

§3-1 Derivatives of Polynomials and Exponential Functions

* 這節將學多項式和指數的微分

公式：

- i. $(x^n)' = nx^{n-1}$.
- ii. $(e^x)' = e^x$.
- iii. Let $a \in R$. Then $(af + g)' = af' + g'$ wherever f and g are differentiable.

Definition :

e is the number such that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1$$

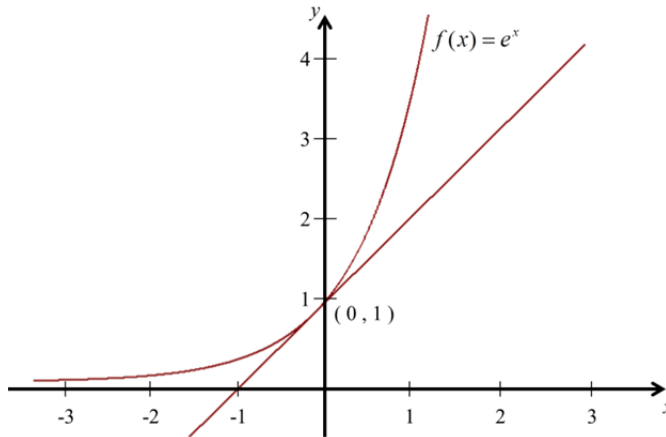
Proof of (i) : (For $n \in N$)

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^n - x^n}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(nx^{n-1} + C_2 x^{n-2}h + C_3 x^{n-3}h^2 + \dots + C_{n-1} x h^{n-2} + h^{n-1})}{h} \\ &= nx^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

* 註記：當 $n \in R$, (i)式也是對的，證明要用到 chain rule 和對數的微分。

Proof of (ii)

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x+h} - e^x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} e^x \left(\frac{e^h - 1}{h} \right) = e^x.$$



$$f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1$$

Example 1 :

$$(x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x + 1)' = ?$$

Solution :

$$(x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x + 1)' = 3x^2 + 4x - 3.$$

Example 2 :

$$\text{Let } y = ae^x + \frac{b}{x}, \text{ find } y' = ?$$

Solution :

$$y' = ae^x - \frac{b}{x^2}.$$

Example 3 : Find the points on the curve $y = x^3 - x^2 - x + 1$, where the tangent is horizontal.

Solution :

Let $y' = 3x^2 - 2x - 1 = (x-1)(3x+1) = 0$, which means that there are two horizontal tangent lines at $x = 1$ & $x = -\frac{1}{3}$.

For $x = 1$ or $x = -\frac{1}{3}$, $y = 0$ or $y = \frac{32}{27}$, respectively.

\Rightarrow The points are $(1, 0)$ & $(-\frac{1}{3}, \frac{32}{27})$.

Example 4 :

Find $y = ax^2 + bx$ whose tangent at $(1, 1)$ has equation $y = 3x - 2$.

Solution :

Passing $(1, 1) \Rightarrow f'(1) = 3$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} a + b = 1 \\ 2a + b = 3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = 2 \\ b = -1 \end{cases}$$

Example 6 : Find a cubic function $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ whose graph has horizontal tangents at $(-2, 6)$ & $(2, 0)$.

Solution :

$$f'(x) = 3ax^2 + 2bx + c$$

Passing $(-2, 6) \Rightarrow -8a + 4b - 2c + d = 6$.

Passing $(2, 0) \Rightarrow 8a + 4b + 2c + d = 0$.

$$f'(-2) = 0 \Rightarrow 12a - 4b + c = 0$$

$$f'(2) = 0 \Rightarrow 12a + 4b + c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{3}{16}, \quad b = 0, \quad c = -\frac{9}{4}, \quad d = 3.$$

Example 7 :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^{2014} - 1}{x - 1} = ?$$

Solution :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^{2014} - 1}{x - 1} = f'(1), \text{ where } f(x) = x^{2014}.$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(1) = 2014.$$

Example 8 :

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & , x \leq 2 \\ mx + b & , x > 2 \end{cases}$$

Find the values of m and b that make f differentiable everywhere.

Solution :

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & , x \leq 2 \\ m & , x > 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Continuous at } x = 2 \Rightarrow f(2^+) = f(2^-) \Rightarrow 4 = 2m + b.$$

$$\text{Differentiable at } x = 2 \Rightarrow f'(2^+) = f'(2^-) \Rightarrow 4 = m.$$

$$\Rightarrow b = -4.$$

Example 9 :

$$\text{Let } g(x) = \begin{cases} -1 - 2x, & x < -1 \\ x^2, & -1 \leq x < 1 \\ x, & x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- i. Find the set of points at which g is continuous.
- ii. Find the set of points at which g is differentiable.

Solution :

$$g'(x) = \begin{cases} -2, & x < -1 \\ 2x, & -1 \leq x < 1 \\ 1, & x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

i. $g(-1^-) = 1 = g(-1^+)$

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The set of continuity of f is \mathbf{R} .

ii. $g'(-1^-) = -2 = g'(-1^+)$

$$g'(1^-) = 2 \neq 1 = g'(1^+)$$

The set of differentiability of f is $\mathbf{R} - \{1\}$.