

The Spring 2025 Differentiation Assessment will cover the following sections:

- 3.3 Product and Quotient Rules
- 3.6 Derivatives of Trig Functions
- 3.7 Chain Rule
- 3.8 Implicit Differentiation
- 3.9 Derivatives of General Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- 3.10 Related Rates

Here is a sampling of problems from past exams. You should also look for practice problems from your class notes, textbook, and online homework to help you study.

**From SP23 Exam 2**

4. (4 points each) Compute the following derivatives. Do not simplify.

(a) Let  $f(\theta) = \frac{e^{\sin(\theta)}}{\theta}$ . Find  $f'(\theta)$ .

(b) Let  $y = 2^{x^2}$ . Find the **second derivative**  $\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)$  of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ .

5. (6 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $e^{3x} = \sin(y) - 8y$ . Solve for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of both  $x$  and  $y$ .

6. (20 points) One boat approaches a dock from the west at a constant speed of 20 km/hr. At 12:00 PM, this boat is 60 km directly west of the dock. Another boat leaves the same dock at 11:00 AM traveling directly north at a constant speed of 15 km/hr.

(a) (10 points) At what rate (in units of km/hr) is the distance between the boats changing at 1:00 PM? Work must be shown to receive credit.

**From SP22 Ex 2**

4. (4 points each) Compute the following derivatives. Do not simplify.

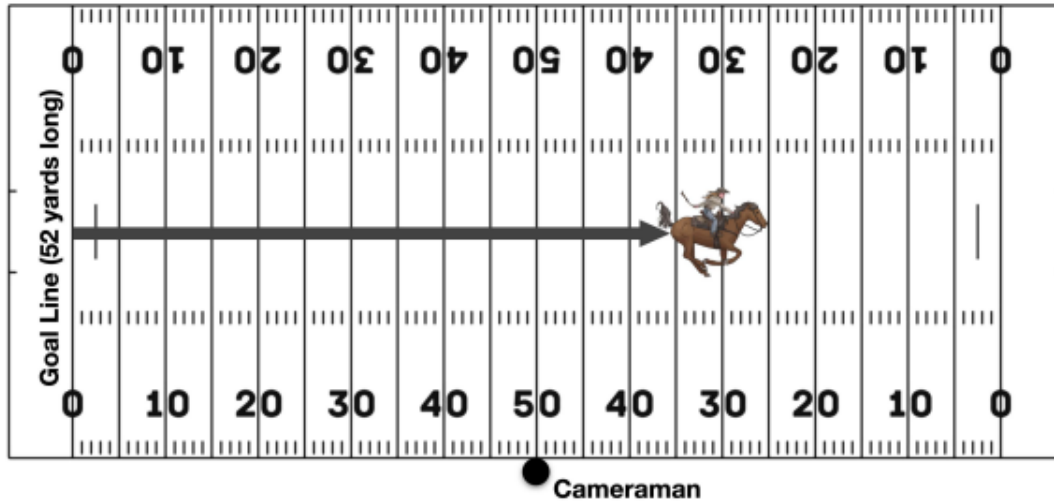
(a) Let  $f(x) = \arctan(x^3)$ . Find  $f'(x)$ .

(b) Let  $y = 2^{\sin(\theta)}$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{d\theta}$ .

(c) Let  $g(t) = \log_7(t^2)$ . Find  $g''(t)$ .

5. (6 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $\sqrt{x} - \cos(y) = e^y + \pi$ . Your answer for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  should contain both  $x$  and  $y$ .

6. (10 points) After the OSU football team scores a touchdown during a home game, a horse named Bullet runs down the center of the field at a constant speed of 18 yards per second. A cameraman standing at the 50 yard-line films bullet running (see image below). At what rate must the cameraman rotate his camera to keep Bullet in the frame at exactly 4 seconds after bullet passed the goal line (see image below)? Provide an answer accurate to three decimal places.



**From FA22 Ex2**

4. (4 points each) Compute the following derivatives. Do not simplify.

(a) Let  $f(t) = \sec(\sqrt{2t})$ . Find  $f'(t)$ .

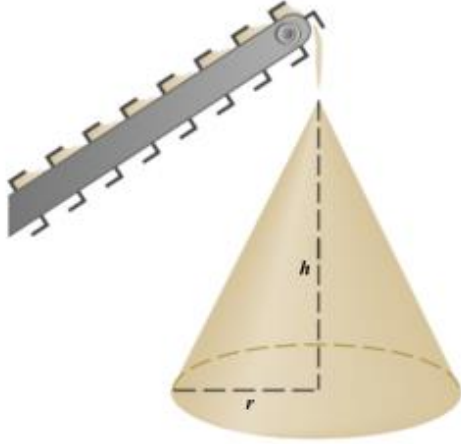
(b) Let  $y = 5^{\arcsin(x)}$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ . (Recall that  $\arcsin(x) = \sin^{-1}(x)$ , the inverse of the sine function).

