

## Chapter 3: Derivatives

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## Calculus Inspiration

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- GeometricAlgebra
- GeometricCalculus
- Relativity and Electron Theory
- Oersted Medal (2002)
- Cognitive Research in Science Education


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## Geometric Algebras



Figure 7-2: Rotation of the vector $\mathbf{x}$ through the rotor ba. The bivector part of the rotor (strong yellow) represents the plane of rotation, and the angle between the two vectors is half the rotation angle.

## Symbolic Geometry



## Polynomial Derivatives: <br> EXERCISES: <br> 1) Drag a, b, c, d and e to produce $x$-axis crossings of 0,2 and 4 roots. <br> 2) When the derivative is zero, what happens to the original polynomial? <br> 3) Take turns setting a - e to zero to reproduce lower order polynomials. <br> 4) What happens to the derivative? <br> $$
\begin{aligned} & Y=a+X \cdot b+X^{2} \cdot c+X^{3} \cdot d+X^{4} \cdot e \\ & Y^{\prime}=b+2 \cdot c \cdot X+3 \cdot d \cdot X^{2}+4 \cdot e \cdot X^{3} \end{aligned}
$$ <br> 

## Polar Derivatives Of Polar Functions

To find the derivative $d r / d \boldsymbol{\theta}$ of a curve $\boldsymbol{r}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ we differentiate the curve in the usual fashion:

1) Consider a polynomial where the radius $\boldsymbol{r}$ is a function of the angle $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ :

$$
r(\theta)=a \theta^{0}+b \theta^{1}+c \theta^{2}+d \theta^{3}+e \theta^{4}
$$

2) We rewrite this to obtain the familiar looking form:

$$
r(\theta)=a \quad+b \theta+c \theta^{2}+d \theta^{3}+e \theta^{4}
$$

3) And differentiate in the usual fashion to obtain:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r^{\prime}(\theta)=0 \quad+b+2 c \theta^{1}+3 d \theta^{2}+4 e \theta^{3} \\
& r^{\prime}(\theta)=\quad b+2 c \theta+3 d \theta^{2}+4 e \theta^{3}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Polynomial Derivatives:

## EXERCISES:

1) Take turns setting a - e to zero to reproduce lower order polynomials.
2) What happens to the derivative?
3) Write an expression for the slope of the

## Rule:

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{~d} x} k \cdot \theta^{n}=k \cdot n \cdot \theta^{n-1}
$$ line tangent to the original curve.



Lecture 12 -Derivatives of Common Functions

## APPROXIMATION OF FUNCTIONS

It is often convenient to approximate one function using another function. When we are approximating a function in a neighborhood of the origin, the Maclaurin series is often used:

$$
f(x) \approx f(0)+f^{\prime}(0) \cdot x+\frac{f^{\prime \prime}(0)}{2!} \cdot x^{2}+\frac{f^{\prime \prime \prime}(0)}{3!} \cdot x^{3}+\ldots
$$

The series goes on, but when we are approximating a function with a polynomial of degree n , we know that there are only n non-zero derivatives, so we neglect the higher order terms.

Let's approximate the function $a+\sin (x)$ using the Maclaurin series:

$$
\begin{aligned}
a+\sin (x) & \approx a+\sin (0)+\cos (0) \cdot x+\frac{-\sin (0)}{2!} \cdot x^{2}+\frac{-\cos (0)}{3!} \cdot x^{3}+\ldots \\
& \approx a+0 \quad x+\quad 0 \quad+\frac{-1}{6} \cdot x^{3}+\ldots
\end{aligned}
$$



## Derivative of Sine:

## EXERCISES:

1) What do the parameters $A, b, \omega$ and $\phi$ control in the sine function?
2) Drag the control point for ( $-\phi, b$ ).
3) Why doesn't the derivative curve move up and down?.
4) Why does - $\phi$ make a better control than $\phi$ ?
5) Drag the control point for ( $1 / \omega, \mathrm{A}$ ). Why does $1 / \omega$ make a better control than $\omega$ ?
6) Revise the example to demonstrate the cosine and its derivative.


## Derivative of Sine In Polar Coordinates:

## EXERCISES:

1) What do the parameters $A, b, \omega$ and $\phi$ control in the polar sine function?
2) Drag the control point for ( $-\phi, b$ ).
3) Drag the control point for $(1 / \omega, A)$.
4) Revise the example for cosine and its derivative in polar coordinates.


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## Derivative of Tangent:

## 




## EXERCISES:

1) What do the parameters $A, b, \omega$ and $\phi$ control in the tangent function?
2) Why doesn't the derivative curve move up and down when $b$ is changed?
3) Drag the controls for $(-\phi, b)$ and ( $1 / \omega, A$ ).
4) Revise the example to demonstrate the cotangent and derivative.
5) For what values does the function make a good approximation to its derivative?



