

For a point of inflection:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$\therefore 6x - 6 = 0$$

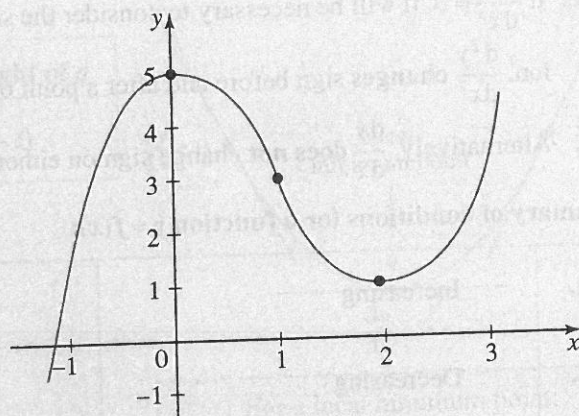
$$6x = 6$$

$$x = 1$$

$$x = 1; \quad y = (1)^3 - 3(1)^2 + 5 = 3$$

\therefore point of inflection is (1, 3)

$$\text{Check: } \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = 6 \neq 0.$$



Example ▼

Let $f(x) = xe^{-ax}$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$, a constant and $a > 0$.

Show that $f(x)$ has a local maximum and express the coordinates of this local maximum point in terms of a .

Find, in terms of a , the coordinates of the point at which the second derivative of $f(x)$ is zero.

Solution:

For a maximum: 1. $f'(x) = 0$ and 2. $f''(x) < 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= xe^{-ax} \\ f'(x) &= x(e^{-ax})(-a) + e^{-ax}(1) \\ &= -axe^{-ax} + e^{-ax} \\ &= e^{-ax}(1 - ax) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 0 \\ e^{-ax}(1 - ax) &= 0 \\ \therefore 1 - ax &= 0 \\ ax &= 1 \\ x &= \frac{1}{a} \end{aligned}$$

Note: $e^{-ax} \neq 0$ for any value of x .

$$\begin{aligned} f''(x) &= e^{-ax}(-a) + (1 - ax)(e^{-ax})(-a) \\ &= -ae^{-ax} - ae^{-ax} + a^2xe^{-ax} \\ &= ae^{-ax}(-1 - 1 + ax) \\ &= ae^{-ax}(ax - 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f''\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) &= ae^{-a(1/a)} \left[a\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) - 2 \right] \\ &= ae^{-1}(1 - 2) \\ &= -ae^{-1} \\ &= -\frac{a}{e} < 0 \quad (\text{as } a > 0) \end{aligned}$$

\therefore local maximum occurs at $x = \frac{1}{a}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= xe^{-ax} \\ f\left(\frac{1}{a}\right) &= \frac{1}{a} e^{-a(1/a)} = \frac{1}{a} e^{-1} = \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{e} = \frac{1}{ae} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the coordinates of the local maximum point are $\left(\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{ae}\right)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f''(x) &= 0 \\
 ae^{-ax}(ax - 2) &= 0 \\
 ax - 2 &= 0 \\
 ax &= 2 \\
 x &= \frac{2}{a}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note: $ae^{-ax} \neq 0$ for any value of x .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= xe^{-ax} \\
 f\left(\frac{2}{a}\right) &= \frac{2}{a} e^{-a(2/a)} \\
 &= \frac{2}{a} e^{-2} \\
 &= \frac{2}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{e^2} \\
 &= \frac{2}{ae^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the coordinates of the point at which $f''(x) = 0$ are $\left(\frac{2}{a}, \frac{2}{ae^2}\right)$.

Exercise 13.3 ▼

Find the coordinates of the turning point of each of the following functions and determine if each turning point is a local maximum or local minimum:

1. $y = x^2 - 2x + 5$

2. $y = 3x^2 + 6x - 5$

3. $y = 1 - 12x - 2x^2$

Find the coordinates of the local maximum point, the local minimum point and the point of inflection of each of the following functions. Draw a rough graph of the function in each case:

4. $y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x - 5$

5. $y = 12x - x^3$

6. $y = x^3 - 9x^2 + 15x + 10$

7. $y = 2 - 3x^2 - x^3$

8. Let $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$, $x \neq 0$. Find the coordinates of the local maximum and the local minimum of $f(x)$.

Verify that $f(x)$ has no points of inflection.

9. If $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^3$, find the coordinates of any points of inflection.

10. $f(x) = x^4 - 2x^2$. Verify that $f(x)$ has one local maximum and two local minimum points, and calculate the coordinates of these points.

Find the coordinates of the two points of inflection of $f(x)$.

11. Let $f(x) = \frac{4x - 3}{x^2 + 1}$.

Calculate the coordinates of the local maximum point and the local minimum point of $f(x)$.

