

Created by T. Madas

DIFFERENTIATION

from first principles

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Question 1 (**)

$$f(x) = x^2, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = 2x.$$

, proof

The definition of the derivative for $y=f(x)$ is given by

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x^2}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2xh + h^2}{h} \right] \quad \text{Divide h from all the terms}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [2x + h] \quad \text{As h tends to zero the only term that survives is 2x}$$

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

As required

Question 2 (**)

$$f(x) = x^4, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = 4x^3.$$

, proof

The derivative is formally given by

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

In this case we have

$$f(x) = x^4$$

$$f(x+h) = (x+h)^4$$

Expanding binomially we have

$$(x+h)^4 = 1x^4 + 4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + 1h^4$$

$$(x+h)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + h^4$$

Putting it all together

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = (x+h)^4 - x^4 = (x^4 + 4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + h^4) - x^4$$

Finally we have

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + h^4}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [4x^3 + 6x^2h + 4xh^2 + h^3]$$

$$= 4x^3$$

Question 3 (**)

$$f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 7, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = 2x - 3.$$

, **proof**

Handwritten solution for the derivative of $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 7$ using the formal definition:

Find the value of the derivative for $f(x)$

$$f(x+h) = (x+h)^2 - 3(x+h) + 7$$

$$= x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 3x - 3h + 7$$

Using the formal definition of the derivative

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

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 3x - 3h + 7) - (x^2 - 3x + 7)}{h}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2xh + h^2 - 3h}{h}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [2x + h - 3]$$

$$f'(x) = 2x - 3$$

As required

Question 4 (**+)

$$y = x^3 - 4x + 1, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 4.$$

, proof

Let $y = f(x) = x^3 - 4x + 1$

Then $f(x+h) = (x+h)^3 - 4(x+h) + 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (x+h)(x+h)^2 - 4x - 4h + 1 \\
 &= (x+h)(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) - 4x - 4h + 1 \\
 &= x^3 + 2x^2h + xh^2 - 4x - 4h + 1 \\
 &= x^3 + 2x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - 4x - 4h + 1
 \end{aligned}$$

By the formal definition of the derivative we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(x^3 + 2x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - 4x - 4h + 1) - (x^3 - 4x + 1)}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{x^3 + 2x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - 4x - 4h + 1 - x^3 + 4x - 1}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 - 4h}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[2x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 4 \right] \\
 &= 2x^2 + 3x(0) + (0)^2 - 4 \\
 &= 2x^2 - 4
 \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

Question 5 (**+)

$$f(x) = x^3 + 2, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- State the value of $f(-1)$.
- Find a simplified expression for $f(-1+h)$.
- Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(-1) = 3.$$

$$\boxed{}, \quad \boxed{f(-1) = 1}, \quad \boxed{f(-1+h) = 1 + 3h - 3h^2 + h^3}$$

$f(x) = x^3 + 2$
 a) $f(-1) = (-1)^3 + 2 = -1 + 2 = 1$
 b) $f(-1+h) = (-1+h)^3 + 2 = (h-1)^3 + 2 = (h-1)(h^2-2h+1) + 2$
 $= h^3 - 2h^2 + h - h^2 + 2h - 1 + 2$
 $= h^3 - 3h^2 + 3h + 1$
 c) $f'(-1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(-1+h) - f(-1)}{h} \right]$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(h^3 - 3h^2 + 3h + 1) - 1}{h} \right]$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{h^3 - 3h^2 + 3h}{h} \right]$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [h^2 - 3h + 3]$
 TAKING THE LIMIT NOW, AS $h \rightarrow 0$
 $= 3$
 As $24/06/16$

