

IG - Maths  
0580

Algebra - 3

Derived Functions  
Notes

Syllabus - 2020-22

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§1. Derived Functions:

Given a function  $y = f(x)$ ,  
Then derived function denoted by  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  (or  $f'(x)$ ) is  
a function, which gives the  
instant rate of change of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ .

Example: Consider  $y = x^2$

for  $y = x^2$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta x = \text{small change in } x \\ \Delta y = \text{corresponding change in } y \end{array} \right.$  rate of change =  $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$

$\left. \begin{array}{l} x \rightarrow x + \Delta x \\ y \rightarrow y + \Delta y \end{array} \right\} \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$   
or  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$

$x$	$y$	$x + \Delta x$	$y + \Delta y$	$\Delta x$	$\Delta y$	$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$
1	1	1.001	1.002001	0.001	0.002001	$\frac{0.002001}{0.001} = 2.001$ $= 2 \times 1$ approx.
2	4	2.001	4.004001	0.001	0.004001	$\frac{0.004001}{0.001} = 4.001$ $= 2 \times 2$
3	9	3.001	9.006001	0.001	0.006001	$\frac{0.006001}{0.001} = 6.001$ $= 2 \times 3$

In general:  
for  $y = x^2$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$   
or  $\left( \frac{d}{dx} x^2 = 2x \right)$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x=1} = 2 \times 1 = 2 \\ \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x=2} = 2 \times 2 = 4 \\ \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x=3} = 2 \times 3 = 6 \end{array} \right.$

Again  
for  $y = x^3$

$x$	$y$	$x + \Delta x$	$y + \Delta y$	$\Delta x$	$\Delta y$	$\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$
1	1	1.001	1.003003	0.001	0.003003	$\frac{0.003003}{0.001} = 3.003$ $= 3 \times 1$ approx.
2	8	2.001	8.012006	0.001	0.012006	$\frac{0.012006}{0.001} = 12.006$ $= 3 \times 2^2$
3	27	3.001	27.027009	0.001	0.027009	$\frac{0.027009}{0.001} = 27.009$ $= 3 \times 3^2$

$y = x^3$   
 $\therefore$  Here  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$  or  $\left( \frac{d}{dx} x^3 = 3x^2 \right)$   $\left[ \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x=2} = 3 \times 2^2 = 12 \right]$  etc approx.



§2. Differentiation Formula:

1(i)  $\frac{d}{dx} x^n = n \cdot x^{n-1}$

or  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} y = x^n \\ \frac{dy}{dx} = n \cdot x^{n-1} \end{array} \right.$  or  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(x) = x^n \\ f'(x) = n \cdot x^{n-1} \end{array} \right.$

(ii)  $y = a \cdot f(x)$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = a \cdot f'(x)$

(iv)  $\frac{d}{dx} ax = a$

(iii)  $\frac{d}{dx} c = 0$  (c is a constant)

(Note: n is a positive integer.)  
(v)  $\frac{d}{dx} ax^n = a \cdot n \cdot x^{n-1}$

Example 1: Find the derivative of the following:

(i)  $y = x^5$   
 $\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 5x^4$

(ii)  $y = ax + b$   
 $\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = a$

(iii)  $y = 7x^3$   
 $\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = 7 \times 3x^2 = 21x^2$

(iv)  $y = 3x^7 + 5x^4 - 4x^3 + 9$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3 \times 7x^6 + 5 \times 4x^3 - 4 \times 3x^2 + 0$   
 $= 21x^6 + 20x^3 - 12x^2$

(v)  $f(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^6$  find  $f'(x)$  at  $x=2$

$f'(x) = \frac{3}{2} \times 6x^5 = 9x^5$

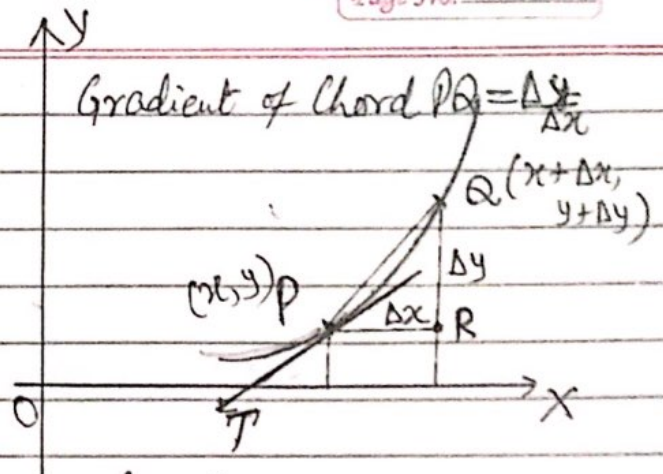
at  $x=2$ ,  $f'(2) = 9 \times 2^5 = 288 \checkmark$



§3. Geometric Meaning of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

Given a function  $y=f(x)$ .  
Then  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  or  $f'(x)$  denotes the

Gradient of the tangent to the curve  $y=f(x)$  at any point  $(x,y)$  on the curve.



