

Section 2.4: Derivatives of Trigonometric Functions

Preliminary results:

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos \theta - 1}{\theta} = 0$$

We can prove from the definition of the derivative that

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) = \cos(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) = -\sin(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h}$$

$$* \sin(A+B) = \sin A \cos B + \sin B \cos A *$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x \cos h + \sin h \cos x - \sin x}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x (\cos h - 1) + \cos x \sin h}{h}$$

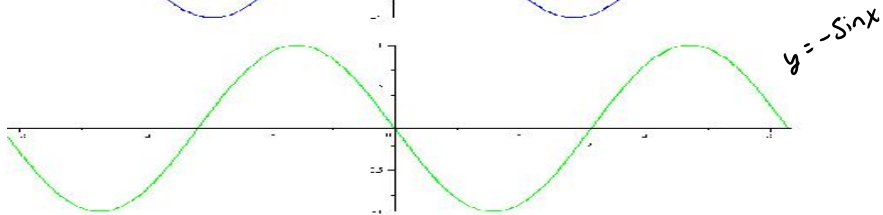
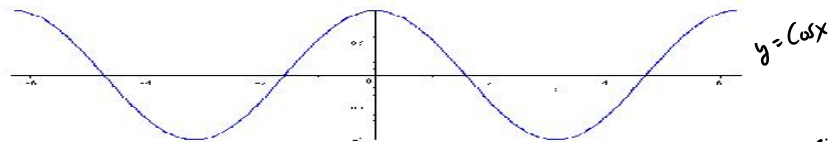
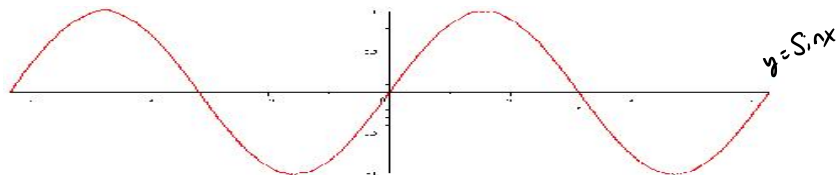
$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x (\cos h - 1)}{h} + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x \sin h}{h}$$

$$= \sin x \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos h - 1}{h} + \cos x \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h}{h}$$

$$= \sin x (0) + \cos x (1)$$

$$= \cos x$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x$$



Evaluate the derivative.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x + 4 \cos x) &= \cos x + 4(-\sin x) \\ &= \cos x - 4 \sin x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(b)} \quad \frac{d}{d\theta} \theta^4 \sin \theta = 4\theta^3 \sin \theta + \theta^4 \cos \theta$$

Use the fact that $\tan x = \sin x / \cos x$ to determine the derivative rule for the tangent.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan x = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right) = \frac{\cos x \cos x - (-\sin x) \sin x}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$= \frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$= \sec^2 x$$

Six Trig Function Derivatives

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x,$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cos x = -\sin x,$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan x = \sec^2 x,$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cot x = -\csc^2 x,$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sec x = \sec x \tan x,$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \csc x = -\csc x \cot x$$

Example

Find $\frac{dg}{dt}$.

$$g(t) = \sqrt{t} - 2 \cot t = t^{1/2} - 2 \cot t$$

$$g'(t) = \frac{1}{2} t^{-1/2} - 2(-\csc^2 t)$$

$$g'(t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} + 2 \csc^2 t$$

Example

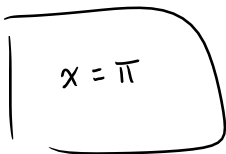
Find the equation of the line normal to the graph of $y = \sec x$ at the point $(\pi, -1)$.

Get slope of the tangent line:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sec x \tan x$$

Tangent line has slope $m = \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=\pi} = \sec \pi \tan \pi = 0$

The normal line is vertical.


$$x = \pi$$

Example

Use the limit identity $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} = 1$ to evaluate the indicated limit.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(2x)}{x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(2x)}{2x} \cdot 2 \\ &= 2 \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(2x)}{2x} \\ &= 2(1) = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 3x \csc(4x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x}{\sin(4x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin(4x)}{3x} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{1}{3} \frac{\sin(4x)}{x} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{4}{3} \frac{\sin(4x)}{4x} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left(\frac{4}{3} \cdot 1 \right)^{-1} = \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Section 2.5: The Chain Rule

Suppose we wish to find the derivative of $f(x) = (x^2 + 2)^2$.

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

$$f'(x) = 4x^3 + 8x$$

Now suppose we want to differentiate $g(x) = (x^2 + 2)^{10}$. How about $F(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 2}$?

Example of Compositions

Find functions $f(u)$ and $g(x)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \sqrt{x^2 + 2} = (f \circ g)(x). \\ &= f(g(x)) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(u) = \sqrt{u}$$

$$g(x) = x^2 + 2$$

Check:

$$f(g(x)) = f(x^2 + 2)$$

$$= \sqrt{x^2 + 2}$$

$$= F(x) \quad \checkmark$$

Example of Compositions

Find functions $f(u)$ and $g(x)$ such that

$$F(x) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) = (f \circ g)(x).$$

$$f(u) = \cos(u)$$

$$g(x) = \frac{\pi}{2}x$$

Check:

$$f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right)$$

$$= \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}x\right) .$$

$$= F(x) \quad \checkmark$$

Theorem: Chain Rule

Suppose g is differentiable at x and f is differentiable at $g(x)$. Then the composite function

$$F = f \circ g$$

is differentiable at x and

$$\frac{d}{dx} F(x) = \frac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

In Leibniz notation: if $y = f(u)$ and $u = g(x)$, then

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx}.$$

Example

Determine any inside and outside functions and find the derivative.

$$(a) \quad F(x) = \sin^2 x = (\sin x)^2$$

$$F'(x) = f'(g(x)) g'(x)$$

$$= 2 \sin x \cos x$$

$$f(u) = u^2$$

$$g(x) = \sin x$$

$$f'(u) = 2u$$

$$g'(x) = \cos x$$