Find the coordinates of any turning points of each of the following and determine whether they are local maximum points or local minimum points:

12. $y = x \ln x - 2x$, $x > 0$

13. $y = \frac{\ln x}{x}$, $x > 0$

14. $y = e^{x^2}$

15. $y = xe^x$

16. $y = x^2 e^{-x}$

17. $y = (1 - \ln x)^2$, $x > 0$.

18. Let $f(x) = xe^{-x}$. Find (i) $f'(x)$ and (ii) $f''(x)$.
Find the coordinates of the turning point and determine if it is a maximum or a minimum.
Find the coordinates of the point of inflection.
19. Let $x + y = 13$, where $x, y > 0$.
If $A = 2x + 3y + xy$, write A as a quadratic in x .
Calculate the maximum value of A .
20. Let $x + y = 12$, where $x, y > 0$.
If $A = x^2 + y^2$, calculate the minimum value of A .
21. Given that the curve $y = ax^2 + 12x + 1$ has a turning point at $x = 2$, calculate the value of a .
Is the point a maximum or a minimum?
22. The curve $y = px^2 + qx + r$ has a maximum turning point at $(2, 18)$.
If $(0, 10)$ is a point on the curve, find the value of p, q and r .
23. The curve $y = e^x(px^2 + q)$ has a local minimum point at $(1, -4e)$.
Find the value of p and the value of q .
24. Given that $y = e^{2x} \cos 2x$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$.
Verify that $e^{2x} \cos 2x$ has a maximum value at $x = \frac{\pi}{8}$ and write down this maximum value.
25. $y = e^{2x} - 2e^x$ have one turning point. Find its coordinates.
Determine if it is a local maximum or a local minimum point.
26. Let $f(x) = e^{2x} - ae^x$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and a a constant, $a > 0$.
Show that $f(x)$ has a local minimum at a point $(b, f(b))$, specifying the value of b in terms of a .
27. Let $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$, $a \neq 0$. Verify $\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} \neq 0$.
If $b^2 = 3ac$, show that $f(x)$ has only one turning point.
28. Let $f(x) = 2x^3 - kx^2 + \frac{10k^3}{27}$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and $k > 0$.
Find the coordinates of the local minimum and the local maximum points, in terms of k .

Asymptotes

An 'asymptote' is a straight line that a curve approaches but never meets.

On our course we will meet two types of asymptote:

1. Vertical asymptote

2. Horizontal asymptote

A **rational function** is a function of the form $f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$.

The rational functions on our course are ones of the form:

1. $f(x) = \frac{a}{x+b}$

2. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+b}$

Properties of these rational functions:

1. They have no turning points or points of inflection.
2. They are always increasing or decreasing.
3. Vertical asymptote: Bottom = 0, i.e. $x + b = 0$ or $x = -b$.
4. Horizontal asymptote: $y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$.

Example ▼

Let $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$, $x \neq 3$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

- (i) Show that $f(x)$ has no turning points and that it is decreasing for all $x \neq 3$, in its domain.
- (ii) Show that the curve $f(x)$ has no points of inflection.
- (iii) Find the equations of the asymptotes of the curve $f(x)$.
- (iv) Draw a sketch of the curve $f(x)$.
- (v) Find how x_1 and x_2 are related if the tangents at $(x_1, f(x_1))$ and $(x_2, f(x_2))$ are parallel and $x_1 \neq x_2$.

Solution:

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad f'(x) &= \frac{(x-3)(1) - (x)(1)}{(x-3)^2} && \text{(quotient rule)} \\ &= \frac{x-3-x}{(x-3)^2} \\ &= \frac{-3}{(x-3)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{-3}{(x-3)^2} < 0 \quad \text{for all } x \neq 3$$

(as top is always negative and bottom is always positive).

Thus, the curve has no stationary points and is decreasing for all $x \neq 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad f''(x) &= \frac{-3}{(x-3)^2} = -3(x-3)^{-2} \\ f''(x) &= (-2)(-3)(x-3)^{-3}(1) && \text{(chain rule)} \\ &= 6(x-3)^{-3} \\ &= \frac{6}{(x-3)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$f''(x) = 0 \quad \text{(for a point of inflection)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{6}{(x-3)^3} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 6 = 0 \quad \text{(not true)}$$

Thus, $f''(x) \neq 0$

\therefore No points of inflexion.

