

# HOSSAM GHANEM

## (17) 3.2 Definition of Derivative (A)

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

### Example 1

52 April 9,  
2009 A

State the definition of the derivative of the function  $f$  at  $x = a$ .

Solution

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

### Example 2

Show that if  $f$  is differentiable at  $x = a$ . Then  $f$  is continuous at  $x = a$

Solution

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

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(a) + \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} (x - a)$$

$f$  is differentiable

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a) + \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} (x - a)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} = f'(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a) + f'(x) \cdot 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$$

Then  $f$  is continuous at  $x = a$

**Example 3**

Evaluate:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 2^{\frac{1}{2}}}$  If  $f'(2) = 4$

**Solution**

$$L = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{2}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(f(x) - f(2))(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{2})}{(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{2})} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x - 2} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \sqrt{x} + 2$$

$$= f'(2) \cdot (\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}) = 4 \cdot (2\sqrt{2}) = 8\sqrt{2}$$

**Example 4**

Find the limit if it exists  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^3 - x^3}{h}$

25 January 12 .2003

**Solution**

$$L = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^3 - x^3}{h}$$

Let  $f(x) = x^3 \quad \therefore f(x+h) = (x+h)^3 \quad \& \quad f'(x) = 3x^2$

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

**Example 5**

33 October  
25, 2001 A

Write the definition of the derivative of  $f$  at 1. Then use it to find  $f'(1)$  if it exists, where  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 2x + 1}$  Justify your answer.

**Solution**

$$f'(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1}$$

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

$$f(1) = \sqrt{1 - 2 + 1} = 0$$

$$f'(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 2x + 1} - 0}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\sqrt{(x-1)^2}}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{|x-1|}{x-1}$$

$$L_1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{|x-1|}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{(x-1)}{x-1} = 1$$

$$L_2 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{|x-1|}{x-1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{-(x-1)}{x-1} = -1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{|x-1|}{x-1} \text{ D.N.E}$$

$$f'(1) \text{ D.N.E}$$



**Example 6**13 November  
1995Use the definition of derivative to find  $f'(x)$ , where  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$  where  $x \neq 1$ **Solution**

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

**Example 7**60 October 31,  
2011(4 points) Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$ . Use the definition of derivative to find  $f'(3)$ .**Solution**

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \sqrt{x+1} \\
 f(3) &= \sqrt{3+1} = 2 \\
 f'(3) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{f(x) - f(3)}{x-3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - 2}{x-3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{(\sqrt{x+1} - 2)(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)}{(x-3)(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x+1-4}{(x-3)(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x-3}{(x-3)(\sqrt{x+1} + 2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} + 2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3+1} + 2} = \frac{1}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$



## Homework

<u>1</u> 47 November 10, 2007 A	If $f'(2) = -8$ then find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x^3 - 8}$
<u>2</u> 50 November 17, 2008 A	Let $f$ be a function such that $f'(1) = 3$ . Find $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x^2 - 1}$
<u>3</u>	Let $f(x) = 2x^2 - 5x + 1$ Using the definition of the derivative, find $f'(1)$
<u>4</u> 25 December 10, 2000	Let $f(x) = x^2 + x - 2$ . Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(1)$
<u>5</u> 54 November 16, 2009 A	Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(2)$ , where $f(x) = \sqrt{x+2}$
<u>6</u> 34 March 23, 2002	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(1)$ where $f(x) = \sqrt{5-4x}$
<u>7</u> 40 October 28, 2004 A	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(3)$ where $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$
<u>8</u> 35 October 31, 2002 A	Let $f(x) = \sqrt{7-3x}$ Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(1)$
<u>9</u> 45 March 28, 2007	Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(0)$ if $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1}}$
<u>10</u> 53 July 18, 2009 A	Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(1)$ , where $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + 1$
<u>11</u>	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(x)$ , where $f(x) = \frac{1}{x+2}$ , $x \neq -1$

## Homework

<u>12</u> 48 March 25, 2008 A	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(2)$ where $f(x) = \sqrt{x+2} - 1$
<u>13</u> 14 March 1996	Use the definition of derivative to find $\frac{ds}{dt}$ , where $s = t^2 + 1$
<u>14</u> 18 May 24, 2000	Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(1)$ , where $f(x) = \sqrt{3x+1}$
<u>15</u> 58 7 April 2011	[ 3 pts. ] The following limit represents $f'(a)$ for a function $f$ and a number $a$ . Identify $f$ and $a$ , and use this information to compute the limit . $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^{100} - 1}{x + 1}$
<u>16</u> 55 April 8, 2010	(3pts) Use the definition of the derivative to evaluate $f'(-1)$ , for $f(x) = \sqrt{1-x}$
<u>17</u> 56 July 10, 2010	Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(x)$ if $f(x) = \sqrt{x+5}$ (3 points)
<u>18</u> 57 November 8, 2010	Use the definition of the derivative to show that $f$ is differentiable at $-1$ , where $f(x) = \begin{cases} -2x - 1 & , \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ x^2 & , \text{if } x > -1 \end{cases} \quad (3 \text{ pts.})$
<u>19</u> 26 May 10, 2001	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(1)$ if $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$

