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*Unit 1 : Differential Calculus - Lesson 5*

## Derivatives of Inverse (Trigonometric) Functions

LI

- Know how to differentiate the inverse of a function.
- Know the derivatives of  $\sin^{-1} x$ ,  $\cos^{-1} x$  and  $\tan^{-1} x$ .

SC

- Chain Rule.

Derivative of an Inverse Function

If a function  $y = f(x)$  has inverse  $f^{-1}$ , then,

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

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dx} f(f^{-1}(x)) = \frac{d}{dx} x$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(f^{-1}(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} f^{-1}(x) = 1 \quad \text{' means } \frac{d}{dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} (f^{-1}(x)) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}$$

(Derivative of an inverse function)

This result is sometimes written,

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}}$$

Example 1

Find the derivative of the inverse of the function  
 $f(x) = x^3$ .

$$f(x) = x^3 \begin{cases} f'(x) = 3x^2 \\ f^{-1}(x) = x^{1/3} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dx} f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{f'(x^{1/3})}$$

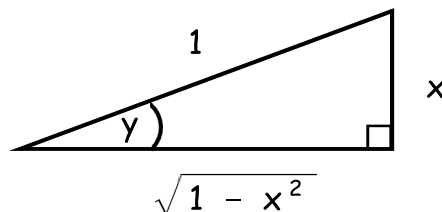
$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{3(x^{1/3})^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d}{dx} f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{3x^{2/3}}}$$

Derivatives of Inverse Trigonometric Functions

Let  $x = \sin y$ . Hence,  $y = \sin^{-1} x$ . Later, we will see that the inverse only makes sense for acute angles  $y$ .

$$\sin y = x = \frac{x}{1}$$



$$\cos y = \frac{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}{1} = \sqrt{1 - x^2}$$

$$x = \sin y \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dy} = \cos y$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin^{-1} x = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}} = \frac{1}{\cos y} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}$$

$$\bullet \frac{d}{dx} \sin^{-1} x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}$$

$$\bullet \frac{d}{dx} \cos^{-1} x = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}$$

$$\bullet \frac{d}{dx} \tan^{-1} x = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$$

Major notational warning :  $\sin^{-1} x$  does not mean  $\frac{1}{\sin x}$

$\sin^{-1}$  is pronounced 'inverse sine' or 'arcsine' (asin)

$\cos^{-1}$  " 'inverse cosine' or 'arccosine' (acos)

$\tan^{-1}$  " 'inverse tangent' or 'arctangent' (atan)

## General Form of Derivatives - Chain Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin^{-1} f(x) = \frac{f'(x)}{\sqrt{1 - (f(x))^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cos^{-1} f(x) = - \frac{f'(x)}{\sqrt{1 - (f(x))^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan^{-1} f(x) = \frac{f'(x)}{1 + (f(x))^2}$$

Example 2

Differentiate  $\sin^{-1}(5x)$  with respect to  $x$ .

$$g(x) = \sin^{-1}(5x)$$

$$\therefore g'(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (5x)^2}} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(5x)$$

$$\Rightarrow g'(x) = \frac{5}{\sqrt{1 - 25x^2}}$$

Example 3

If  $f(x) = \tan^{-1}(e^{4x})$ , find the exact value of  $f'(1/2)$ .

$$f(x) = \tan^{-1}(e^{4x})$$

$$\therefore f'(x) = \frac{1}{1 + (e^{4x})^2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(e^{4x})$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{4e^{4x}}{1 + e^{8x}}$$

$$\therefore f'(1/2) = \frac{4e^{4(1/2)}}{1 + e^{8(1/2)}}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(1/2) = \frac{4e^2}{1 + e^4}$$

Example 4

Find the gradient of the tangent line to the curve defined by  $y = x \cos^{-1} x$  at  $x = 0$ .

$$y(x) = x \cos^{-1} x$$

This is a product of functions of  $x$ , so the Product Rule must be used.

$$\therefore y'(x) = (1) \cos^{-1} x + x \cdot \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y'(x) = \cos^{-1} x - \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

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$$\therefore y'(0) = \cos^{-1}(0) - \frac{0}{\sqrt{1-0^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y'(0) = \pi/2 - 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{y'(0) = \pi/2}$$



## AH Maths - MiA (2<sup>nd</sup> Edn.)

- pg. 84 Ex. 6.1 Q 1 a, b, d.
- pg. 85 Ex. 6.2 Q 1 a, b, d, f,  
2 a, b, d, e, 3 a, c, d, 4 - 6, 8.
- pg. 86-7 Ex. 6.3 Q 1 - 7, 9 a.