(iii) $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$

Vertical asymptote:

$$\text{Bottom} = 0$$

$$x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = 3$$

Horizontal asymptote:

$$y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$$

$$y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{x-3}$$

$$y = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{3}{x}}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{1-0}$$

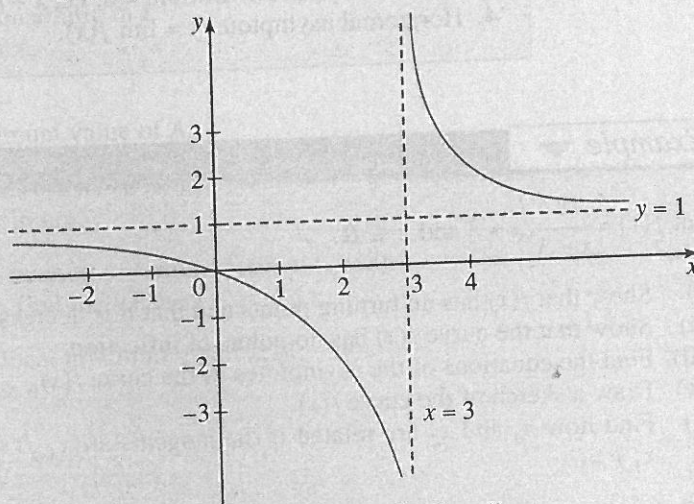
$$y = 1$$

(iv) For the graph, $y = f(x)$.

When $x = 0$, $y = 0$,

thus, the point $(0, 0)$ is on the curve.

Sketch:



The asymptotes are shown by the broken lines.

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

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=x_1} = \frac{-3}{(x_1-3)^2}$$

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=x_2} = \frac{-3}{(x_2-3)^2}$$

Parallel tangents

$$\frac{-3}{(x_1-3)^2} = \frac{-3}{(x_2-3)^2}$$

$$(x_1-3)^2 = (x_2-3)^2$$

$$(x_1-3) = \pm(x_2-3)$$

$$x_1-3 = x_2-3 \quad \text{or} \quad x_1-3 = -(x_2-3)$$

$$x_1 = x_2 \quad \text{or} \quad x_1 + x_2 = 6$$

$$\text{Thus, } x_1 + x_2 = 6 \quad [\text{as } x_1 \neq x_2]$$

Exercise 13.4

In each case, find the equations of the asymptotes of the graph of $f(x)$:

1. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+2}$

2. $f(x) = \frac{4}{x-5}$

3. $f(x) = \frac{3}{x}$

4. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-3}$

5. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$, where $x \in \mathbf{R}, x \neq -1$.

(i) Find the horizontal and vertical asymptotes of $y = f(x)$.

(ii) Show that $y = f(x)$ has no stationary points, and that it is increasing for all $x \neq -1$.

(iii) Draw a rough sketch of the curve $y = f(x)$.

6. $f(x) = \frac{2}{x-3}$, where $x \in \mathbf{R}, x \neq 3$.

- (i) Show that $f(x)$ has no turning points and that it is decreasing for all $x \neq 3$, in its domain.
- (ii) Show that the curve $f(x)$ has no points of inflection.
- (iii) Find the equations of the asymptotes of the curve $f(x)$.
- (iv) Draw a sketch of the curve $f(x)$.
- (v) Find how x_1 and x_2 are related if the tangents at $(x_1, f(x_1))$ and $(x_2, f(x_2))$ are parallel and $x_1 \neq x_2$.

7. $f(x) = \frac{4}{x+2}$, where $x \in \mathbf{R}, x \neq -2$.

- (i) Find the equations of the asymptotes of $f(x)$.
- (ii) Draw a sketch of the curve of $f(x)$.
- (iii) Show that the curve of $f(x)$ is always decreasing and has no points of inflection.
- (iv) $x + y = 2$ is a tangent to the curve at the point $(0, 2)$. Find the point of tangency of the other tangent parallel to $x + y = 2$.

8. $f(x) = \frac{2}{x-2}$, where $x \in \mathbf{R}, x \neq 2$.

- (i) Find the equations of the asymptotes of the graph of $f(x)$.
- (ii) Prove that the graph of $f(x)$ has no turning points or points of inflection.
- (iii) If the tangents to the curve at $x = x_1$ and $x = x_2$ are parallel and if $x_1 \neq x_2$, show that $x_1 + x_2 - 4 = 0$.

9. $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+4}$, $x \in \mathbf{R}$ and $x \neq -4$.

- (i) Find the equations of the asymptotes of the graph of $f(x)$.
- (ii) Prove that the graph of $f(x)$ has no turning points or points of inflection.
- (iii) Find the range of values of x for which $f'(x) \leq 1$, where $f'(x)$ is the derivative of $f(x)$.

Rates of Change I

Displacement (position), Velocity and Acceleration

The derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is called the 'rate of change of y with respect to x '.

It shows how changes in y are related to changes in x .

If $\frac{dy}{dx} = 5$, then y is increasing 5 times as fast as x increases.

If $\frac{dy}{dx} = -3$, then y decreases 3 times as fast as x increases.

