

## APPLICATIONS OF DERIVATIVES

### SYNOPSIS

#### ERRORS AND APPROXIMATIONS

1. If  $y = f(x)$  and  $\delta x$  is a small change in  $x$  then the corresponding change in  $y$  (approximately) is given by  $f'(x) \delta x$ . This is called the differential of  $y$  is denoted by  $dy$   
 $\therefore dy = f'(x) \delta x$
2. The actual change or the actual error in  $y$  is denoted by  $\delta y = f(x + \delta x) - f(x)$
3.  $\delta y \cong dy = f'(x) \delta x$
4. If  $\delta x$  be the error in  $x$  then the approximate value of  $f(x)$  is  
 $f(x + \delta x) \cong f(x) + f'(x) \delta x$
5. Let  $\delta x$  be any change in  $x$  and  $\delta y$  be the corresponding change in  $y$ . Then
  - (i)  $\delta y$  is called error in  $y$   
 $\frac{\delta y}{y}$
  - (ii)  $\frac{\delta y}{y}$  is called relative error in  $y$   
 $\frac{\delta y}{y} \times 100$  is called percentage error in  $y$
  - (iii)  $\frac{\delta y}{y} \times 100$  is called percentage error in  $y$
6. If  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  then  $\delta f - df = a(\delta x)^2$
7. If  $y = f(x)$  is a homogeneous function of degree  $n$  or  $y \propto x^n$  then
  - (i) Relative error in  $y = n$  [Relative error in  $x$ ]
  - (ii) % error in  $y = n$  [% error in  $x$ ]

## RATE OF CHANGE

1. If  $x$  is any variable,  $\frac{dx}{dt}$  represents the rate of change of  $x$  at time 't'.
2. If  $s$  is the displacement of a particle at time 't', then  $\frac{ds}{dt}$  represents the velocity of the particle at that instant.
3. If  $v$  is the velocity of a particle at time 't', then  $\frac{dv}{dt}$  represents the acceleration of the particle at that instant.
4. A particle moving on a straight line comes to rest if  $\frac{ds}{dt} = 0$  &  $\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = 0$
5. A particle moving on a straight line is at rest momentarily if  $\frac{ds}{dt} = 0$  &  $\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} \neq 0$
6. A particle, projected vertically upwards, attains the maximum height when  $\frac{ds}{dt} = 0$
7. A particle acquires maximum velocity if  $\frac{dv}{dt} = 0$
8. A particle changes its direction if  $\frac{ds}{dt} = 0$  and  $\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} \neq 0$
9. If  $v$  is velocity of a particle moving along a straight line and  $v$  is expressed in terms of displacement 's', then the acceleration of the particle =  $v \frac{dv}{ds}$
10. If  $p(x,y)$  is a variable point on a curve of  $y = f(x)$ , then its velocity at time 't' is

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right)^2}$$

11. The equations of motion of a particle P(x, y) on a plane curve are given by  $x = f(t)$ ,  $y = g(t)$ . Then the velocity of the particle is given by

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = \sqrt{[f^1(t)]^2 + [g^1(t)]^2}$$

12. If  $\theta$  is a variable angle associated with a variable point P, then  $\frac{d\theta}{dt}$  represents the angular velocity of P at time t.
13. The rate of change in velocity is called the acceleration of the particle at t and is denoted by a

$$\therefore a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{ds}{dt} \right) = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = \frac{dv}{ds} \frac{ds}{dt} = v \cdot \frac{dv}{ds}.$$

14. Let O be a fixed point and OX be a fixed ray. Let P be the position of the particle on a curve C at time t such that  $\angle XOP = \theta$ . Then  $\frac{d\theta}{dt}$  is called the angular velocity and is denoted by  $\omega$ ,  $\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2}$  is called the angular acceleration of the particle about 'O' and is denoted by ' $\alpha$ '.