## Ex. 6.1

**1** For each function  $f(x)$ , find the derivative of the inverse function  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

- **a**  $f(x) = x^5$       ● **b**  $f(x) = x^{\frac{3}{4}}$       ● **c**  $f(x) = 2x^{-2}, x > 0$   
 ● **d**  $f(x) = x^2 + 1, x > 1$

## Ex. 6.2

**1** Find the derivative of

- **a**  $\sin^{-1} x^2$       ● **b**  $\tan^{-1}(x + 2)$       ● **c**  $\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$       ● **d**  $\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$   
 ● **e**  $\cos^{-1} \frac{1}{x}$       ● **f**  $\cos^{-1} ax$

**2** Find the derived function in each case.

- **a**  $\sin^{-1}(e^x)$       ● **b**  $\cos^{-1}(x + 2)^2$       ● **c**  $\sin^{-1} \sqrt{1 - x^2}$   
 ● **d**  $\sin^{-1}(\tan x)$       ● **e**  $\sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$

**3** Find  $f'(x)$  for each of these expressions for  $f(x)$ .

- **a**  $\cos^{-1} e^{2x}$       ● **b**  $\sin^{-1} \cos(x - 1)$       ● **c**  $\tan^{-1}(1 + x)$   
 ● **d**  $\cos^{-1}(\ln 3x)$       ● **e**  $\sec^{-1} 3x$

**4** Differentiate

- **a**  $\ln(\tan^{-1} \sqrt{x})$       ● **b**  $\ln\left(\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right)$       ● **c**  $\ln(\sin^{-1} e^x)$       ● **d**  $e^{\sin^{-1} x}$

**5** Calculate

- **a**  $f'(1)$  where  $f(x) = e^{\tan^{-1} x}$       ● **b**  $f'(0)$  where  $f(x) = \ln(\cos^{-1} x)$   
 ● **c**  $f'\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$  where  $f(x) = \sin(\tan^{-1} x)$       ● **d**  $f'(\sqrt{3})$  where  $f(x) = \cos\left(\tan^{-1} \frac{1}{x}\right)$

**6** Find the gradient of the curve with equation

- **a**  $y = \ln(\sin^{-1} 2x)$  where  $x = \frac{1}{4}$       ● **b**  $y = (x + \tan^{-1} x)^3$  where  $x = 1$   
 ● **c**  $y = \ln(\cos^{-1}(1 - x))$  where  $x = \frac{1}{2}$       ● **d**  $y = e^{\tan^{-1} x^2}$  where  $x = 1$

**8** Show that  $y = (\sin^{-1} 3x)^4$  has a minimum turning point at the origin.

## Ex. 6.3

**1** Differentiate

**a**  $x^2 \sin^{-1} x$

**b**  $x \sin^{-1} x^2$

**c**  $\sqrt{x} \cos^{-1} x$

**d**  $\sqrt{x} \sin^{-1} \sqrt{x}$

**2** Find the derivative of

**a**  $(1 + x^2) \tan^{-1} x$

**b**  $e^x \sin^{-1} x$

**c**  $e^{2x} \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$

**d**  $\ln x \tan^{-1} x$

**3** Find the derived function for each of these.

**a**  $f(x) = \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x}$

**b**  $f(x) = \frac{\sin^{-1} x}{\sqrt{x}}$

**c**  $f(x) = \frac{\cos^{-1} 2x}{x\sqrt{x}}$

**d**  $f(x) = \frac{\tan^{-1}(x+1)}{x^2}$

**4** Find  $f'(x)$  for each of these.

**a**  $f(x) = \frac{x}{\sin^{-1} x}$

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

**c**  $f(x) = \frac{e^x}{\sin^{-1} 2x}$

**d**  $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{\tan^{-1} x}$

**5** Calculate the gradient of the tangent to the curve with equation

**a**  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2x+3}{3x-2}\right)$  at  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$

**b**  $y = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1+2\cos x}{2+\cos x}\right)$  at  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$

**6** Find the coordinates of the stationary point on the curve with equation

**a**  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{e^x}{x}\right)$

**b**  $y = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\ln x}{x}\right)$

**7** Show that there are no turning points on the curve with equation

$y = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1-x}{1+x}\right).$

**9 a** Show that  $f(x) = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{1-x^2}{1+x^2}\right)$  and  $g(x) = 2 \tan^{-1} x$  have the same derived function.

