

11 Oct 11

0

• Day 21 •

• Monday 10/17/11  $\Rightarrow$  TEST # 2  
PROBLEM SET # 2 DUE

• 23.9 (due FRIDAY)

**§23.9—Higher Derivatives**

Let  $y = 5x^3 - 2x$  and find  $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$  (this is called the *first* derivative).

$$15x^2 - 2$$

Now take the derivative of the derivative to find  $y'' = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  (this is called the *second* derivative).

$$30x$$

Differentiate again to find  $y''' = \frac{d^3y}{dx^3}$

$$30$$

Differentiate again to find  $y^{(4)} = \frac{d^4y}{dx^4}$

$$0$$

**Remark:** If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ , then it will have  $n$  non-zero derivatives.

**Example 2.**

Find the higher derivatives of  $f(x) = x(x^2 - 1)^2$

$$f = x \Rightarrow f' = 1$$

$$g = (x^2 - 1)^2 \Rightarrow g' = 2(x^2 - 1)' \cdot 2x \\ = 4x(x^2 - 1)$$

$$fg' + f'g = (x^2 - 1)^2 \cdot 1 + x \cdot 4x(x^2 - 1) \\ = (x^2 - 1)^2 + 4x^2(x^2 - 1) \\ = (x^2 - 1) \left[ (x^2 - 1) + 4x^2 \right]$$

**Example 3.**

$$f'(x) = (x^2 - 1)(5x^2 - 1) = 5x^4 - 6x^2 + 1$$

Find  $f''(-2)$  for  $f(x) = \frac{2}{1-x}$

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

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

$$f''(x) = -4(1-x)^{-3} \cdot -1$$

$$= 4(1-x)^{-3} = \frac{4}{(1-x)^3}$$

$$f''(-2) = \frac{4}{(1-(-2))^3} = \frac{4}{3^3} = \frac{4}{27}$$

$$f''(x) = 20x^3 - 12x$$

$$f'''(x) = 60x^2 - 12$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = 120x$$

$$f^{(5)}(x) = 120$$

$$f^{(6)}(x) = 0$$

**Example 4.**

Find  $y''$  for  $2x^2 + 3y^2 = 6$

$$4x + 6y \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$6y \frac{dy}{dx} = -4x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-4x}{6y} = \frac{-2x}{3y} \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x}{3y}}$$

$$4 + \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot 6 \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$4 + 6 \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 + 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$4 + 6 \left( \frac{-2x}{3y} \right)^2 + 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$4 + \cancel{6} \left( \frac{4x^2}{\cancel{9}y^2} \right) + 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$4 + \frac{8x^2}{3y^2} + 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$3y^2 \cdot 6y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \left( -4 - \frac{8x^2}{3y^2} \right) 3y^2$$

$$18y^3 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -12y^2 - 8x^2 = -4(3y^2 + 2x^2)$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-4 \overbrace{(3y^2 + 2x^2)}^6}{\cancel{18}y^3}$$

$$= -\frac{2(6)}{4y^3} = \frac{-12}{4y^3} = \frac{-4}{y^3}$$