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## Derivative of Inverse Sine:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag A and notice how the function and derivative change.
2) Rewrite the equations with $\mathrm{A}=1$.
3) Revise the example to demonstrate the inverse cosine and derivative.

Lecture12-DerivArcSin.gx



## Derivative of Inverse Tangent:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag A and notice how the space formed by the grid is warped.
2) How would you address a coordinate system in this space?
3) Rewrite the equations with $\mathrm{A}=1$.
4) What are the faint horizontal gray lines?
5) What are the faint vertical orange lines?


## Derivative of Polar Inverse Tangent:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag A and notice how the function and derivative change.
2) Rewrite the equations with $\mathrm{A}=1$.
3) What is the equation for the faint gray circle? Check your work with View $\rightarrow$ Show All
4) Double-click the function and change its start and end angle to -20 and +20 , respectively.
What happens?



## Cartesian Derivatives Of Polar Functions

To find the slope $d y / d x$ of the line tangent to a curve $\boldsymbol{r}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ we follow a three step process:

1) Use the Cartesian coordinate system conversion:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x=r(\theta) \cos \theta \\
& y=r(\theta) \sin \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

2) Differentiate both equations against $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& d x / d \theta=r^{\prime}(\theta) \cos \theta-r(\theta) \sin \theta \\
& d y / d \theta=r^{\prime}(\theta) \sin \theta+r(\theta) \cos \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

3) Divide the second equation by the first to obtain $d y / d x=$
$r r^{\prime}(\theta) \sin \theta+r(\theta) \cos \theta$

$$
r^{\prime}(\theta) \cos \theta-r(\theta) \sin \theta
$$

## Cartesian Derivative Of Cochleoid

Here we use wxMaxima ${ }^{\text {™ }}$ to find the slope of the cochleoid - the polar sinc function:

```
(\%il) \(r(t):=\sin \left(a^{*} t\right) /(a * t) \$\)
(\%i2) \(x(t):=r(t) * \cos (t) \$\)
(\%i3) \(y(t):=r(t) * \sin (t) \$\)
(\%i4) tangent(t):=diff(y (t), t)/diff(x (t), t) \$
(\%i5) radcan(tangent (t));
(\%05) \(\frac{(\sin (t)-t \cos (t)) \sin (a t)-a t \sin (t) \cos (a t)}{(t \sin (t)+\cos (t)) \sin (a t)-a t \cos (t) \cos (a t)}\)
```

Note that \$ at the end of a line suppresses output, and that radcan simplifies the expression.

## Cochleoid Function:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag $r$ and notice how its value changes as a function of $\theta$.
2) How is the slope of the blue tangent line calculated? Check your answer with View $\rightarrow$ Show All.
3) Unlock a, drag it, and notice how the

Lecture12-CochleoidTangent.gx

Polar Form:

$$
r:=\frac{\sin (a \theta)}{a \theta}
$$



Lecture 12 -Derivatives of Common Functions



Lecture 12 -Derivatives of Common Functions

## Derivative of

## Polar Hyperbolic Sine:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag the control point for A.
2) Write the polar equation for the hyperbolic sine.
3) Revise the example to demonstrate the polar hyperbolic cosine and its derivative.


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## Derivative of

## Polar Hyperbolic Sine:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag the control point for $A$.
2) Write the polar equation for the hyperbolic tangent in terms of exponentials.
3) Double-click on the function and change Start to -10. How does this change the curve display? Repeat with the derivative.
4) Revise the example to demonstrate the
polar hyperbolic cotangent and its derivative.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& r=A \cdot \tanh (T) \\
& r^{\prime}=\frac{A}{\cosh (T)^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Derivative of Exponential \& Logarithm:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag the control point for ( $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{a}$ ) in a circle around the origin.
2) For what values of a are the exponential curve and its derivative curve identical?
3) Prove the exponential and logarithm curves are inverses.
4) Use the property of logarithms: $(\log (a b)=\log (a)+\log (b))$
to show that $\log (2 x)$ has the same as the derivative of $\log (x)$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& Y=A \cdot \exp (X \cdot a) \\
& Y^{\prime}=A \cdot a \cdot \exp (X \cdot a)
\end{aligned}
$$

Lecture 12 -Derivatives of Common Functions

## Derivative of nth Root Functions:

## EXERCISES:

1) Drag the control point for ( $0, n$ ) up and down past the origin.
2) For what values of $n$ do the root curve and its derivative curves also appear to be inverses?
3) Set $\mathrm{n}=2$. What famous function and its derivative does this represent?


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