

Subject for this video: Tangent Line Problems Involving Logarithmic Functions

Reading:

- **General:** Section 3.2 Derivatives of Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- **More Specifically:** The book does not discuss tangent lines in Section 3.2, and there are no similar examples.

Homework:

H44: Derivatives of Logarithmic Functions (3.2#31,35)

Recall the Derivative Rules that we learned about in previous videos.

The Constant Function Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} c = 0$

The Power Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} x^n = nx^{n-1}$

The Sum and Constant Multiple Rule: $\frac{d}{dx} (af(x) + bg(x)) = a\frac{d}{dx} f(x) + b\frac{d}{dx} g(x)$

Exponential Function Rule #1: $\frac{d}{dx} e^{(x)} = e^{(x)}$

Exponential Function Rule #2: $\frac{d}{dx} e^{(kx)} = ke^{(kx)}$

Exponential Function Rule #3: $\frac{d}{dx} b^{(x)} = b^{(x)} \cdot \ln(b)$

Logarithmic Function Rule #1 $\frac{d}{dx} \ln(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

Logarithmic Function Rule #2 $\frac{d}{dx} \log_b(x) = \frac{1}{x \ln(b)}$

[Example]

(A) Find equation of line tangent to $f(x) = 5 + \ln(x^3)$ at $x = e^2$.

We need to find $(y - f(a)) = f'(a) \cdot (x - a)$

Point-slope form
of the equation
of the tangent line

Get Parts

$a = e^2$ the x coordinate of the point of tangency

$$f(a) = f(e^2) = 5 + \ln(e^{2^3}) = 5 + \ln(e^6) = 5 + 6 \ln(e) = 5 + 6 \cdot 1 = 11$$

Sub $x=e^2$ into $f(x)$

simplify
 $(e^a)^b = e^{a \cdot b}$

property $\ln(a^b) = b \ln(a)$

$\ln(e) = 1$

y
coord
of
point of
tangency

Rewrite $f(x) = 5 + \ln(x^3) = 5 + 3 \ln(x)$

Use property $\ln(a^b) = b \ln(a)$

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} 5 + 3 \ln(x) = \frac{d}{dx} 5 + 3 \frac{d}{dx} \ln(x) = 0 + 3 \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) = \frac{3}{x}$$

Sum & constant multiple rule

$$f'(a) = \frac{3}{e^2}$$

Sub $a=e^2$ into $f'(x)$

Slope of the tangent line

Substitute parts into the tangent line equation

$$(y - f(a)) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

$$(y - 11) = \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)(x - e^2)$$

equation for the tangent line in point slope form
convert to slope intercept form. (Solve for y)

$$y - 11 = \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)(x - e^2) = \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)x - \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)e^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)x - 3$$

$$y = \left(\frac{3}{e^2}\right)x + 8$$

equation for the tangent line in slope intercept form.

(B) Illustrate your solution on the given graph of $f(x) = 5 + \ln(x^3)$

