

## Differentiation of hyperbolic functions

### Starter

1. **(Review of last lesson)** Solve the equation  $3 \cosh x - 2 \sinh x = 3$ .

**Working:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 3 \cosh x - 2 \sinh x = 3 \\
 \text{Using the definitions:} & \quad \frac{3(e^x + e^{-x})}{2} - \frac{2(e^x - e^{-x})}{2} = 3 \\
 \text{Multiply by } 2e^x: & \quad 3e^{2x} + 3 - 2e^{2x} + 2 = 6e^x \\
 & \quad e^{2x} - 6e^x + 5 = 0 \\
 & \quad (e^x - 1)(e^x - 5) = 0 \\
 \text{Either } & \quad e^x = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad e^x = 5 \\
 & \quad x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x = \ln 5
 \end{aligned}$$

2. **(Review of last lesson)** Solve  $\sinh^2 x - 5 \cosh x + 5 = 0$ .

**Working:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2 \cosh^2 x + \sinh x = 30 \\
 \text{Replace } \cosh^2 x \text{ by } \sinh^2 x + 1: & \quad 2(\sinh^2 x + 1) + \sinh x = 30 \\
 & \quad 2 \sinh^2 x + \sinh x - 28 = 0 \\
 & \quad (2 \sinh x - 7)(\sinh x + 4) = 0 \\
 \sinh x = \frac{7}{2} & \quad \text{or} \quad \sinh x = -4 \\
 x = \sinh^{-1} \frac{7}{2} & \quad \text{or} \quad x = \sinh^{-1}(-4) \\
 = \ln \left( \frac{7}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{7}{2}\right)^2 + 1} \right) & \quad = \ln(-4 + \sqrt{(-4)^2 + 1}) \\
 = \ln \left( \frac{7 + \sqrt{52}}{2} \right) & \quad = \ln(-4 + \sqrt{17})
 \end{aligned}$$

3. By differentiating the definition of  $\sinh x$ , find the derivative of  $\sinh x$  in terms of a hyperbolic function.

**Working:** Let  $y = \sinh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} = \cosh x$$

4. Work out the derivative of: (a)  $\cosh x$  (b)  $\tanh x$ .

**Working:** (a) Let  $y = \cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}$   

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} = \sinh x$$

(b) Let  $y = \tanh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$   

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{(e^x + e^{-x})(e^x + e^{-x}) - (e^x - e^{-x})(e^x + e^{-x})}{(e^x + e^{-x})^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{e^{2x} + 1 + 1 + e^{-2x} - e^{2x} + 1 + 1 - e^{-2x}}{(e^x + e^{-x})^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4}{(e^x + e^{-x})^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 x}$$

**E.g. 1** Differentiate these functions:

- (a)  $y = \sinh 4x$  (b)  $y = \cosh^2 x$  (c)  $y = \ln \sinh x$   
 (d)  $y = e^{\cosh x}$  (e)  $y = \cosh x \sinh x$

**Working:** (a)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4 \cosh 4x$

(b)  $y = \cosh^2 x = (\cosh x)^2$   

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \times \sinh x \times (\cosh x)^{2-1} = 2 \sinh x \cosh x = \sinh 2x$$

(c)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\cosh x}{\sinh x} = \coth x$

(d)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sinh x e^{\cosh x}$

(e)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sinh x \times \sinh x + \cosh x \times \cosh x = \sinh^2 x + \cosh^2 x$

**E.g. 2** Find the exact  $x$ -coordinate of the stationary point of the graph  $y = e^{5x} \sinh 2x$ .

**Working:** 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 5e^{5x} \sinh 2x + 2e^{5x} \cosh 2x = e^{5x}(5 \sinh 2x + 2 \cosh 2x)$$

**A SP occurs when  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ :** 
$$e^{5x}(5 \sinh 2x + 2 \cosh 2x) = 0$$

**Since  $e^{5x} > 0$ :** 
$$5 \sinh 2x + 2 \cosh 2x = 0$$

$$\tanh 2x = -0.4$$

$$\tanh^{-1} x = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{1+x}{1-x} \right):$$

$$x = \frac{1}{4} \ln \left( \frac{1-0.4}{1+0.4} \right)$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{1}{4} \ln \frac{3}{7}$$

**E.g. 3** Let  $y = A \cosh kx + B \sinh kx$ .

(a) Find an expression for  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $y$ .

(b) Hence find  $y$  as a function of  $x$  given that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4y$ , and that when  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 2$  and  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2$ .

**Working:** (a) 
$$y = A \cosh kx + B \sinh kx$$
  

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = Ak \sinh kx + Bk \cosh kx$$
  

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = Ak^2 \cosh kx + Bk^2 \sinh kx$$
  

$$= k^2(A \cosh kx + B \sinh kx)$$
  

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = k^2y$$

(b) 
$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4y \Rightarrow k = 2 \Rightarrow y = A \cosh 2x + B \sinh 2x$$

When  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 2$ :  $2 = A + 0 \Rightarrow A = 2$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4 \sinh 2x + 2B \cosh 2x$$

When  $x = 0$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2$ :  $2 = 0 + 2B \Rightarrow B = 1$

$$\therefore y = 2 \cosh 2x + \sinh 2x$$

**Video:** [Differentiation of hyperbolic functions](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

**Exercise**

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