In mechanics, for example, letters other than x and y are used.

If s denotes the displacement (position) of a particle from a fixed point, at time t , then:

1. Velocity $= v = \frac{ds}{dt}$,
the rate of change of position with respect to time.
2. Acceleration $= a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2}$,
the rate of change of velocity with respect to time.

Example ▼

A particle moves along a straight line such that, after t seconds, the distance moved, s metres, is given by $s = t^3 - 9t^2 + 15t - 3$. Find:

- (i) the velocity and acceleration of the particle, in terms of t
- (ii) the values of t when its velocity is zero
- (iii) the acceleration after $3\frac{1}{2}$ seconds
- (iv) the time at which the acceleration is 6 m/s^2 , and the velocity at this time.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{(i)} \quad s &= t^3 - 9t^2 + 15t - 3 \\ v &= \frac{ds}{dt} = 3t^2 - 18t + 15 \\ a &= \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 6t - 18\end{aligned}$$

(velocity at any time t)

(acceleration at any time t)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{(ii)} \quad \text{Velocity} &= 0 \\ \therefore \frac{ds}{dt} &= 0 \\ 3t^2 - 18t + 15 &= 0 \\ t^2 - 6t + 5 &= 0 \\ (t-1)(t-5) &= 0 \\ t &= 1 \quad \text{or} \quad t = 5\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the particle is stopped after 1 second and again after 5 seconds.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{(iv)} \quad \text{acceleration} &= 6 \text{ m/s}^2 \\ \therefore \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} &= 6 \\ \therefore 6t - 18 &= 6 \\ 6t &= 24 \\ t &= 4\end{aligned}$$

After 4 seconds the acceleration is 6 m/s^2 .

$$\text{(iii)} \quad \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 6t - 18$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \left. \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} \right|_{t=3\frac{1}{2}} &= 6(3\frac{1}{2}) - 18 \\ &= 21 - 18 \\ &= 3 \text{ m/s}^2\end{aligned}$$

Thus, after $3\frac{1}{2}$ seconds the acceleration is 3 m/s^2 .

Velocity after 4 seconds

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{ds}{dt} \right|_{t=4} &= 3(4)^2 - 18(4) + 15 \\ &= 48 - 72 + 15 \\ &= -9 \text{ m/s}\end{aligned}$$

After 4 seconds the velocity is -9 m/s . The negative value means after 4 seconds it is going in the opposite direction to when it started.

Exercise 13.5 ▼

1. If $s = t^3 - 2t^2$, evaluate $\frac{ds}{dt}$ at $t = 3$.
2. If $\theta = 3t^2 - \frac{1}{3}t^3$, evaluate $\frac{d\theta}{dt}$ at $t = 2$.
3. If $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$, evaluate $\frac{dV}{dr}$ at $r = 5$.

4. A particle is moving in a straight line. Its distance, s metres, from a fixed point o after t seconds is given by $s = t^3 - 9t^2 + 15t + 2$.

Calculate:

- (i) its velocity at any time t .
 - (ii) its velocity after 6 seconds.
 - (iii) the distance of the particle from o when it is instantly at rest.
 - (iv) its acceleration after 4 seconds.
5. A car, starting at $t = 0$ seconds, travels a distance of s metres in t seconds where $s = 30t - \frac{9}{4}t^2$.
- (i) Find the speed of the car after 2 seconds.
 - (ii) After how many seconds is the speed of the car equal to zero?
 - (iii) Find the distance travelled by the car up to the time its speed is zero.
6. The air resistance R to a body moving with speed v metres per second is given by $R = \frac{v^2}{100}$.
- (i) Find the rate of change of the air resistance with respect to the speed.
 - (ii) Calculate this rate of change when $v = 16$ m/s.
7. A parachutist jumps out of an aeroplane. The distance, h metres, through which she falls after t seconds is given by $h = 10t - \frac{5t}{t+1}$. Find:
- (i) the distance she falls in the first second.
 - (ii) her velocity after two seconds.
8. A particle moves in a straight line so that its distance s metres from a fixed point o at time t is given by $s = 1.5t^3 - 10.5t^2 - 4t + 10$.
- (i) If its velocity after k seconds is 3.5 m/s, find the value of k .
 - (ii) If its acceleration after q seconds is 6 m/s², find the value of q .
9. The position, x metres, of a particle moving on the x -axis is given by $x = \cos 4t$ where t is in seconds. Find the velocity and the acceleration of the particle at $t = \frac{\pi}{4}$ seconds.
10. The distance, s metres, travelled by a car in t seconds after the brakes are applied is given by $s = 10t - t^2$. Show that its acceleration is constant. Find:
- (i) the speed of the car when the brakes are applied.
 - (ii) the distance the car travels before it stops.
11. The distance, s metres, of an object from a fixed point in t seconds is given by $s = \frac{t+1}{t+3}$.
- What is the speed of the object, in terms of t , at t seconds?
After how many seconds will the speed of the object be less than 0.02 m/s?
12. The equation $\theta = 3\pi + 20t - 2t^2$ gives the angle θ , in radians, through which a wheel turns in t seconds. Find:
- (i) the rate of change of θ with respect to time t .
 - (ii) the time the wheel takes to come to rest.
 - (iii) the angle turned through in the last second of motion.