When  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$   
 $\Delta y \rightarrow 0$

Chord PQ  $\rightarrow$  tangent 'PT' at P

$$f'(x) = \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

= Gradient of the tangent to curve at any point  $(x,y)$ .

§4. Gradient of line:

Given the equation of a line  $y = mx + c$

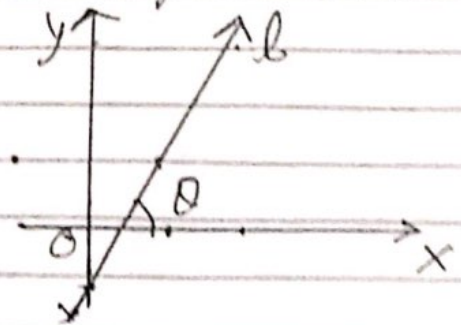
differentiating,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = m = \text{gradient of line.}$

Note: Case I. if  $m > 0$

Example  $y = 2x - 1$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 > 0$$

line is inclined at,  $0 < \theta < 90$   
an acute angle with x-axis.



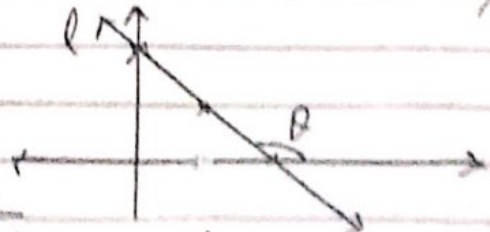
Case II if  $m < 0$ , line is inclined at an obtuse angle.

example

$$y = -x + 2$$

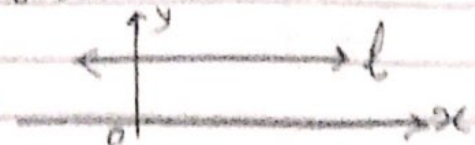
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -1$$

$$90 < \theta < 180.$$



Case III  $m = 0$ , line is parallel to x-axis.

Eqn of line  $y = 1$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$   
 $l \parallel x\text{-axis.}$





Example 2: Find the gradients of the following curves, at given points on the curve.

(i)  $y = 3x^2 - 5x + 7$  at  $(1, 5)$

Solution:

diff.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 6x - 5$   
 at  $(1, 5)$ .  $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=1} = 6 \times 1 - 5 = 1 \checkmark$

$\therefore$  Gradient of the tangent to the curve at  $(1, 5)$  is 1 ✓

(ii)  $y = x^3 - 3x^2 + 5x + 2$  at  $(2, 8)$

$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 6x + 5$   
 $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{(2,8)} = 3 \times 2^2 - 6 \times 2 + 5 = 5 \checkmark$

(iii)  $y = 5 + 3x - 3x^3$  at  $x = 1$

$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 + 3 - 3 \times 3x^2$   
 $= 3 - 9x^2$

$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=1} = 3 - 9 \times 1^2 = -6 \checkmark$

Example 3: Find the equation of tangent to the curve,

$y = x^2 + 1$  at  $(1, 2)$

$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$

Gradient of tangent  $m = \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{(1,2)} = 2 \times 1 = 2$

$\therefore$  Equation of tangent at  $(1, 2)$  } Equation of tangent at  $(x_1, y_1)$