Question 6 (***)

$$f(x) = x^4 - 4x, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- a) Find a simplified expression for

$$f(2+h) - f(2).$$

- b) Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(2) = 28.$$

$$\boxed{16}, \quad f(2+h) - f(2) = 28h + 24h^2 + 8h^3 + h^4$$

a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= x^4 - 4x \\
 f(2+h) - f(2) &= \left[(2+h)^4 - 4(2+h) \right] - \left[2^4 - 4(2) \right] \\
 &= (2+h)^4 - 8 - 4h - 16 + 8 \\
 &= (2+h)^4 - 4h - 16 \\
 &= (2+h)^2(2+h)^2 - 4h - 16 \\
 &= (4+4h+h^2)(2+4h+h^2) - 4h - 16 \\
 &= 16 + 16h + 4h^2 + 8h + 8h^2 + 4h^3 - 4h - 16 \\
 &= 16h + 8h^2 + 4h^3 + 4h^4 \\
 &= h^4 + 4h^3 + 8h^2 + 16h
 \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\
 f'(2) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(2+h) - f(2)}{h} \right] \\
 f'(2) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{h^4 + 4h^3 + 8h^2 + 16h}{h} \right] \\
 f'(2) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[h^3 + 4h^2 + 8h + 16 \right] \\
 f'(2) &= 28
 \end{aligned}$$

Question 7 (*)**

A reciprocal curve has equation

$$y = \frac{1}{x}, \quad x \neq 0.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x^2}.$$

,

Let $g = f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$
 $f(x+h) = \frac{1}{x+h}$

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = \frac{1}{x+h} - \frac{1}{x} = \frac{x - (x+h)}{x(x+h)} = \frac{-h}{x(x+h)}$$

USING THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{-h}{x(x+h)}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-h}{x(x+h)} \div h \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-h}{x^2 + xh} \times \frac{1}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{1}{x^2 + xh} \right] \end{aligned}$$

TAKING LIMITS, as $h \rightarrow 0$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^2 + x(0)}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^2} \quad \text{AS REQUIRED}$$

Question 8 (***)

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

Prove by first principles the validity of the above result by using the small angle approximations for $\sin x$ and $\cos x$.

, proof

STARTING WITH THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \quad \text{with } f(x) = \sin x$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \right]$$

TAKE COMPOUND ANGLE IDENTITIES

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x \cos h + \cos x \sin h}{h} \right]$$

USE SMALL ANGLE APPROXIMATIONS

$$\sin h = h + O(h^3)$$

$$\cos h = 1 + O(h^2)$$

THIS WE OBTAIN:

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x [1 + O(h^2)] + \cos x [h + O(h^3)] - \sin x}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\cancel{\sin x} + O(h^2)\sin x + h \cos x + O(h^3)\cos x - \cancel{\sin x}}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{O(h^2)\sin x + h \cos x + O(h^3)\cos x}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[O(h)\sin x + \cos x + O(h^2)\cos x \right]$$

$$= \cos x \quad \text{As required}$$

Question 9 (*)**If x is in radians

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

Prove the validity of the above result from first principles.

You may assume that if h is small and measured in radians, then as $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\cos(h) - 1}{h} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\sin(h)}{h} \rightarrow 1.$$

M1

,

proof

PROVE THE STANDARD RESULT FOR THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \quad \text{with } f(x) = \sin x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \right]$$

USE THE IDENTITY $\sin(A+B) = \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x \cos h + \cos x \sin h - \sin x}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x \cos h - \sin x + \cos x \sin h}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x (\cos h - 1) + \cos x \sin h}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\sin x \left(\frac{\cos h - 1}{h} \right) + \cos x \left(\frac{\sin h}{h} \right) \right] \\ &= \sin x \times 0 + \cos x \times 1 \\ &= \cos x \end{aligned}$$

Question 10 (***)

$$\cos(A+B) \equiv \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A-B) \equiv \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$$

a) By using the above identities show that

$$\cos P - \cos Q \equiv -2 \sin\left(\frac{P+Q}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{P-Q}{2}\right).$$

b) Hence, prove by first principles that

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

 , proof

a) STARTING WITH THE COORDINATE ANGLE IDENTITIES

$$\cos(A+B) = \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B$$

$$\cos(A-B) = \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$$

SUBTRACTING THE EQUATIONS (CONTINUED) ABOVE

$$\Rightarrow \cos(A+B) - \cos(A-B) = -2 \sin A \sin B$$

\uparrow \uparrow
 P Q

$\therefore A+B = P$
 $A-B = Q \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2A = P+Q \\ A = \frac{P+Q}{2} \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = \frac{P+Q}{2} \\ B = \frac{P-Q}{2} \end{cases}$ (BY SUBSTITUTION)