## INCREASING AND DECREASING FUNCTIONS

1. A function  $f(x)$  is an increasing function of  $x$  if, as  $x$  increases,  $f(x)$  increases. i.e.  $f(x)$  is an increasing function of  $x$  if,  $x_1 > x_2 \Leftrightarrow f(x_1) > f(x_2)$ .
2. A function  $f(x)$  is a decreasing function of  $x$ , if, as  $x$  increases,  $f(x)$  decreases i.e. if  $x_1 > x_2 \Leftrightarrow f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ .
3. A function  $f(x)$  is an increasing function of  $x$  if  $f'(x) > 0$ .
4. A function  $f(x)$  is a decreasing function of  $x$  if  $f'(x) < 0$ .
5.  $a^x$  is increasing function of  $x$  if  $a > 1$  and decreasing if  $0 < a < 1$ .
6.  $\log_a x$  is an increasing function of  $x$  if  $a > 1$  and decreasing function if  $0 < a < 1$
7. If both  $f$  and  $g$  are either increasing or decreasing, then  $f \circ g$  and  $g \circ f$  are increasing.
8. If any one of  $f$  and  $g$  are increasing and an other one is decreasing, then  $g \circ f$  and  $f \circ g$  are decreasing.

## MAXIMA AND MINIMA

1. Let  $f$  be a real function which is differentiable at 'a'. If  $f'(a) = 0$  then we say that  $f(x)$  is stationary at  $x = a$ ,  $(a, f(a))$  is called stationary point  $f(a)$  is called stationary value.
2. If there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(x) \leq f(a)$  for every  $a - \delta < x < a + \delta$  then  $f$  is said to have relative maximum at 'a'.  $f(a)$  is called relative (local) maximum value.  
If there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $f(x) \geq f(a)$  for every  $a - \delta < x < a + \delta$  then  $f$  is said to have relative minimum at 'a'.  $f(a)$  is called relative (local) minimum value.
3. The points at which a function attains either maximum or minimum are called extreme points or turning points of the function. Maximum or minimum values of a function are called extreme values or turning values of the function.
4. Necessary condition for extreme value of function:  
If a function  $f(x)$  has extreme value  $f(a)$  then  $f'(a) = 0$ , if it exists.
5. Sufficient conditions for extreme values:  
Let  $f(x)$  be derivable at  $x = a$ 
  - a)  $x = a$  is point of relative maximum of  $f(x)$  if  $f'(a)$  changes sign from +ve to -ve as  $x$  passes through the point  $x = a$  from left nbd to right nbd.
  - b)  $x = a$  is a point of relative minimum of  $f(x)$  if  $f'(a)$  changes sign from -ve to +ve as  $x$  passes through the point  $x = a$  from left nbd to right nbd.

**Note:** If  $f'(a)$  has the same sign in the entire neighbourhood of  $x = a$  then  $x = a$  is not extremum.

6. Sufficient conditions for extreme values.

Let  $f(x)$  be derivable at  $x = a$  and  $f''(a)$  exists and is non-zero.

a)  $f'(a) = 0$  and  $f''(a) < 0 \Rightarrow x = a$  is a point of relative maximum.

b)  $f'(a) = 0$  and  $f''(a) > 0 \Rightarrow x = a$  is a point of relative minimum.

7. If  $f(x)$  is increasing in  $[a, b]$  then  $f(a) =$  Minimum value and  $f(b) =$  Maximum value of  $f(x)$  in  $[a, b]$ .

If  $f(x)$  is decreasing in  $[a, b]$  then  $f(a) =$  Maximum value and  $f(b) =$  Minimum value of  $f(x)$  in  $[a, b]$ .