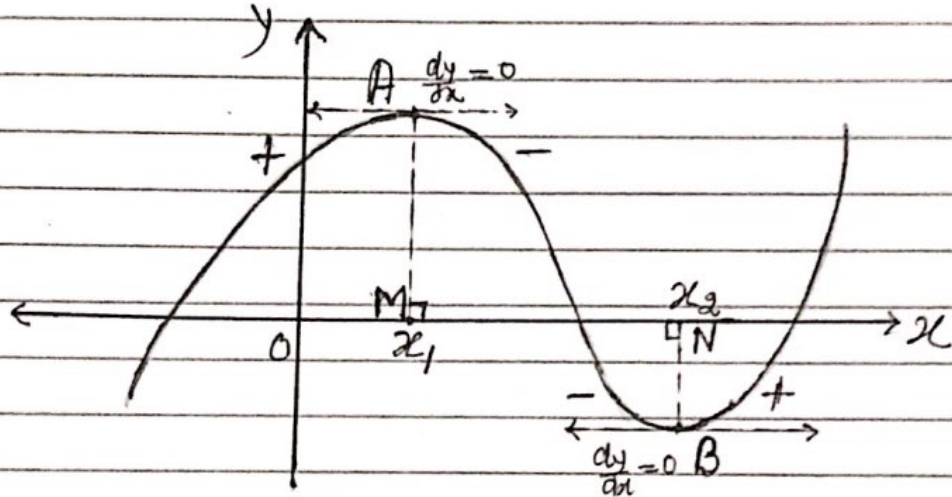
$y - 2 = 2(x - 1)$

or  $y = 2x$  ✓



Turning points (or Stationary points) and  
Maxima and minima:

Given a function:  $y = f(x)$



Let us observe the graph of the function  $y = f(x)$ .

The points A and B on the curve are called the turning points (or stationary points) or the points of maxima/minima.

- (i) Tangents to curve at A (and B) are parallel to x-axis.  
or gradient  $m = f'(x) = 0$
- (ii) Point A is maxima, gradient of the curve changes from +ve to -ve as we cross point A, from left to right.
- (iii) Point B is minimum, gradient of the curve changes from -ve to +ve as we cross the point B, from left to right.
- (iii) [If  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  does not change the sign, then no max/min (we have a point of inflexion)]
- (iv) To find the turning points on a curve  $y = f(x)$ , find  $f'(x)$  and solve  $f'(x) = 0$ .  
Let the solution (turning point) are  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  then test at  $x_1/x_2$  one by one the change in gradient.



Derived Functions.  
Turning points, Maxima/Minima

Example 4: A curve has equation  $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 16$

- (a) Find the coordinates of the two turning points. --- [6]
- (b) Determine whether each of the turning points is a maximum or a minimum, give reasons for your answers. [3]

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Solution: Given the equation of curve,

$$y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 16 \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

differentiating  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 12x \quad \text{---}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x(x-4) \quad \text{--- (ii)}$

for any turning point,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

from (ii)  $3x(x-4) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 0$  or  $x = 4 \quad \text{--- (iii)}$

from (i) Turning points  $(0, 16)$  and  $(4, -16)$  ✓

Testing for Max/Min:

(i) for point  $(0, 16)$

take a value  $x < 0$ , let  $-0.1$  put in (ii)

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=-0.1} = 3(-0.1)(-0.1-4) = 3 \times 0.1 \times 4.1 > 0$$

Again  $x > 0$ , let  $x = 0.1$

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=0.1} = 3(0.1)(0.1-4) = 3 \times 0.1 \times (-3.9) < 0$$

$\therefore$  At  $x = 0$  the gradient changes from + to - as we cross from left to right,  $\therefore$  Maxima at  $(0, 16)$  ✓

(ii) Now at  $(4, -16)$

Take  $x < 4$ , let  $x = 3.9$  put in (ii)

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=3.9} = 3 \times 3.9(3.9-4) = 3 \times 3.9(-0.1) < 0$$

Again  $x > 4$  let  $x = 4.1$  put in (ii)

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=4.1} = 3 \times 4.1(4.1-4) = 3 \times 4.1 \times 0.1 > 0$$

$\therefore$  At  $x = 4$  the gradient changes from -ve to +ve as we cross from left to right,  $\therefore$  Minima at  $(4, -16)$  ✓



Turning points, Maxima/minima / Point of Inflexion

Example 5: Find all the stationary points and hence determine whether at these points are max/min,  $f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 12x$

Solution: Given:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 12x \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

differentiating,  $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 12$   
or  $= 3(x^2 - 4x + 4)$

or  $f'(x) = 3(x-2)^2 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$

Now for turning point  $f'(x) = 0$

or  $3(x-2)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2 \checkmark$

Now To check Max/Min at  $x = 2$  from (ii)

take a point on the left of  $x = 2$ ,  $x = 1.9 \Rightarrow f'(1.9) = 3(1.9-2)^2 > 0$

Again point on the right of  $x = 2$ ,  $x = 2.1 \Rightarrow f'(2.1) = 3(2.1-2)^2 > 0$

Here we find that  $f'(x)$  does not change sign as we cross  $x = 2$  from left to right.