$\therefore \cos P - \cos Q = -2 \sin\left(\frac{P+Q}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{P-Q}{2}\right)$

b) STARTING WITH THE DEFINITION OF A DERIVATIVE

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \quad \text{with } f(x) = \cos x$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\cos(x+h) - \cos x}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2 \sin\left(\frac{x+h}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2 \sin\left(\frac{x+h}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-2 \sin\left(\frac{x+h}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{\sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{\frac{h}{2}} \right]$$

As $h \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{\sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{\frac{h}{2}} \rightarrow 1$

$\therefore f'(x) = -2 \sin\left(\frac{x+h}{2}\right) \cdot 1$

As $h \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{x+h}{2} \rightarrow \frac{x}{2}$

$\therefore f'(x) = -2 \sin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$

As $h \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{x+h}{2} \rightarrow \frac{x}{2}$

$\therefore f'(x) = -\sin x$

Question 11 (***)

Differentiate from first principles

$$\frac{1}{x^2}, x \neq 0.$$

$$\frac{2}{x^3}$$

Let $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$
 $\Rightarrow f(x+h) = \frac{1}{(x+h)^2}$
 Use difference quotient

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

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

 Using the formal definition of the derivative

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2xh - h^2}{x^2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2xh - h^2}{x^2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2)} \div h \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2x - h}{x^2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2)} \times \frac{1}{h} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-(2x+h)}{x^2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2)} \right]$$
 Taking the limit as $h \rightarrow 0$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = -\frac{2x+0}{x^2(x^2 + 2x(0) + 0^2)} = -\frac{2x}{x^2} = -\frac{2}{x}$$
 As expected

Question 12 (***)

Differentiate $\frac{1}{2-x}$ from first principles.

$$\boxed{\quad}, \quad \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2-x} \right) = \frac{1}{(2-x)^2}$$

Handwritten solution for differentiating $\frac{1}{2-x}$ from first principles:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(x) &= \frac{1}{2-x} \\ f(x+h) &= \frac{1}{2-(x+h)} = \frac{1}{2-x-h} \\ \text{FROM THE DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE} \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{2-x-h} - \frac{1}{2-x}}{h} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{(2-x) - (2-x-h)}{(2-x-h)(2-x)}}{h} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{h}{(2-x-h)(2-x)} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{(2-x-h)(2-x)} \times h \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{(2-x)(2-x)} \times \frac{h}{h} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{(2-x)(2-x)} \right] \\ f'(x) &= \frac{1}{(2-x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 13 (***)

$$f(x) = \frac{x-2}{x+2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = \frac{4}{(x+2)^2}.$$

 , proof

$f(x) = \frac{x-2}{x+2}$ then $f(x+h) = \frac{(x+h)-2}{(x+h)+2}$
 $f(x+h) - f(x) = \frac{x+h-2}{x+h+2} - \frac{x-2}{x+2} = \frac{(x+h)(x+2) - (x-2)(x+h+2)}{(x+h+2)(x+2)}$
 $= \frac{x^2 + hx + 2x + 2h - (x^2 + xh + 2x + 2h - 2x - 4)}{(x+h+2)(x+2)}$
 $= \frac{4}{(x+h+2)(x+2)}$
Then the definition of the derivative as a limit
 $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \times \frac{1}{1} \right]$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{4}{(x+h+2)(x+2)} \times \frac{1}{h} \right]$
 $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{4}{(x+2)(x+h+2)} \right]$
 $= \frac{4}{(x+2)^2}$

Question 14 (***)

Differentiate from first principles

$$\frac{x}{x+1}, x \neq -1.$$

$$\boxed{}, \frac{1}{(x+1)^2}$$

Handwritten solution for differentiating $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$ from first principles:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(x) &= \frac{x}{x+1} \text{ and } f(x+h) = \frac{x+h}{x+h+1} \\ f'(x) &= \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{x+h}{x+h+1} - \frac{x}{x+1}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{(x+h)(x+1) - x(x+h+1)}{(x+h+1)(x+1)}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\cancel{x^2} + \cancel{xh} + \cancel{xh} + h - \cancel{x^2} - \cancel{xh} - xh - h}{(x+h+1)(x+1)} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{h}{(x+h+1)(x+1)} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{(x+h+1)(x+1)} \times h \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{(x+h+1)(x+1)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(x+1)(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(x+1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 15 (***)

