QMI Lesson 7: Some Differentiation Rules

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- The Sum Rule
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First, we'll go over each rule and its proof. Then we'll move on to examples.

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The Derivative of a Constant

Theorem (The Derivative of a Constant)

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$$\frac{d}{dx}[c]=0.$$

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Proof:

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Proof :

Theorem (The Derivative of a Constant Multiple of a Function)

For any $c \in \mathbb{R}$, we have

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)].$$

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Theorem (The Derivative of a Constant Multiple of a Function)

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Proof:
$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] \stackrel{g(x)=cf(x)}{=} \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{g(x+h)-g(x)}{h} \stackrel{g(x)=cf(x)}{=} \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h)-cf(x)}{h} =$$

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The Sum Rule

Theorem (The Sum Rule)

If f and g are functions, then we have



If f and g are functions, then we have

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)\pm g(x)]=\frac{d}{dx}f(x)\pm \frac{d}{dx}g(x)$$

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Proof:

If f and g are functions, then we have

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Proof: $\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \pm g(x)] =$

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$$\begin{aligned} Proof: \ \frac{d}{dx}[f(x) \pm g(x)] &= \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h) \pm g(x+h) - f(x) \mp g(x)}{h} = \\ \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \pm \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} = \frac{d}{dx}f(x) \pm \frac{d}{dx}g(x). \end{aligned}$$

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If f and g are functions, then we have



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$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)g(x)] = f(x)\frac{d}{dx}g(x) + g(x)\frac{d}{dx}f(x) =$$

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If f and g are functions, then we have

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)g(x)] = f(x)\frac{d}{dx}g(x) + g(x)\frac{d}{dx}f(x) = f(x)g'(x) + g(x)f'(x).$$

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Proof:

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If f and g are functions, then we have

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$$Proof: \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)g(x)] = \lim_{\substack{h \to 0}} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} = \\\lim_{\substack{h \to 0}} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) + f(x)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} = \\\lim_{\substack{h \to 0}} \frac{g(x+h)[f(x+h) - f(x)]}{h} + \lim_{\substack{h \to 0}} \frac{f(x)[g(x+h) - g(x)]}{h} = \\g(x)f'(x) + f(x)g'(x) = \end{aligned}$$

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If f and g are functions, then we have $\frac{d}{dx}[(f/g)(x)] =$

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$$\frac{g(x)\frac{d}{dx}f(x)-f(x)\frac{d}{dx}g(x)}{[g(x)]^2} =$$

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Proof:

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$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Proof:} \ \frac{(f/g)(x-h)-(f/g)(x)}{h} = \frac{1}{g(x+h)(g(x))} \cdot \frac{f(x+h)g(x)-f(x)g(x+h)}{h} = \\ \frac{1}{g(x+h)(g(x))} \cdot \frac{f(x+h)g(x)+f(x)g(x)-f(x)g(x)-f(x)g(x+h)}{h} = \\ \end{array}$$

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If f and g are functions, then we have $\frac{d}{dx}[(f/g)(x)] =$

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Proof:
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 And passing through the limit on both sides of the equality proves the theorem.

Looking at the graph of a constant function, it's clear that the slope is *always* flat, i.e. 0.

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Looking at the graph of a constant function, it's clear that the slope is *always* flat, i.e. 0. Here, f(x) = 2.5 and f'(x) = 0.

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$$y(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \implies y'(x) = -\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}-1} = -\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{3}{2}} = -\frac{1}{2x^{\frac{3}{2}}}.$$

Examples: Constant Multiple of a Function

Find the derivative of the following functions.

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Find the derivative of the following functions.

