

# Derivatives of Inverse Functions

**Directions:** Show your work neatly on a separate sheet of paper.

A. Find the derivative of  $f^{-1}$  for each of the following functions:

1.  $f(x) = 5x^3 + x - 7$   
 $X = 5y^3 + y - 7$   
 $1 = 15y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{15y^2 + 1}$$

2.  $f(x) = 2x^5 + x^3 + 1$   
 $X = 2y^5 + y^3 + 1$   
 $1 = 10y^4 \frac{dy}{dx} + 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{10y^4 + 3y^2}$$

3.  $f(x) = 5x - \sin(2x)$   
 $X = 5y - \sin(2y)$   
 $1 = 5 \frac{dy}{dx} - 2\cos(2y) \frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{5 - 2\cos(2y)}$$

#7  
 $(g^{-1})'(3) = \frac{1}{g'(7)} = \frac{4}{3}$   
 #8  
 $g'(6) = \frac{1}{f'(2)} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{3}} = 3$   
 $g(6) = 2 \neq f(2) = 6$

B. Evaluating the Derivatives of Inverse Functions

1. Find the derivative of the inverse of  $f(x) = x^3 + 7x + 2$  at the point where  $f^{-1}(10) = 1$ .

$X = Y^3 + 7Y + 2$   
 $1 = 3Y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 7 \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3Y^2 + 7}$   
 $(f^{-1})'(10) = \frac{1}{f'(1)} = \frac{1}{10}$   
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 7$   
 $f'(1) = 3 + 7 = 10$

2. Let  $f$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = x^3 + x$ . If  $g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$  and  $g(2) = 1$ , what is the value of  $g'(2)$ ?

$X = Y^3 + Y$   
 $1 = 3Y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3Y^2 + 1}$   
 $g'(2) = \frac{1}{f'(1)} = \frac{1}{4}$   
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 1$   
 $f'(1) = 3 + 1 = 4$

3. Let  $f$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = x^3 + 8x + \cos(3x)$ . If  $g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$  and  $g(1) = 0$ , find the value of  $g'(1)$ .

$X = Y^3 + 8Y + \cos(3Y)$   
 $1 = 3Y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 8 \frac{dy}{dx} - 3\sin(3Y) \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3Y^2 + 8 - 3\sin(3Y)}$   
 $g'(1) = \frac{1}{f'(0)} = \frac{1}{8}$   
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 8 - 3\sin(3x)$   
 $f'(0) = 3(0)^2 + 8 - 3\sin(0) = 8$

4. If  $f(x) = x^5 + 3x + 2$  and  $g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$ , find  $g'(2)$ .

$X = Y^5 + 3Y + 2$   
 $1 = 5Y^4 \frac{dy}{dx} + 3 \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{5Y^4 + 3}$   
 $g'(2) = \frac{1}{f'(0)}$   
 $f'(x) = 5x^4 + 3$   
 $f'(0) = 3$   
 $g(2) = ?$   
 $f(?) = 2$   
 $0 = X^5 + 3X + 2$   
 $0 = X^5 + 3X$   
 $0 = X(X^4 + 3)$   
 $X = 0$  never = 0

5. Find  $(f^{-1})'(-1)$  if  $f(x) = 3x - \cos x$ .

$X = 3Y - \cos Y$   
 $1 = 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + \sin Y \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3 + \sin Y}$   
 $(f^{-1})'(-1) = \frac{1}{f'(0)}$   
 $f'(x) = 3 + \sin x$   
 $f'(0) = 3 + \sin 0 = 3$   
 $f^{-1}(-1) = ?$   
 $f(?) = -1$   
 $f^{-1}(-1) = 0$   
 $3x - \cos x = -1$   
 $0 - \cos 0 = -1$   
 $-1 = -1$

6. Find  $(f^{-1})'(5)$  if  $f(x) = x^3 + 2x + 5$ .

$X = Y^3 + 2Y + 5$   
 $1 = 3Y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2 \frac{dy}{dx}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3Y^2 + 2}$   
 $(f^{-1})'(5) = \frac{1}{f'(0)}$   
 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2$   
 $f'(0) = 2$   
 $f^{-1}(5) = ?$   
 $f(?) = 5$   
 $f^{-1}(5) = 0$   
 $x^3 + 2x + 5 = 5$   
 $x^3 + 2x = 0$   
 $x(x^2 + 2) = 0$   
 $x = 0$   $x^2 + 2 \neq 0$