Differentiate $\frac{1}{2+x^2}$ from first principles.

$$\boxed{}, \quad \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2+x^2} \right) = - \frac{2x}{(2+x^2)^2}$$

Handwritten solution for differentiating $\frac{1}{2+x^2}$ from first principles:

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

• $f(x+h) = \frac{1}{2+(x+h)^2}$

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

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

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

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

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

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

TAKING THE LIMIT AS $h \rightarrow 0$

$\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{2+x^2} \right) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-(2x+h)}{(2+x^2)(2+(x+h)^2)} \right]$

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

Question 16 (***)

Differentiate $\frac{1}{x^2 - 2x}$ from first principles.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x^2 - 2x} \right) = \frac{2(1-x)}{(x^2 - 2x)^2}$$

• WRITE THE EXPRESSION IN FRACTIONAL NOTATION AND SIMPLIFY

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 2x}$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 2x - 2h} - \frac{1}{x^2 - 2x}$$

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

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

• TAKE THE DERIVATIVE NOW VIDEOS

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{-2xh - h^2 + 2h}{(x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 2x - 2h)(x^2 - 2x)} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2x - h + 2}{(x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 2x - 2h)(x^2 - 2x)} \right]$$

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

Question 17 (***)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^3}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \neq 0.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

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

, proof

• If $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^3}$ then $f(x+h) = \frac{1}{(x+h)^3}$
 • $f(x+h) - f(x) = \frac{1}{(x+h)^3} - \frac{1}{x^3} = \frac{x^3 - (x+h)^3}{x^3(x+h)^3}$

$$= \frac{x^3 - (x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3)}{x^3(x+h)^3}$$

$$= -\frac{3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3}{x^3(x+h)^3}$$

FROM THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE AS A LIMIT

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3}{x^3(x+h)^3} \times \frac{1}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{(3x^2 + 3xh + h^2)h}{x^3(x+h)^3} \times \frac{1}{h} \right] \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[-\frac{3x^2 + 3xh + h^2}{x^3(x+h)^3} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

TAKING LIMITS YIELDS

$$= -\frac{3x^2}{x^3 \cdot x^3} = -\frac{3x^2}{x^6} = -\frac{3}{x^4} //$$

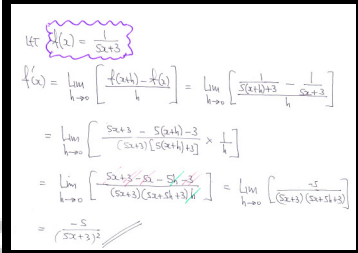
Question 18 (***)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{5x+3}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \neq -\frac{3}{5}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = -\frac{5}{(5x+3)^2}.$$

proof



Handwritten proof showing the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{1}{5x+3}$ using the limit definition:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(x) &= \frac{1}{5x+3} \\ f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{5(x+h)+3} - \frac{1}{5x+3}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{5x+3 - 5(x+h)-3}{(5x+3)(5(x+h)+3)} \times \frac{1}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{5x+3 - 5x - 5h - 3}{(5x+3)(5x+5h+3)} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-5h}{(5x+3)(5x+5h+3)} \right] \\ &= \frac{-5}{(5x+3)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 19 (***)

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{4x-1}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \neq \frac{1}{4}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = -\frac{12}{(4x-1)^2}.$$

proof

Handwritten proof showing the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{3}{4x-1}$ using the limit definition:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{3}{4(x+h)-1} - \frac{3}{4x-1}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{3(4x-1) - 3(4(x+h)-1)}{(4(x+h)-1)(4x-1)}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{12x-3-12x-12h+3}{(4x+4h-1)(4x-1)}}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{-12h}{(4x+4h-1)(4x-1)}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-12}{(4x+4h-1)(4x-1)} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-12}{(4x-1)^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{-12}{(4x-1)^2} = -\frac{12}{(4x-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 20 (***)

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

Prove the validity of the above result by ...

a) ... using $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sin x}{x} \right) = 1$

and the trigonometric identity

$$\sin A - \sin B \equiv 2 \cos \frac{A+B}{2} \sin \frac{A-B}{2}.$$

b) ... using small angle approximations for $\sin x$ and $\cos x$.

