

## Derivatives of Exponential Functions

Calculus 12  
Unit 3.5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recognize the difference between exponential functions and power functions

Exponential Functions	Power Functions
Variable in the exponent, base is constant	<u>Variable in the base, exponent is constant</u>
Ex: $y = 2^x$ , $y = e^{\sin x}$ , $y = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x^2+7x+1}$	Ex: $y = x^4$ , $y = (\sin x)^8$ , $y = (x^2 + \cos x)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$  $y = x^e$ $y = x^{\sqrt{2}}$
Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} a^u = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$	Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} u^n = n u^{n-1} \frac{du}{dx}$

1. Determine the derivatives of each of the following functions:

a)  $y = 5^{\sin x}$        $y' = 5^{\sin x} \cdot \ln 5 \cdot (\cos x)$

b)  $y = e^{2x+3}$        $y' = e^{2x+3} \cdot \ln e \cdot (2) = 2 \cdot e^{2x+3}$   
cancel out

c)  $y = 7^{\sin x + \cos x}$        $y' = 7^{\sin x + \cos x} \cdot \ln 7 \cdot (\cos x - \sin x)$

d)  $y = e^2 x + 2x^e$        $y' = e^2 + 2ex^{e-1}$

e)  $y = 10^x + x^{10}$        $y' = 10^x \cdot \ln 10 \cdot (1) + 10x^9$   
 $y' = 10^x \cdot \ln 10 + 10x^9$

f)  $y = x^{\sqrt{2}}$        $y' = \sqrt{2} \cdot x^{(\sqrt{2}-1)}$

g)  $y = \sqrt{2}^x$        $y' = \sqrt{2}^x \cdot \ln \sqrt{2} \cdot 1$

2. Find the equation of the tangent to  $y = 2^x$  at  $x = 1$ .

coordinate  $y(1) = 2^1$   
 $y = 2$   
 $(1, 2)$

$$y - 2 = 2 \ln 2 (x - 1)$$

$$m_{\text{tan}} = y' \Big|_{x=1}$$

$$= 2^x \cdot \ln 2 \cdot (1) \Big|_{x=1} = 2 \ln 2$$

3. Find all points on the curve  $y = x^2 e^x$  where the tangent line is horizontal.  
*product rule* *or*  $m_{\text{tan}} = 0$

$$y' = 2x \cdot e^x + e^x \cdot \ln e \cdot 1 \cdot x^2$$

$$0 = 2x \cdot e^x + x^2 e^x$$

$$0 = e^x \cdot x (2 + x)$$

$$x = 0, -2$$

$$\underline{x = 0}$$

$$y = 0^2 \cdot e^0$$

$$y = 0$$

$$\underline{(0, 0)}$$

$$\underline{x = -2}$$

$$y = (-2)^2 \cdot e^{-2}$$

$$= 4 \cdot \frac{1}{e^2}$$

$$\underline{(-2, \frac{4}{e^2})}$$

4. Determine  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{5^{x+h} - 5^x}{h}$

$$= \frac{d(5^x)}{dx} = \boxed{5^x \cdot \ln 5}$$

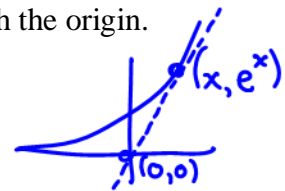
5. Determine the equation of the tangent to  $y = e^x$  which passes through the origin.

$$m_{\text{tan}} = \frac{y - 0}{x - 0}$$

$$\downarrow y = e^x$$

$$y' = e^x$$

$$y' = e^x \Big|_{x=1}$$



$$m_{\text{tan}} = \frac{e^x - 0}{x - 0}$$

$$e^x = \frac{e^x}{x}$$

$$\underline{x = 1}$$

$$y = e^1$$

$$\boxed{y - e = e'(x - 1)}$$