(c) Let  $g(t) = x \ln(x)$ . Find the **second derivative** of  $g$  ( $\frac{d^2g}{dt^2}$  or  $g''(x)$ ).

5. (6 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $xe^y = \tan(y)$ . Your answer for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  should contain both  $x$  and  $y$ .

6. (10 points) Suppose gravel is being poured into a conical pile at a rate of  $5 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ , and suppose that the radius  $r$  of this cone is always half its height  $h$ . How fast is the height of the pile increasing when the height is 10 m?

(Note that the formula for the volume of a cone is  $V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$ ).



## From FA23 Ex 2

- (iv) A lighthouse is located on a small island 3 kilometers away from the nearest point  $P$  on a straight shoreline. Let  $x$  represent the distance between  $P$  and the light beam's intersection with the shoreline. Also let  $\theta$  represent the measure of the angle created by the beam of light and the line connecting the lighthouse and  $P$ . Which formula defines the relationship between the rate of change of the angle's measure and the rate at which the beam of light is moving along the shoreline?

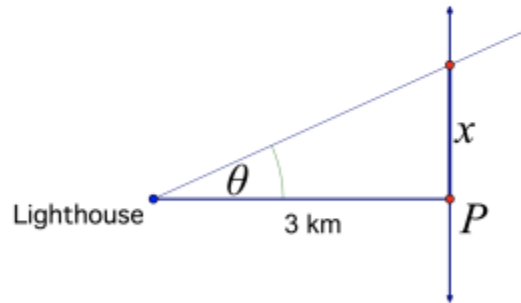
a.  $\tan\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right) = \frac{dx}{dt}$

b.  $\sec^2(\theta) \cdot \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$

c.  $\sec^2\left(\frac{d\theta}{dt}\right) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$

d.  $\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{1}{3 \sec^2(\theta)}$

e.  $\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2}$



4. (4 points each) Compute the following derivatives.

(a) Let  $f(x) = \frac{7^x}{x^7}$ . Find  $f'(x)$ .

(b) Let  $y = \ln(\sec(x))$ . Find the **second derivative**  $\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)$ , or  $y''$ , of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ .



5. (6 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $\ln(3x^4) = e^{\sin(y)} + y$ . Solve for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of both  $x$  and  $y$ .

6. (10 points) Firefighter Everett raises the ladder of a firetruck to the third floor of a burning building. As the ladder elevates, the measure of the angle,  $\theta$ , the ladder makes with the horizontal changes at a constant rate of  $\frac{\pi}{20}$  radians per second. At what rate does the slope of the ladder change when  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$ ?

Express your solution as an exact value, not an approximation.

(Hint: Consider which of  $\sin(\theta)$ ,  $\cos(\theta)$ , or  $\tan(\theta)$  represents the slope of the ladder.)



**From FA24 Ex 2**

3. (5 points each) Compute the following derivatives. Do not simplify.

(a) Let  $g(x) = 6x^4 + \ln(\sqrt{x} - 4) + 8x$ . Find  $g'(x)$ .

(b) Let  $y = \frac{e^x}{\sin(x)}$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

(c) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  when  $y = \arctan(x^3)$  in terms of  $x$  only.

4. (8 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $x^2 - \sin(y) = xy^2 + e^\pi$ . You must solve for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ .

6. (10 points) An airplane is flying horizontally, parallel to the ground, in a straight line at an altitude of 8 kilometers and passes directly over a radar antenna. When the distance between the plane and the antenna is 12 kilometers, the radar detects that the distance between the plane and the antenna is changing at a rate of 340 kilometers per hour. What is the speed of the airplane at that moment? (Express your solution as an exact answer.)

**From SP24 Ex 2**

4. (5 points each) Use the table of values below to answer the following questions. State your answers as exact values.

$x$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$f'(x)$	$g'(x)$
1	7	-1	3	6
2	5	1	3	-4
4	0	1	0	-2

(a) If  $h(x) = f((g(x))^2)$ , then  $h'(2) =$

(b) If  $s(x) = x^2 \arctan(f(x))$ , then  $s'(4) =$

(c) If  $k(x) = 2^{g(x)}$ , then  $k'(1) =$

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5. (4 points each) Compute the following derivatives.

(a) Let  $f(x) = \pi x^{e^x}$ . Find  $f'(x)$ .

(b) Let  $y = \sin(\theta)$  where  $\theta$  is measured in degrees (not radians!). Find the **second derivative**  $\left(\frac{d^2y}{d\theta^2}\right)$ , or  $y''$ , of  $y$  with respect to  $\theta$ .

6. (6 points) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for the curve  $y - \sec(4^y) = xy + \sin(x)$ . Solve for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of both  $x$  and  $y$ .