proof

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\sin x] &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2 \cos\left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2 \cos\left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right) \sin\left(\frac{h}{2}\right)}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\cos\left(x + \frac{h}{2}\right) \times \frac{\sin \frac{h}{2}}{\frac{h}{2}} \right] \leftarrow \text{LIMIT IS 1} \\ &= \cos x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (b) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\sin x] &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x \cos h + \cos x \sin h - \sin x}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x (\cos h - 1) + \cos x \sin h}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x (1 + o(h^2)) + \cos x (h + o(h^2))}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin x + o(h^2) + \cos x h + o(h^2) \cos x}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{o(h^2) \sin x + \cos x + o(h^2) \cos x}{h} \right] \\ &= \cos x \end{aligned}$$

Question 21 (***)

$$f(x) \equiv \frac{x^2}{x-1}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad x \neq -\frac{1}{4}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = \frac{x(x-2)}{(x-1)^2}.$$

, proof

GET SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS OF $f(a+h) - f(a)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(a+h) - f(a) &= \frac{(a+h)^2}{a+h-1} - \frac{a^2}{a-1} = \frac{(a-1)(a+h)^2 - a^2(a-1)}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \\ &= \frac{(a-1)(a^2 + 2ah + h^2) - a^2(a-1)}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \\ &= \frac{a^2 + 2ah + ah^2 - a^3 - a^2 + a^3}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \\ &= \frac{2ah + ah^2}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \\ &= \frac{ah(2+h)}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \end{aligned}$$

NOW THE LIMITING PROCESS

$$\begin{aligned} f'(a) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \left(\frac{ah(2+h)}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \right) \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{ah(2+h)}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{a^2 + 2a}{(a-1)(a+h-1)} \right] \\ &= \frac{a^2 + 2a}{(a-1)(a-1)} \\ &= \frac{a(a+2)}{(a-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Question 22 (****)

Prove by first principles, and by using the small angle approximations for $\sin x$ and $\cos x$, that

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

, proof

USING THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\tan(x+h) - \tan x}{h} \right]$$

WRITE AS SINE AND COSINES

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{\sin(x+h)}{\cos(x+h)} - \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h)\cos x - \sin x \cos(x+h)}{h \cos(x+h)\cos x} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin(x+h)\cos x - \sin x \cos(x+h)}{h} \right] \quad \text{USE IDENTITY FOR SIN(A-B)}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin h \cos x + \cos h \sin x - \sin x \cos(x+h)}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin h \cos x + \cos h \sin x - \sin x \cos x \cos h - \sin x \sin h}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin h \cos x + \cos h \sin x - \sin x \cos x \cos h - \sin x \sin h}{h} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin h \cos x + \cos h \sin x - \sin x \cos x \cos h - \sin x \sin h}{h} \right]$$

AS $h \rightarrow 0$ $\frac{\sin h}{h} \rightarrow 1$ SINCE $h \rightarrow 0$ FOR SMALL h

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{\cos(x) \cos(x)} \times \frac{\sin h}{h} \right] = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = \sec^2 x$$

Question 23 (****)

Prove by first principles, and by using the small angle approximations for $\sin x$ and $\cos x$, that

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

 , proof

The image shows two pages of handwritten mathematical work. The left page is titled 'USING THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE' and shows the derivation of $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x)$ using the limit definition. It uses the identity $\sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x}$ and the trigonometric identity $\cos(A-B) = \cos A \cos B + \sin A \sin B$. The right page is titled 'TAKING LIMITS NOW YIELDS' and shows the final result $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \sec x \tan x$ using small angle approximations $\sin x \approx x$ and $\cos x \approx 1 - \frac{x^2}{2}$.

USING THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sec(x+h) - \sec x}{h} \right]$$

WORK WITH SINES AND COSINES

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{\cos(x+h)} - \frac{1}{\cos x}}{h} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \left[\frac{\cos x - \cos(x+h)}{\cos(x+h) \cos x} \right] \right]$$

NOW USING THE TRIGONOMETRIC IDENTITY

$$\cos A - \cos B = -2 \sin \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{A-B}{2} \right)$$

$$\cos x - \cos(x+h) = -2 \sin \left(\frac{x+x+h}{2} \right) \sin \left(\frac{x-x-h}{2} \right)$$

$$\cos x - \cos(x+h) = -2 \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2} \right) \sin \left(-\frac{h}{2} \right)$$