Hence  $x = 2$  is neither a maxima nor a minima.

It is a point of Inflexion.

Example 6: Given  $y = 2x^2 - 3x + 5$   
find the maxima / minima.

Solution  $y = 2x^2 - 3x + 5 \quad \text{--- (1)}$

diff.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \times 2x - 3 \times 1 = 4x - 3 = 4(x - \frac{3}{4}) \quad \text{--- (2)}$

for turning point  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow 4x - 3 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75$

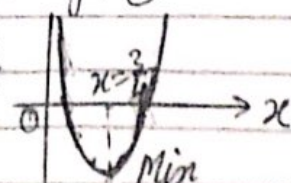
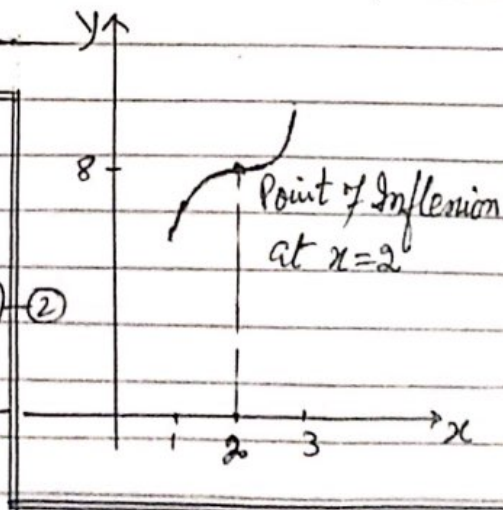
Check Max/Min at  $x = \frac{3}{4} = 0.75$

choose  $x < 0.75$  let  $x = 0.5$ ,  $(\frac{dy}{dx})_{x=0.5} = 4(0.5 - 0.75) < 0$  from (2)

Again  $x > 0.75$  let  $x = 1$ ,  $(\frac{dy}{dx})_{x=1} = 4(1 - 0.75) > 0$  from (2)

$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx}$  changes sign from -ve to + at  $x = \frac{3}{4}$

$\therefore$  There is Minima at  $x = \frac{3}{4} \checkmark$





Turning point (Stationary Point), Maxima/Minima.

Example 7: A curve has equation  $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x$ 

(a) Find the coordinates of two turning points. --- [6]

(b) Determine whether each of the turning points is a maximum or a minimum, Give reasons for your answers. --- [3]

(c) Find the maximum and the minimum values. --- [2]

Solution: Given  $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x$  --- (i)

(a) Differentiating,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 12x + 9$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3(x^2 - 4x + 3)$$

or  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3(x-1)(x-3)$  --- (ii)

For turning points  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow 3(x-1)(x-3) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x = 1, 3 \text{ are the turning pts.}$$

(b) Check at  $x=1$ ,

consider value  $\neq x$ ,  $x < 1$ , let  $x = 0.9$   
from (ii)  $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=0.9} = 3(0.9-1)(0.9-3) = + > 0$

and value  $\neq x$ ,  $x > 1$ , let  $x = 1.1$   
from (ii)  $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=1.1} = 3(1.1-1)(1.1-3) = - < 0$

 $\therefore$  at  $x=1$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  changes sign from + to -ve as crosses from left to right of  $x=1$ ,  $\therefore$  Max at  $x=1$  ✓Again at  $x=3$ :

consider  $x < 3$ , let  $x = 2.9$ , from (ii)  $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=2.9} = 3(2.9-1)(2.9-3) = -ve < 0$

and  $x > 3$ , let  $x = 3.1$ , from (ii)  $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=3.1} = 3(3.1-1)(3.1-3) = + > 0$

 $\therefore$  As we cross  $x=3$  from left to right  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  changes sign from -ve to +,  $\therefore$  Minimum at  $x=3$  ✓

(c) from (i)  $x=1$ ;  $y = 1 - 6 + 9 = 4$ ,  $\therefore$  Max. Value at  $x=1$  is  $= 4$  ✓

from (i) and for  $x=3$ ,  $y = 27 - 54 + 27 = 0$ ,  $\therefore$  at  $x=3$ , Min Value  $= 0$  ✓