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$$f(x) = \frac{5}{x^2} \implies$$

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$$f(x) = \frac{5}{x^2} \implies f'(x) =$$

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$$f(x) = 3x^4 \implies$$

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• $f(x) = 3x^4 \implies f'(x) = 3 \cdot (4x^{4-1}) = 12x^3.$

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$$f(x) = -\frac{1}{x} - 3x^2 \implies f'(x) = -\frac{d}{dx} [\frac{1}{x}] - \frac{d}{dx} [3x^2] = -(-1 \cdot x^{-1-1}) - 3 \cdot (2x^{2-1}) =$$

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• $f(x) = 3 + 8x - 2x^2 \implies$

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• $f(x) = 3 + 8x - 2x^2 \implies f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} 3 + \frac{d}{dx} [8x] - \frac{d}{dx} [2x^2] = 0 + 8(1x^{1-1}) - 2(2x^{2-1}) =$

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Jim's Fisheries is trying to increase the number of fish they can farm through a breeding program over the next few years. The population of fish Jim's Fisheries can farm after the breeding program has been implemented is given by (*t* in months)

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$$P(t) = 2t^4 - t^3 - t + 250 \quad (0 \le t \le 8).$$

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$$P(t) = 2t^4 - t^3 - t + 250 \quad (0 \le t \le 8).$$

What is the rate of change in the population after 2 months? 6 months? What is the final population after implementation of the breeding program?





$$P'(t) = \frac{d}{dx}[2t^4 - t^3 - t + 250] = 8t^3 - 3t^2 - 1.$$

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This means that P'(2) = 51 and

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And the final population is P(8) =
To find the rate of change, we calculate

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For example, if we used this incorrect rule, we would calculate for $h(x) = x^2(\sqrt{x} - 3x)$ that



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But, we know this is wrong since we already calculated

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Always check to make sure that factors cannot be cancelled!
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Then, $h'(x) = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2} = \frac{(x^3-1)(-\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}) - (-\sqrt{x})(3x^2)}{(x^3-1)^2} =$

•
$$h(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1}$$
. We'll let $f(x) = x$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 1$. Then,
 $h'(x) = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2} = \frac{(x^2+1)(1) - (x)(2x)}{[x^2+1]^2} = \frac{1-x^2}{(x^2+1)^2}$.
Always check to make sure that factors cannot be cancelled!
• $h(x) = -\frac{\sqrt{x}}{x^3-1}$. We'll let $f(x) = -\sqrt{x}$ & $g(x) = x^3 - 1$.
Then, $h'(x) = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2} = \frac{(x^3-1)(-\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}) - (-\sqrt{x})(3x^2)}{(x^3-1)^2} = \frac{-\frac{1}{2}x^{\frac{5}{2}} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{\frac{5}{2}}}{(x^3-1)^2} =$

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Find the derivative of the following functions.

$$h(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1}. \text{ We'll let } f(x) = x \text{ and } g(x) = x^2 + 1. \text{ Then,} h'(x) = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2} = \frac{(x^2+1)(1) - (x)(2x)}{[x^2+1]^2} = \frac{1-x^2}{(x^2+1)^2}. \\ \text{Always check to make sure that factors cannot be cancelled!} \\ h(x) = -\frac{\sqrt{x}}{x^3-1}. \text{ We'll let } f(x) = -\sqrt{x} \& g(x) = x^3 - 1. \\ \text{Then, } h'(x) = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2} = \frac{(x^3-1)(-\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}) - (-\sqrt{x})(3x^2)}{(x^3-1)^2} = \frac{-\frac{1}{2}x^{\frac{5}{2}} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{\frac{5}{2}}}{(x^3-1)^2} = \frac{x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 5x^{\frac{5}{2}}}{2(x^3-1)^2} = \frac{1+5x^3}{2\sqrt{x}(x^3-1)^2}.$$

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Be careful!





Be careful!

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right] \neq \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$

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Be careful!

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right] \neq \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$

For instance, if we used this incorrect rule, we would calculate for $h(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1}$ that $h'(x) = \frac{1}{2x}$,

but we know this is wrong since we already calculated

$$h(x) = \frac{1-x^2}{(x^2+1)^2}.$$

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Read 3.3-3.4. Do problems 28, 31, 36, 38, 42, 50, 70, 78 in 3.1 and 12, 26, 42, 62, 68 in 3.2.

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