Rates of Change 2

Related rates of change

By convention, unless specified otherwise, the phrase 'rate of change' refers to the rate at which a variable is changing 'with respect to time'. For example, if we are told the rate of change of h is 10, this means 'the rate of change of h with respect to time is 10'. In other words, we are given $\frac{dh}{dt} = 10$.

Related rates of change, using differentials, can be related using the chain rule.

For example:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \times \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{dV}{dt} \times \frac{dt}{dr}$$

In many rate of change problems we will deal with 3 things:

1. What we want to find.
2. What we are given.
3. What we need to complete the fraction (look for a link connecting the variables).

$$\text{Find} = (\text{Given}) \times \left(\frac{\text{What we need to}}{\text{complete the fraction}} \right)$$

Note: cm/s means centimetres per second, etc.

Example ▼

The radius of a circle increases at 4 cm/s. What is the rate of increase of the area when the radius is 5 cm?

Solution:

The radius increases at 4 cm/s.

Thus, we are given $\frac{dr}{dt} = 4$ and asked to find $\frac{dA}{dt}$ when $r = 5$

Find = Given × Need

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dA}{dt} &= \frac{dr}{dt} \times \frac{dA}{dr} \\ &= 4 \times 2\pi r \\ &= 8\pi r \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \frac{dA}{dt} \right|_{r=5} = 8\pi(5) = 40\pi \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$$

Link connecting A and r

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \pi r^2 \\ \frac{dA}{dr} &= 2\pi r \end{aligned}$$

Example ▼

Air is pumped into a spherical balloon at the rate of $300 \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$. When the radius of the balloon is 15 cm , calculate

- the rate at which its radius is increasing.
- the rate at which its surface area is increasing.

Solution:

- Air is pumped in at a rate of $300 \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$.

Thus, we are given $\frac{dV}{dt} = 300$ and asked to find $\frac{dr}{dt}$.

Find = Given \times Need

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dr}{dt} &= \frac{dV}{dt} \times \frac{dr}{dV} \\ &= 300 \times \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \\ &= \frac{300}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{75}{\pi r^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \frac{dr}{dt} \right|_{r=15} = \frac{75}{\pi(15)^2} = \frac{75}{225\pi} = \frac{1}{3\pi} \text{ cm/s}$$

Link connecting V and r

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \\ \frac{dV}{dr} &= 3 \times \frac{4}{3}\pi r^2 \\ \frac{dV}{dr} &= 4\pi r^2 \\ \frac{dr}{dV} &= \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \end{aligned}$$

- Let the surface area = S .

Find = Given \times Need

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dt} &= \frac{dr}{dt} \times \frac{dS}{dr} \\ &= \frac{1}{3\pi} \times 8\pi r \\ &= \frac{8r}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \frac{dS}{dt} \right|_{r=15} = \frac{8(15)}{3} = 40 \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$$

We are given $\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{3\pi}$ and asked to find $\frac{dS}{dt}$ when $r = 15$.

Link connecting S and r

$$\begin{aligned} S &= 4\pi r^2 \\ \frac{dS}{dr} &= 8\pi r \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 13.6 ▼

Complete each of the following derivatives using the chain rule:

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \times \text{---}$

2. $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dr}{dt} \times \text{---}$

3. $\frac{dS}{dr} = \frac{dS}{dt} \times \text{---}$

4. $\frac{dA}{dt} = \frac{dr}{dt} \times \text{---}$

5. $\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dt} \times \text{---}$

6. $\frac{dA}{dr} = \frac{dA}{dt} \times \text{---}$

7. If $\frac{dx}{dt} = 5$ and $y = 2x^2 - 3x + 4$, find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ in terms of x .

8. If $y = (x^2 - 3x)^3$, find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $x = 2$, given $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{2}$.

9. If $y = \left(\frac{x-1}{x}\right)^2$, find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $x = 2$, given $\frac{dx}{dt} = 4$.

10. The path of a projectile is given by $y = 2x - \frac{x^2}{20}$, $x \geq 0$.

If $\frac{dx}{dt} = 4$, for all t , find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when $x = 5$.

