

*This lab is to be turned in at next week's lab period, on November 2. Present your responses fully and clearly.*

1. The book uses implicit differentiation to prove the derivative formula  $\frac{d}{dx} x^r = r x^{r-1}$  for rational numbers  $r$ , but it might be a little confusing. It's a little less confusing to look at  $\frac{d}{dx} x^{1/n}$  for a positive integer  $n$ . Suppose  $y = x^{1/n}$  where  $n$  is a positive integer. Prove that  $y' = \frac{1}{n} x^{(1/n)-1}$  as follows: Write  $y^n = x$ . Apply implicit differentiation to this equation, solve for  $y'$ , and show how to rewrite the result in the desired form.
2. We have a new derivative rule: If  $b$  is a positive constant, then  $\frac{d}{dx} b^x = b^x \ln(b)$ . Using this rule and other rules, compute each of the following derivatives:
  - a)  $\frac{d}{dx} \cos(2^x - 3^x)$
  - b)  $\frac{d}{dx} 2^{2^x}$
  - c)  $\frac{d}{dt} t^5 5^t$
3. Recall that *even* functions such as  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $f(x) = \cos(x)$  satisfy  $f(-x) = f(x)$ , and *odd* functions such as  $f(x) = x^3$  and  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  satisfy  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ . What happens when you take the derivative of an even or odd function? Try some examples. Invent a theorem about the relationship between odd/even and derivatives. Then **prove** your theorem.
4. Suppose that  $f(x)$  is a function, and  $g(x)$  is defined as  $g(x) = f(|x|)$ .
  - a) How does the graph of  $g(x)$  compare to the graph of  $f(x)$ ? Give some specific examples. Come up with a general description, and explain why your description is valid.
  - b) Can  $g(x)$  be differentiable at  $x = 0$ ? (The answer is yes.) Try some examples, including  $f(x) = x$ ,  $f(x) = x^2$ , and  $f(x) = x^3$ . Come up with a theorem that gives a condition under which  $g'(0)$  will exist. Then **prove** your theorem.
5. This problem concerns tangent lines through points that do **not** necessarily lie on a curve. Consider the curve  $y = x^2$ .
  - a) The tangent line to  $y = x^2$  at  $x = a$  has slope  $2a$  and passes through the point  $(a, a^2)$ . Find the equation for this tangent line, in the form  $y = mx + b$ , where  $m$  and  $b$  are expressed in terms of  $a$ .
  - b) Verify that the tangent lines to  $y = x^2$  at  $a = 1$  and at  $a = 5$  both pass through the point  $(3, 5)$ .
  - c) Now, suppose that you are given a point  $(c, d)$ , and you want to find all lines that pass through  $(c, d)$  and are tangent to  $y = x^2$ . Use the equation for tangent lines that you found in part **a**. Plug  $c$  for  $x$  and  $d$  for  $y$  into that equation, and solve for  $a$  in terms of  $c$  and  $d$ . (Use the quadratic formula.) Explain the meaning of your answer in terms of tangent lines.
  - d) Use the result from part **c** to find all tangent lines to  $y = x^2$  that pass through the point  $(1, -3)$ .
  - e) What happens if you try to use the result from part **c** to find tangent lines to  $y = x^2$  that pass through the point  $(1, 3)$ ?
  - f) How many tangent lines to  $y = x^2$  pass through the point  $(c, d)$ ? The answer can be zero, one, or two. For which points  $(c, d)$  is the answer zero? one? two? Explain why the answer makes sense geometrically. Draw a picture.
  - g) For the curve  $y = x^3 - 3x$ , three different tangent lines can intersect at a point. Draw a picture to illustrate this (without calculating or proving your result).