THUS WE NOW HAVE

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \left[\frac{-2 \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2} \right) \sin \left(-\frac{h}{2} \right)}{\cos(x+h) \cos x} \right] \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{1}{h} \left[\frac{-2 \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2} \right) \times \left[-\frac{h}{2} + O(h^3) \right]}{\cos(x+h) \cos x} \right] \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2 \sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2} \right) \left[-\frac{h}{2} + O(h^3) \right]}{\cos(x+h) \cos x} \right]$$

TAKING LIMITS NOW YIELDS

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sin \left(x + \frac{h}{2} \right) - 2 O(h^2)}{\cos(x+h) \cos x} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x \cos x}$$

$$= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \times \frac{1}{\cos x}$$

$$= \sec x \tan x$$

Question 24 (****+)

$$f(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

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

, proof

• If $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2}$ then $f'(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$

• By the formal definition of the derivative

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} - \sqrt{1+x^2}}{h} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{[\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} - \sqrt{1+x^2}][\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}]}{h[\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}]} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{[1 + (x+h)^2] - [1 + x^2]}{h[\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}]} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2xh + h^2}{h[\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}]} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2x + h}{\sqrt{1+(x+h)^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}} \right] \\ &= \frac{2x}{\sqrt{1+x^2} + \sqrt{1+x^2}} \\ &= \frac{2x}{2\sqrt{1+x^2}} \\ &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} \end{aligned}$$

Question 25 (****+)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, |x| > 1.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

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

proof

Handwritten proof of the derivative of $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}$ using the limit definition. The proof shows the following steps:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right] &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}}{h} \right] \quad \text{Multiply top \& bottom by } \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 1} - \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1}}{h \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \right] \\ &\quad \text{Setting } h \rightarrow 0 \text{ at this stage produces } \frac{0}{0}, \text{ so we need to remove the } 0 \text{ from the top by using conjugation} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(\sqrt{x^2 - 1} - \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})(\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})}{h \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})} \right] \\ &\quad \text{Simplify the top (difference of squares)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(x^2 - 1) - (x+h)^2 + 1}{h \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(x^2 - 1) - (x^2 + 2xh + h^2) + 1}{h \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2xh + 1 - h^2}{h \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})} \right] \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{-2x + \frac{1-h^2}{h}}{\sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1} \sqrt{x^2 - 1} (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{(x+h)^2 - 1})} \right] \\ &= \frac{-2x}{(\sqrt{x^2 - 1})^2 (\sqrt{x^2 - 1} + \sqrt{x^2 - 1})} \\ &= \frac{-2x}{(x^2 - 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

Question 26 (****+)

The limit expression shown below represents a student's evaluation for $f'(x)$, for a specific value of x .

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(1+h)^2 + 3(1+h) - 5}{h} \right]$$

Determine an expression for $f(x)$ and once obtained, **differentiate it directly** to find the value of $f'(x)$, for the specific value of x the student was evaluating.

No credit will be given for evaluating the limit directly.

$$\boxed{}, \quad \boxed{f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x}, \quad \boxed{f'(1) = 7}$$

START WITH THE DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

HERE $f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + C$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(x+h)^2 + 3(x+h) - (2x^2 + 3x + C)}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) + 3x + 3h - 2x^2 - 3x - C}{h} \right]$$

NOW LET $x=1$ & HERE WE MATCH THE "-5"

$$f'(1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(1+h)^2 + 3(1+h) - 2(1)^2 - 3(1) - 5}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(1+h)^2 + 3(1+h) - 5}{h} \right]$$

THIS THE FRACTION IS IDENTICAL TO THE ONE QUOTIENT-FRACTION

$$f(x) = 2x^2 + 3x + C$$

$$f'(x) = 4x + 3$$

$$f'(1) = 7$$

$$\therefore \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{2(1+h)^2 + 3(1+h) - 5}{h} \right] = 7$$

Question 27 (****)

Use the formal definition of the derivative to prove that if

$$y = f(x) g(x),$$

then $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(x) g(x) + f(x) g'(x)$

You may assume that

- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) + g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)] + \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [g(x)]$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) \times g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)] \times \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [g(x)]$