11. The radius of a circle is increasing at a rate of $\frac{1}{\pi}$ cm/s. Find the rate of increase of circumference.

12. The area of a square, of side x cm, is increasing at the rate of $8 \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$. Find an expression, in terms of x , for the rate of increase of the length of a side. Find this rate of increase when $x = 16$ cm.

13. If $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\pi}{2}$ and $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$, evaluate $\frac{dr}{dt}$ at $r = 2$.

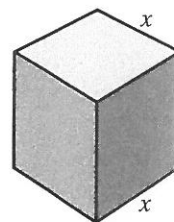
14. A spherical snowball melts at the rate of $20 \text{ cm}^3/\text{h}$.

What is the rate of change of the radius when:

(i) the radius is r ? (ii) the radius is 2 cm?

What is the rate of change of the surface area when the radius is 5 cm?

15. A metallic cube, of side length x cm, is being heated in a furnace. The side lengths are expanding at the rate of 0.2 cm/s . Find the rates at which the cube's surface area and the cube's volume are changing when $x = 5$ cm.

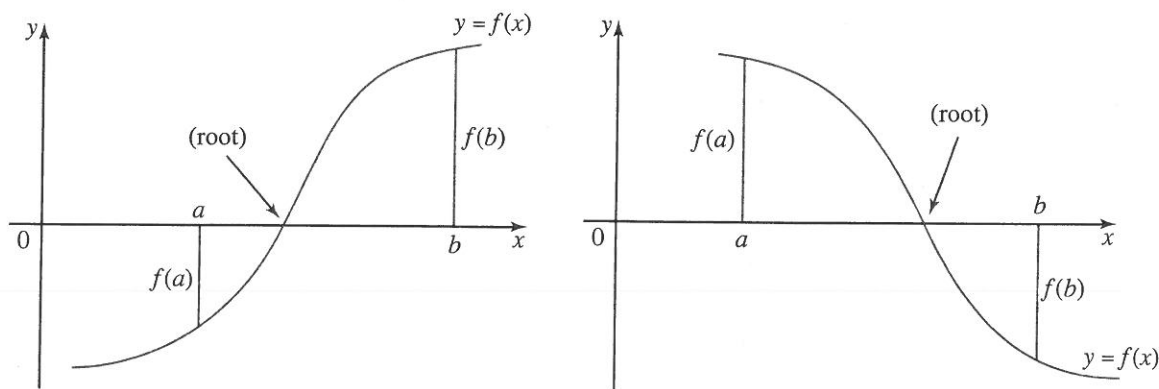


16. If a hemispherical bowl of radius 6 cm contains water to a depth of h cm, the volume of the water is $\frac{1}{3}\pi h^2(18 - h)$. Water is poured into the bowl at a rate of $4 \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$. Find the rate at which the water level is rising when the depth is 2 cm.

17. A vessel is shaped such that when the depth of water is h cm, the volume is given by $v = \sqrt{5}h^3$. If the height of the water is increasing at 18 cm/s , calculate the rate at which v is increasing when $h = 2$ cm.

Solving Cubic Equations Using the Newton-Raphson Method

Locating roots by a 'change of sign'



Suppose $f(x)$ is a continuous function between $x = a$ and $x = b$. If $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ have different signs, then somewhere between a and b there must be a root (solution) of the equation $f(x) = 0$.

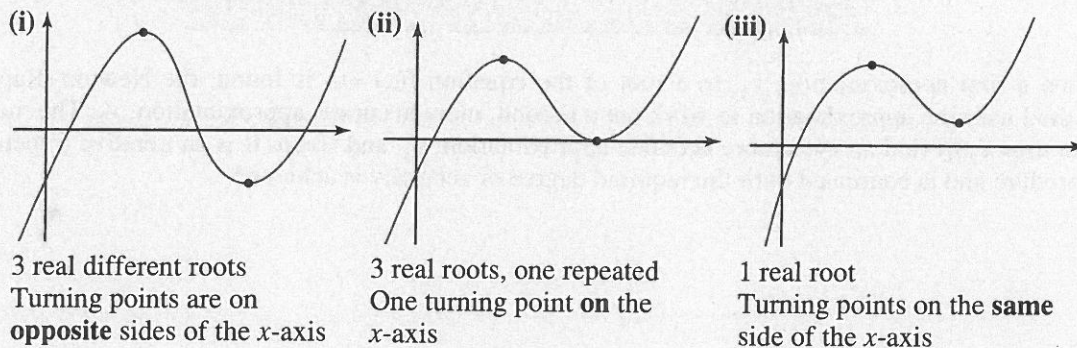
By looking for a change of sign in the value of $f(x)$ between nearby values of x , the approximate location of the roots of the equation $f(x) = 0$ can be found.

If a cubic equation has real coefficients, then there must be either '**one real root**' or '**three real roots**'.