## Answers to AH Maths (MiA), pg. 84, Ex. 6.1

1 a  $\frac{1}{5}x^{-\frac{4}{5}}$

b  $\frac{4}{3}x^{\frac{1}{3}}$

d  $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x-1}}$

## Answers to AH Maths (MiA), pg. 85, Ex. 6.2

1 a  $\frac{2x}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}$

b  $\frac{1}{x^2+4x+5}$

d  $\frac{-1}{2(x+1)\sqrt{x}}$

f  $\frac{-a}{\sqrt{1-a^2x^2}}$

2 a  $\frac{e^x}{\sqrt{1-e^{2x}}}$

b  $\frac{-2(x+2)}{\sqrt{1-(x+2)^4}}$

d  $\frac{1}{\cos x \sqrt{\cos 2x}}$

e  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}$

3 a  $\frac{-2e^{2x}}{\sqrt{1-e^{4x}}}$

c  $\frac{1}{x^2+2x+2}$

d  $\frac{-1}{x\sqrt{1-(\ln 3x)^2}}$

4 a  $\frac{1}{2(1+x)\sqrt{x} \tan^{-1} \sqrt{x}}$

b  $\frac{-1}{2x\sqrt{x-1} \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right)}$

c  $\frac{e^x}{\sin^{-1}(e^x)\sqrt{1-e^{2x}}}$

d  $\frac{e^{\sin^{-1}x}}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

5 a  $-\frac{e^{\frac{\pi}{4}}}{2}$

b  $-\frac{2}{\pi}$

c  $\frac{64}{125}$

d  $\frac{1}{8}$

6 a  $\frac{8\sqrt{3}}{\pi}$

b  $\frac{9(4+\pi)^2}{32}$

c  $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi}$

d  $e^{\frac{\pi}{4}}$

8  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{12(\sin^{-1} 3x)^3}{\sqrt{1-9x^2}}$ ; SP when  $12(\sin^{-1} 3x)^3 = 0 : x = 0$

is a solution.  $y_{x=0} = 0$ 

A table of signs confirms that it is a minimum TP.

## Answers to AH Maths (MiA), pg. 86-7, Ex. 6.3

$$1 \text{ a } \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} + 2x \sin^{-1} x$$

$$\text{b } \frac{2x^2}{\sqrt{1-x^4}} + \sin^{-1} x^2$$

$$\text{c } \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \cos^{-1} x - \sqrt{\frac{x}{1-x^2}}$$

$$\text{d } \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1-x}} + \frac{\sin^{-1} \sqrt{x}}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$2 \text{ a } 1 + 2x \tan^{-1} x$$

$$\text{b } e^x \left[ \sin^{-1} x + \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \right]$$

$$\text{c } e^{2x} \left[ 2 \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{2} \right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{4-x^2}} \right]$$

$$\text{d } \frac{\ln x}{x^2 + 1} + \frac{\tan^{-1} x}{x}$$

$$3 \text{ a } \frac{x - (1+x^2) \tan^{-1} x}{x^2(1+x^2)}$$

$$\text{b } \frac{2x - \sqrt{1-x^2} \sin^{-1} x}{2x\sqrt{x(1-x^2)}}$$

$$\text{c } \frac{4x + 3\sqrt{1-4x^2} \cos^{-1} 2x}{-2x^2\sqrt{1-4x^2}}$$

$$\text{d } \frac{x - 2(x^2 + 2x + 2) \tan^{-1}(x+1)}{x^3(x^2 + 2x + 2)}$$

$$4 \text{ a } \frac{\sqrt{1-x^2} \sin^{-1} x - x}{\sqrt{1-x^2} (\sin^{-1} x)^2}$$

$$\text{b } \frac{2x\sqrt{2x-x^2} \cos^{-1}(x-1) + x^2}{\sqrt{2x-x^2} (\cos^{-1}(x-1))^2}$$

$$\text{c } \frac{e^x \sqrt{1-4x^2} \sin^{-1} 2x - 2e^x}{\sqrt{1-4x^2} (\sin^{-1} 2x)^2}$$

$$\text{d } \frac{(1+x^2) \tan^{-1} x - x \ln x}{x(1+x^2)(\tan^{-1} x)^2}$$

$$5 \text{ a } -\frac{4}{5}$$

$$\text{b } \frac{6 - 8\sqrt{3}}{13}$$

$$6 \text{ a } (1, \tan^{-1} e)$$

$$\text{b } \left( e, \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{e} \right) \right)$$

$$7 \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-1}{(1+x)\sqrt{x}} \neq 0$$

$$9 \text{ a } f'(x) = g'(x) = \frac{2}{1+x^2}$$