V, ☐, proof

Handwritten proof of the product rule using the formal definition of the derivative. The proof is written on a grid background and includes the following steps:

- Let $y = h(x) = f(x)g(x)$
- $\frac{dy}{dx} = h'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{h(x+h) - h(x)}{h} \right] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \right]$
- Manipulate the numerator as follows:
- $\frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \right]$
- $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x+h) + f(x)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \right]$
- Using $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x) \pm g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)] \pm \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [g(x)]$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)g(x)] = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [f(x)] \times \lim_{x \rightarrow c} [g(x)]$
- f & g were not the same as per question....
- $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) \times g(x+h) - f(x)g(x+h)}{h} \right] + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \right]$
- $= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[f(x+h) \times \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right] + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[f(x) \times \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \right]$
- $= f(x) \times g'(x) + g(x) \times f'(x)$
- \therefore Q.E.D.

Question 28 (****)

$$f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad |x| < 1.$$

Use the formal definition of the derivative as a limit, to show that

$$f'(x) = -\frac{1}{(1+x)\sqrt{1-x^2}}.$$

, proof

MULTIPLY SEPARATELY ANY

$$f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}} = \frac{\sqrt{1-x}}{\sqrt{1+x}} = \frac{\sqrt{1-x} \cdot \sqrt{1+x}}{\sqrt{(1-x)(1+x)}} = \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{1+x}$$

NOW BY THE FORMAL DEFINITION OF A LIMIT

$$f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \left[\frac{f(-x+h)}{g} - \frac{f(x)}{g} \right]$$

$$\hat{f}(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{\sqrt{1-(-x+k)^2}}{1+(-x+k)} - \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2}}{1+x} \right) \right]$$

$$f(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{(1-x)\sqrt{1-(x-k)^2}}{(1-x+k)^2} - \frac{(1-x)\sqrt{1-x^2}}{(1+x)^2} \right) \right]$$

* RATIONALISE THE NUMERATOR AS THE LIMIT IS OF THE FORM "ZERO OVER ZERO"

HISTORY TIP & REMARK: $\Rightarrow (1+y)\sqrt{1-y} = (1+y)(1-\frac{y}{2}) = (1+y+\frac{-y^2}{2})$

$$\hat{f}(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{(1-x)[1-(x-k)]}{(1-x+k)^2} - \frac{(1-x)[1-\frac{x^2}{2}]}{(1+x)^2} \right) \right]$$

$$f(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{(1-x)(1-x+k)}{(1-x+k)^2} - \frac{(1-x)(1-\frac{x^2}{2})}{(1+x)^2} \right) \right]$$

RATIONALIZE A LITTLE IN THE NUMERATORS.

$$\hat{f}(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \left[\frac{1}{k} \left(\frac{(1-x)(1+x+k)}{(1-x+k)^2} - \frac{(1-x)(1-x+k)}{(1+x)^2} \right) \right]$$

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

As expected

Question 29 (****)

Use the formal definition of the derivative of a suitable expression, to find the value for the following limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[\frac{\sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{x} - 12}{x - 4} \right].$$

No credit will be given for using L'Hospital's rule.

$$\boxed{}, \frac{7}{2}$$

STRICT BY THE DEFINITION OF THE DERIVATIVE

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right]$$

NOW CONSIDER THE LIMIT GIVEN

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[\frac{\sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{x} - 12}{x - 4} \right]$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(4+h)^3 + 2(4+h) - 12}{(4+h) - 4} \right]$$

$\begin{cases} h = 4 \\ x = 4+h \end{cases}$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(4+h)^3 + 2(4+h) - 12}{h} \right]$$

TIPS: COULD BE THE DERIVATIVE OF $f(x) = \sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{x} + C$ EVALUATED AT $x=4$, SO LONG AS THE "12" MATCHES!

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(4+h)^3 + 2(4+h) - 12}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(4) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(4+h)^3 + 2(4+h) - 12}{h} \right]$$

$$f'(4) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{(4+h)^3 + 2(4+h) - 12}{h} \right]$$

INSTEAD THIS IS $\frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{x} + C) \Big|_{x=4}$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \left[\frac{\sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{x} - 12}{x - 4} \right] = \left[\frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \right]_{x=4}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \times 2 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{7}{2}$$