The number of real roots of a cubic equation can be found by determining the turning points $\left(\frac{dy}{dx} = 0\right)$ of the curve of the cubic function.

Method for determining the number of real roots of the equation $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0$:

1. Let $y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$.
2. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and then solve the equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ to find any turning points.
3. We consider three possible outcomes:



Note: It is possible for a cubic equation to have a real triple root. This happens when the graph of the cubic function has a horizontal point of inflection (saddle point) on the x -axis. The graph has no turning points. The equation $(x - k)^3 = 0$ has a triple root, $x = k$. If the graph of $f(x)$ has no turning points, then $f(x) = 0$ has only one real root.

Example ▼

- (i) Show that the equation $x^3 + 2x - 5 = 0$ has only one real root.
(ii) Show that the equation $x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0$ has three real roots.

Solution:

(i) Let $f(x) = x^3 + 2x - 5$
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2$

Since $3x^2 + 2 > 0$ for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$, the graph of $f(x)$ is always increasing (no turning points). Therefore, the graph of $f(x)$ cuts the x -axis at most once.
 $\therefore x^3 + 2x - 5 = 0$ has only one real root.

(ii) Let $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 1$
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3$
 $f''(x) = 6x$
 $f'(x) = 0$ (max/min)
 $\therefore 3x^2 - 3 = 0$
 $x^2 - 1 = 0$
 $x^2 = 1$
 $x = \pm 1$

$f''(1) = 6(1) = 6 > 0 \therefore$ minimum turning point.
 $f''(-1) = 6(-1) = -6 < 0 \therefore$ maximum turning point.

$x = 1, f(1) = (1)^3 - 3(1) + 1 = -1$
Thus a minimum turning point at $(1, -1)$.

$x = -1, f(-1) = (-1)^3 - 3(-1) + 1 = 3$
Thus a maximum turning point at $(-1, 3)$.

As both turning points are on **opposite** sides of the x -axis, the graph of $f(x)$ cuts the x -axis three times.
 $\therefore x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0$ has three real roots.

The Newton-Raphson Method

If x_n is an approximate solution of the equation $f(x) = 0$, then x_{n+1} is a better approximation, where:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

When a first approximation, x_1 , to a root of the equation $f(x) = 0$, is found, the Newton-Raphson method uses the approximation to work out a second, more accurate, approximation, x_2 . The method then uses x_2 to find an even more accurate approximation, x_3 , and so on. It is an iterative (repetitive) procedure and is continued until the required degree of accuracy is achieved.

Example ▼

Show that the equation $1 - 3x - x^3 = 0$ has a root between 0 and 1.

Starting with $x_1 = 0$ as a first approximation of a real root of the equation $1 - 3x - x^3 = 0$, use two iterations of the Newton-Raphson method to find x_2 and x_3 , the second and third approximations. Give your answers as fractions.

Solution:

Let $f(x) = 1 - 3x - x^3$

$$f(0) = 1 - 3(0) - (0)^3 = 1 > 0$$

$$f(1) = 1 - 3(1) - (1)^3 = -3 < 0$$

Since $f(x)$ changes sign between 0 and 1, the graph of the function $y = f(x)$ must cut the x -axis between 0 and 1.

$\therefore 1 - 3x - x^3 = 0$ has a root between 0 and 1.

$$f(x) = 1 - 3x - x^3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f'(x) = -3 - 3x^2$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} \quad (\text{Newton-Raphson})$$

$$x_1 = 0 \quad (\text{given})$$

$$x_2 = x_1 - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)} = 0 - \frac{f(0)}{f'(0)} = 0 - \frac{1 - 3(0) - (0)^3}{-3 - 3(0)^2} = 0 - \frac{1}{-3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$x_3 = x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} - \frac{f(\frac{1}{3})}{f'(\frac{1}{3})} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1 - 3(\frac{1}{3}) - (\frac{1}{3})^3}{-3 - 3(\frac{1}{3})^2} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1 - 1 - \frac{1}{27}}{-3 - \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{-\frac{1}{27}}{-\frac{10}{3}} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{90} = \frac{29}{90}$$

Example ▼

Let $f(x) = x^3 - kx^2 + 9$, $k \in \mathbf{R}$ and $k > 0$.

Taking $x_1 = 2$ as the first approximation of one of the roots of $f(x) = 0$, the Newton–Raphson method gives the second approximation as $\frac{13}{8}$.

Find the value of k .

