

1. Compute the derivatives the following functions.

(a) $f(x) = 20231010$

(b) $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 3$

(c) $f(x) = \sqrt{x+4} - \sqrt{x+1}$

(d) $f(x) = x/(x^2 + 4)$

(e) $f(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$

(f) $f(x) = e^x \cos(x)$

2. By using the definition of the derivative, compute the derivative of $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

3. Let $f(x) = xe^x$. Compute $f'(x)$, $f''(x)$, and $f'''(x)$. Can you guess what $f^{(n)}(x)$ is in general?

4. What is $\frac{d^{2023}}{dx^{2023}}(e^{2x})$?

5. Find the equation of the tangent line of $y = \ln(x) \ln(x + 1)$ at $x = 2$.

6. Show that $y = 6x^3 + 5x - 3$ has no tangent line of slope 4. What is the minimum possible slope of tangent lines?

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(a) 0

(b) $2x + 2$

(c) $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+4}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+1}}$

(d) $\frac{4-x^2}{(x^2+4)^2}$

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

(f) $e^x(\cos(x) - \sin(x))$

2. By using the definition of the derivative, compute the derivative of $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x})(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \end{aligned}$$

3. Let $f(x) = xe^x$. Compute $f'(x)$, $f''(x)$, and $f'''(x)$. Can you guess what $f^{(n)}(x)$ is in general?

Use product rule. $f'(x) = (x+1)e^x$, $f''(x) = (x+2)e^x$, $f'''(x) = (x+3)e^x$. In general, we can guess that $f^{(n)}(x) = (x+n)e^x$. This can be proven by mathematical induction. (It holds for $n = 1$. Assume that $f^{(n)}(x) = (x+n)e^x$ for some n . Then $f^{(n+1)}(x) = \frac{d}{dx}f^{(n)}(x) = (x+n+1)e^x$, so it is also true for $n+1$ and we are done.)

4. What is $\frac{d^{2023}}{dx^{2023}}(e^{2x})$?

First, by applying product rule to $e^{2x} = e^x \cdot e^x$, we can check that $\frac{d}{dx}(e^{2x}) = 2e^{2x}$. By continuing differentiation, we get $\frac{d^2}{dx^2}(e^{2x}) = 2^2 e^{2x}$, and in general we have $\frac{d^n}{dx^n}(e^{2x}) = 2^n e^{2x}$. Hence $\frac{d^{2023}}{dx^{2023}}(e^{2x}) = 2^{2023} e^{2x}$.

5. Find the equation of the tangent line of $y = \ln(x) \ln(x + 1)$ at $x = 2$.

By product rule, we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \ln(x + 1) + \ln(x) \frac{1}{x + 1}$$

so the slope of the tangent line at $x = 2$ is $\frac{\ln(3)}{2} + \frac{\ln(2)}{3}$. Since it passes $(2, \ln(2) \ln(3))$, the equation of the line is

$$y = \left(\frac{\ln(3)}{2} + \frac{\ln(2)}{3} \right) (x - 2) + \ln(2) \ln(3).$$

6. Show that $y = 6x^3 + 5x - 3$ has no tangent line of slope 4. What is the minimum possible slope of tangent lines?

The derivative of the function is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 18x^2 + 5$$

and since $18x^2 \geq 0$ for any x , we have $\frac{dy}{dx} \geq 5$. Hence the minimum possible slope of the tangent line is 5 (at $x = 0$), and there's no tangent line of slope 4.
