

3.5: Derivative of Trigonometric Functions

Let $f(x) = \sin x$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x \cos h + \cos x \sin h - \sin x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x (\cos h - 1) + \cos x \sin h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 + \cos x \sin h}{h} = \cos x. \end{aligned}$$

Thus (6) $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \cos x$

Let $f(x) = \cos x$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x+h) - \cos x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x \cos h - \sin x \sin h - \cos x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x (\cos h - 1) - \sin x \sin h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0 - \sin x \sin h}{h} = -\sin x. \end{aligned}$$

Thus (7) $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) = -\sin x$.

Use the quotient rule to find ~~the~~ $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x)$.

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \sec^2 x.$$

Ex(1): Find the derivative of $y = \sec x$ and $f(x) = \sin x \cos x$.

$$y' = \sec x \tan x, \quad f'(x) = \cos^2 x - \sin^2 x.$$

Find the derivatives of $\csc x$, $\sec x$, $\cot x$.

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\csc x) = -\csc x \cot x, \quad \frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \sec x \tan x, \quad \frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) = -\csc^2 x.$$

Ex(2): Find y'' when $y = \sec x$.

$$y'' = \sec^3 x + \sec x \tan^2 x.$$

Derivative of $\ln x$: Let $f(x) = \ln x$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(x+h) - \ln x}{h} = \frac{?}{?} = \frac{1}{x}.$$

We will see how to show this later on.

$$(3) \frac{d}{dx} (\ln x) = \frac{1}{x}. \quad \frac{d}{dx} (\log_a(x)) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{\ln x}{\ln a} \right) = \frac{1}{\ln a \cdot x}.$$