

Derivatives of Inverse Functions Homework

- 1) For $f(x) = x^2, x \geq 0$, calculate the value of $(f^{-1})'(x)$ when $x = 4$.

$$f(2) = 4 \quad f^{-1}(4) = 2 \quad \frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(4)] = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(4))} = \frac{1}{f'(2)} = \frac{1}{x(2)} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

- 2) For $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^3 + x - 1$, calculate the value of $(f^{-1})'(x)$ when $x = 3$.

$$f(2) = 3 \quad f^{-1}(3) = 2 \quad \frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(3)] = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(3))} = \frac{1}{f'(2)} = \frac{1}{\frac{3}{4}(2)^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{3}{4}x^2 + 1$$

- 3) Find the derivative of the inverse function of $f(x) = e^x + \ln x$ at $x = e$.

$$f(1) = e \quad f^{-1}(e) = 1 \quad \frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(e)] = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(e))} = \frac{1}{f'(1)} = \frac{1}{e^1 + 1} = \frac{1}{e+1}$$

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

- 4) Find the derivative of the inverse function of $y = e^{x^2}, x > 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{INVERSE: } x &= e^{y^2} & \frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(x)] &= \frac{d}{dx} [\sqrt{\ln x}] \\ \ln x &= \ln e^{y^2} & &= \frac{1}{2} (\ln x)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ \ln x &= y^2 & &= \frac{1}{2x\sqrt{\ln x}} \\ y &= \pm\sqrt{\ln x} & & \end{aligned}$$

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

- 5) Determine the equation of the tangent line to $f^{-1}(x)$ at the point where $x = 3$, given the following information: $f(2) = 3$ and $f'(2) = 5$.

$$f^{-1}(3) = 2$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(3)] = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(3))} = \frac{1}{f'(2)} = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$y - 2 = \frac{1}{5}(x - 3)$$

- 6) Determine the equation of the tangent line to $f^{-1}(x)$ at the point $(-5, 0)$, given the function $f(x) = -5 + 2x - \cos x$. (hint: use alternate form of the derivative)

$$f(y) = -5 + 2y - \cos y$$

$$f'(y) = 2 + \sin y$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f^{-1}(x)] = \frac{1}{2 + \sin y} = \frac{1}{2 + \sin(0)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}(x + 6)$$

- 7) Find $g'(2)$, where g is the inverse function of $f(x) = x^5 - x^3 + 2x$.

$$f(1) = 2$$

$$g(2) = 1$$

$$g'(2) = \frac{1}{f'(g(2))} = \frac{1}{f'(1)} = \frac{1}{5(1)^4 - 3(1)^2 + 2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$f'(x) = 5x^4 - 3x^2 + 2$$

- 8) Calculate $g'(1)$, where $g(x)$ is the inverse of the function $f(x) = x + e^x$.

$$f(0) = 1$$

$$g(1) = 0$$

$$g'(1) = \frac{1}{f'(g(1))} = \frac{1}{f'(0)} = \frac{1}{1 + e^0} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$f'(x) = 1 + e^x$$