## Homework

<u>20</u> 2 November 1989	Let $f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 4$ Using the definition of the derivative, find $f'(1)$
<u>21</u> 32 August 02, 2008	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(1)$ where $f(x) = x + \sqrt{x} - 1$
<u>22</u> 38 March 31, 2004	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(1)$ where $f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{x}}$
<u>23</u> 41 March 30, 2005	Use the definition of derivative to find $f'(2)$ where $f(x) = \sqrt{x^3 + 1}$
<u>24</u> 35 August 15, 2009	Let $f(x) = 2x +  x $ (a) Find the points, if any, where $f$ is discontinuous. Justify your answer. (b) Find the points, if any, where $f$ is not differentiable. Justify your answer



**20****2 November  
1989**Let  $f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 4$  Using the definition of the derivative, find  $f'(1)$ **Solution**

$$f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 4$$

$$f(1) = 1 + 3 + 4 = 8$$

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

$$f'(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 + 3x + 4 - 8}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 + 3x - 4}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 1)(x + 4)}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x + 4) = 5$$

**21****32 August 02,  
2008**Use the definition of derivative to find  $f'(1)$  where  $f(x) = x + \sqrt{x} - 1$ **Solution**

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

$$f(1) = 1 + 1 - 1 = 1$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} f'(1) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x + \sqrt{x} - 1 - 1}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x + \sqrt{x} - 2}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 2) + \sqrt{x}}{x - 1} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{[(x - 2) + \sqrt{x}][x - 1]}{(x - 1)[(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}]} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 2)^2 - x}{(x - 1)[(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}]} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 4x + 4 - x}{(x - 1)[(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}]} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 5x + 4}{(x - 1)[(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}]} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 4)(x - 1)}{(x - 1)[(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}]} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x - 4)}{(x - 2) - \sqrt{x}} = \frac{-3}{-1 - 1} = \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

**22****38 March 31,  
2004**Use the definition of derivative to find  $f'(1)$  where  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{x}}$ **Solution**

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} f'(1) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x) - f(1)}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{2}}{x - 1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{2(1 + \sqrt{x}) \left( \frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{2} \right)}{2(1 + \sqrt{x})(x - 1)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{2 - (1 + \sqrt{x})}{2(1 + \sqrt{x})(x - 1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{1 - \sqrt{x}}{2(1 + \sqrt{x})(x - 1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{-(\sqrt{x} - 1)}{2(1 + \sqrt{x})(\sqrt{x} - 1)(\sqrt{x} + 1)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{-1}{2(1 + \sqrt{x})^2} = \frac{-1}{2(2)^2} = \frac{-1}{8} \end{aligned}$$

**23**41 March 30,  
2005Use the definition of derivative to find  $f'(2)$  where  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^3 + 1}$ **Solution**

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x^3 + 1}$$

$$f(2) = \sqrt{8 + 1} = \sqrt{9} = 3$$

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

$$f'(2) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{f(x) - f(2)}{x - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{\sqrt{x^3 + 1} - 3}{x - 2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} - 3)(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)}{(x - 2)(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 + 1 - 9}{(x - 2)(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{(x - 2)(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)}{(x - 2)(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x^2 + 2x + 4)}{(\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + 3)} = \frac{4 + 4 + 4}{3 + 3} = \frac{12}{6} = 2$$

**24**35 August 15,  
2009Let  $f(x) = 2x + |x|$ (a) Find the points, if any, where  $f$  is discontinuous. Justify your answer.(b) Find the points, if any, where  $f$  is not differentiable. Justify your answer**Solution**

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x + x & \text{If } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{If } x = 0 \\ 2x - x & \text{If } x < 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x & \text{If } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{If } x = 0 \\ x & \text{If } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} x = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 3x = 0$$

$$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 0 = f(0)$$

$\therefore f$  is cont. on  $R$

$$\therefore f'(0^-) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{x - 0}{x - 0} = 1$$

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

$$f'(0^-) \neq f'(0^+)$$

$\therefore f$  is not differentiable at  $x = 0$

