

Derivatives

Def. (alternative) The derivative of f at the number a is

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

equivalence with
*check other def by
letting $x = a+h$

Ex. Find derivative using only the definition.

1) $f(x) = 3x + 1$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x+h) + 1 - (3x + 1)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x + 3h - 3x + 1 - 1}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3h}{h} = 3$$

2) $f(x) = \sqrt{4+x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+x+h} - \sqrt{4+x}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+x+h} - \sqrt{4+x}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4+x+h} + \sqrt{4+x}}{\sqrt{4+x+h} + \sqrt{4+x}} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4+x+h - (4+x)}{h(\sqrt{4+x+h} + \sqrt{4+x})} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{4+x+h} + \sqrt{4+x})} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+x} + \sqrt{4+x}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{4+x}} \end{aligned}$$

Ex. Suppose a billiard ball is dropped from height 100ft. Its height s at time t is given by

$$s = -16t^2 + 100$$

The ball hits the ground when $s = 0 = -16t^2 + 100$

$$16t^2 = 100$$

$$t^2 = \frac{100}{16}$$

$$t = \pm \frac{10}{4} = \pm \frac{5}{2} \rightarrow \frac{5}{2} \text{ (since time should be positive)}$$

average velocity of ball on time interval $[1, 2]$ is $\frac{s(2) - s(1)}{2-1} = \frac{36 - 84}{2} = -48 \text{ ft/sec}$

$$[1, 1.5] \text{ is } \frac{64 - 84}{0.5} = -40 \text{ ft/sec}$$

$$[1, 1.1] \text{ is } \frac{80.64 - 84}{0.1} = -33.6 \text{ ft/sec}$$

instantaneous velocity at $t=1$ is $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(1+h) - s(1)}{h} = s'(1)$

$$\begin{aligned} s'(1) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-16(1+h)^2 + 100 - (-16(1)^2 + 100)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-16(1+2h+h^2) - 16}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-32h - 16h^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -32 - 16h \end{aligned}$$

$$= -32$$