

Let $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{x^2+1}$, What is $f'(1)$?

Step 1: Definition of f' :

$$f'(1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(1+h) - f(1)}{h}$$

Step 2: Plug in f :

$$f'(1) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{(1+h)^2}{(1+h)^2+1} - \frac{1^2}{1^2+1}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1+2h+h^2}{1+2h+h^2+1} - \frac{1}{2}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h \cdot \frac{(1+2h+h^2)2 - 1 \cdot (2+2h+h^2+1)}{h(2+2h+h^2+1)} \cdot 2}{h(2+2h+h^2) \cdot 2}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4+2h-2-h}{(2+2h+h^2) \cdot 2} = \frac{4-2}{2 \cdot 2} = \frac{2}{4} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

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Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$. What is $f'(x)$?

Step 1: Def of f' :

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

Step 2: Plug in f :

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+h+1} - \sqrt{x+1}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+h+1} + \sqrt{x+1}}{\sqrt{x+h+1} + \sqrt{x+1}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+h+x - \cancel{(x+1)}}{h(\sqrt{x+h+1} + \sqrt{x+1})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x+1}} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+1}}}$$