \sin((x+y)^2)$

(c) $\sin x \cos y = \frac{1}{2}$

3 Find an expression for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of t for each of the following.

(a) $x = \frac{2-3t}{1+t}, y = \frac{3+2t}{1+t}$

(b) $x = \frac{1}{2}(e^t - e^{-t}), y = \frac{1}{2}(e^t + e^{-t})$

Section B (Discussion Questions)

- 1 By considering the derivative as a limit, $f'(x) = \lim_{\delta x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{f(x + \delta x) - f(x)}{\delta x} \right)$, show that the derivative of

$$\frac{1}{x^2} \text{ is } -\frac{2}{x^3}. \quad [3]$$

- 2 Differentiate each of the following with respect to x :

(a) $x\sqrt{3-4x^2}$

(b) $\frac{x^2 - 7x + 4}{x^3}$

(c) $\frac{x(x-2)}{(x-1)^2}$

(d) $\cos x^\circ$

(e) $\sin^4 x^2$

(f) $\cos^{-1} \sqrt{1-x^2}$

(g) $\sec 3x \sin^{-1} 2x$

(h) $\tan^{-1}(e^{2x})$

(i) $\operatorname{cosec}(\ln(x^2 + 3))$

(j) $e^{2x} \tan x$

(k) $\ln(9 + 3e^{3x})$

(l) $\ln \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$

(m) $\ln \left(\frac{e^{\sqrt{x}}}{\cos^3 x} \right)$, where $0 < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$

(n) $\ln \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + 1}{3x^2 + a}}$, where a is a positive constant

(o) $x^{\sec 2x}$

(p) $(x^2 + 1)^x$

Implicit Differentiation

- 3 (a) Given $x^n y + \ln y^2 = n^3$, where n is a constant, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of n, x and y . [3]
- (b) Given that $y^{2y} = e^{3x+2e}$, where $y > e^{-1}$, show that $y \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = -\frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)^3$. [3]
- (c) It is given that $y^2 = \sin x + \cos x$. Show that $y \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + A \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$, where A is a real constant to be determined. [2]
- (d) Given that $y^{\frac{1}{x}} = x^{\ln x}$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of x and y . [3]
- 4 Find an expression for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of t for each of the following.
- (a) $x = a \sec t$, $y = a \tan t$, where a is a non-zero constant
- (b) $x = \frac{u}{u-1}$, $y = \frac{u^2}{u-1}$, for $u \neq 1$.
- 5 A curve C has equation $\frac{1-x^2 y^2}{3y^2+x^2} = \frac{1}{2}$.
- (a) Show that $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-x-2xy^2}{y(3+2x^2)}$. [3]
- (b) Find the equation of the tangents to the curve that are parallel to the y -axis. [3]
- 6 A curve C has parametric equations
- $$x = \frac{1}{1-t^2}, \quad y = \frac{t}{1-t^2}, \quad t \neq \pm 1.$$
- (i) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of t . [2]
- (ii) Show that there are no points on C with tangents inclining at an angle of $\frac{\pi}{4}$ with the positive x -axis. [3]