Solution:

$$f(x) = x^3 - kx^2 + 9 \Rightarrow f'(x) = 3x^2 - 2kx$$

$$x_2 = x_1 - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)} \quad (\text{Newton–Raphson method})$$

$$\frac{13}{8} = 2 - \frac{f(2)}{f'(2)} \quad (\text{put in } x_1 = 2 \text{ and } x_2 = \frac{13}{8})$$

$$\frac{13}{8} = 2 - \frac{(2)^3 - k(2)^2 + 9}{3(2)^2 - 2k(2)}$$

$$\frac{13}{8} = 2 - \frac{8 - 4k + 9}{12 - 4k}$$

$$\frac{13}{8} = 2 - \frac{17 - 4k}{12 - 4k}$$

$$\frac{17 - 4k}{12 - 4k} = 2 - \frac{13}{8}$$

$$\frac{17 - 4k}{12 - 4k} = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$136 - 32k = 36 - 12k \quad (\text{multiply both sides by } 8(12 - 4k))$$

$$-20k = -100$$

$$20k = 100$$

$$k = 5$$

Exercise 13.7 ▼

1. Show that the equation $x^3 + x - 5 = 0$ has a root between 1 and 2. Taking $x_1 = 1$, as a first approximation, use the Newton–Raphson method to find x_2 , the second approximation.
2. Show that the equation $x^3 + 5x - 3 = 0$ has only one real root and that this root is between 0 and 1. Taking $x_1 = 0.6$ as the first approximation of the real root of the equation, find, using the Newton–Raphson method, x_2 , the second approximation, correct to two decimal places.
3. Show that the equation $x^3 - 12x + 6 = 0$ has three real roots. Show that one of these roots lies between 0 and 1. Taking $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ as a first approximation of a root, apply the Newton–Raphson method once to obtain x_2 , the second approximation, giving your answer as a fraction.

4. Given that $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 1$, show that the equation $f(x) = 0$ has only one real root and that this real root lies in the interval $3 < x < 4$.

Use two iterations of the Newton–Raphson method applied to $f(x) = 0$, with $x_1 = 3$, to find an approximation to the real root, giving your answer correct to three decimal places.

In each of the following, take x_1 as the first approximation of a real root of the given equation. Then, using one iteration of the Newton–Raphson method, find x_2 , the second approximation. Write each answer as a fraction.

5. $x^3 - 5 = 0$, $x_1 = 2$

6. $x^3 - 5x = 0$, $x_1 = 2$

7. $x^3 - 3x^2 - 1 = 0$, $x_1 = 3$

8. $x^3 - 5x^2 - x + 6 = 0$, $x_1 = 1$

In each of the following, take x_1 as the first approximation of a real root of the given equation. Then, using two iterations of the Newton–Raphson method, find x_2 and x_3 , the second and third approximations. Write your answers as fractions.

9. $x^3 - 4 = 0$, $x_1 = 1$

10. $x^3 + 3x - 1 = 0$, $x_1 = 0$

11. $x^3 - 7x + 5 = 0$, $x_1 = 1$

12. $x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 3 = 0$, $x_1 = 2$

13. Let $f(x) = a - x^3$, $a \in \mathbf{R}$ and $a > 0$.

Taking $x_1 = 1$ as the first approximation to the real root of $f(x) = 0$, the Newton–Raphson method gives the second approximation as $x_2 = \frac{4}{3}$. Find the value of a .

Using this value of a , find x_3 , the third approximation. Give your answer as a fraction.

14. Let $f(x) = x^3 - kx + 4$, $k \in \mathbf{R}$ and $k > 0$.

Taking $x_1 = 2$ as the first approximation to a real root of $f(x) = 0$, the Newton–Raphson method gives the second approximation as $x_2 = 3$. Find the value of k .

Using this value of k , find x_3 , the third approximation. Give your answer as a fraction.

15. The equation $x^3 + ax - 1 = 0$ is known to have a root close to $x = \frac{1}{2}$. When $x = \frac{1}{2}$ is used as the first approximation in the Newton–Raphson method, the second approximation is $\frac{5}{11}$. Find the value of a .

16. (a) Write $x + \frac{x^2 + 3x}{x + 1}$ as one fraction.

- (b) Show that the Newton–Raphson method for approximating a root of the equation

$$x^3 + x - 6 = 0, \text{ is given by } x_{n+1} = \frac{2x_n^3 + 6}{3x_n^2 + 1}.$$

Taking 1.5 as a first approximation, apply the Newton–Raphson method once to obtain a better approximation, giving your answer correct to two decimal places.

17. Let $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + k$, $k \in \mathbf{R}$.

- Find the coordinates of the maximum, minimum and point of inflexion in terms of k .
- Find the values of k for which the equation $f(x) = 0$ has three real roots.
- If $k = 2$, use the Newton–Raphson method, with first approximation $x_1 = 3$, to find x_2 , the second approximation. Write your answer in the form $\frac{p}{q}$, $p, q \in \mathbf{N}$.