8. 1. The maximum value of  $a \cos^2 x + b \sin^2 x$  is 'a' and minimum value = b (If  $a > b$ )

2. The minimum value of  $f(x) = a \tan x + b \cot x$  is  $2\sqrt{ab}$  and attains at  $\tan x = \sqrt{b/a}$ .

3. The minimum value of  $f(x) = a^2 \sec^2 x + b^2 \operatorname{cosec}^2 x$  is  $(a + b)^2$  and attained at  $\tan x = \sqrt{b/a}$

4. The minimum value of  $f(x) = a \sec x + b \operatorname{cosec} x$  is  $(a^{2/3} + b^{2/3})^{3/2}$  and it is attained at  $\tan x = (a/b)^{1/3}$ .

5. The maximum value of  $f(x) = \sin^m x \cdot \cos^n x$  is  $\frac{m^{m/2} \cdot n^{n/2}}{(m+n)^{\frac{m+n}{2}}} = \sqrt{\frac{m^m \cdot n^n}{(m+n)^{m+n}}}$  and

attained at  $\tan x = \sqrt{\frac{m}{n}}$

9. 1. The sum of two numbers is k. If the sum of their squares is minimum. Then the numbers are  $K/2, K/2$ .

2. The sum of two numbers is k and the least sum of their squares is  $K^2/2$ .

3. The sum of two numbers is K. If their product is maximum, then the numbers are  $k/2, k/2$ .

4. The product of two positive numbers is K. If the sum of their squares is minimum, then the numbers are  $\sqrt{K}, \sqrt{K}$ .

5. Sum of two numbers is k. If the product of the square of the first and cube of the second is maximum then the numbers  $2k/5, 3k/5$ .

10. 1. If  $a > 0, b > 0, x > 0$ , the least value of  $f(x) = ax + \frac{b}{x}$  is  $2\sqrt{ab}$ .
2. If  $x > 0$ , the least value of  $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$  is 2.
11. 1. The maximum rectangle inscribed in a circle is square.
2. The maximum area of rectangle in a cube of radius  $r$  is  $2r^2$ .
12. 1. The maximum triangle inscribed in a circle is equilateral triangle.
2. The maximum area of a triangle in a circle of radius  $r$  is  $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4} r^2$  sq. units.
13. 1. The perimeter of a sector is 'C' cms. Then maximum area of sector is  $\frac{C^2}{16}$  sq. cm.
2. Perimeter of sector is given. The area of sector is maximum. Then the angle of sector is 2 radians.
3. The area of sector is 'a' sq. cm. Then the least perimeter of sector is  $4\sqrt{a}$  cm.
14. 1. The hypotenuse of a right angled triangle is 'a'. If the area of triangle is maximum. Then the sides are  $\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}$ .
2. Two sides of a triangle are given. The area of the triangle is maximum. Then the angle between sides is  $\pi/2$ .
3. The sum of hypotenuse and one side of right angled triangle is given. The area is maximum. Then the angle between the sides is  $\pi/3$ .
15. 1. An open box of maximum volume is made from a square piece of tin of side 'a' by cutting for four equal square pieces from four corners and folding up the tin then the length of square cut is  $\frac{a}{6}$ .

2. An open box of maximum volume is made from a rectangular piece of tin of length 'a' and breath 'b' by cutting four equal square pieces from four corners and folding up the tin. Then the length of box is  $\frac{1}{6}\{(a+b)-\sqrt{a^2+b^2-ab}\}$ .

16. 1. The area of the greatest rectangle inscribed in an ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  is  $2ab$  and the sides are  $a\sqrt{2}$ ,  $b\sqrt{2}$ .
2. Maximum area of  $\Delta$  formed by a line through  $(x_1, y_1)$  and coordinate axes is  $2|x_1, y_1|$ .



## MEANVALUE THEOREMS

**Rolle's Theorem:** If a function  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is such that

- i) It is continuous on  $[a, b]$
- ii) It is derivable on  $(a, b)$  and
- iii)  $f(a) = f(b)$  then there exists at least one  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

**Lagrange's mean -value theorem or first mean - value theorem:**

If a function  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is such that

- i) It is continuous on  $[a, b]$ .
- ii) It is derivable on  $(a, b)$  then there exists at least one  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = f'(c)$$