

## Example 81.

- The area of a circle of radius  $r$  is  $A = \pi r^2$ .  
The circumference of that circle is  $2\pi r$ .
- The volume of a sphere of radius  $r$  is  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ .  
The surface area of that sphere is  $4\pi r^2$ .

Note that the circumference is  $\frac{dA}{dr}$  and that the surface area is  $\frac{dV}{dr}$ . Can you say why?

See: <https://www.math.hmc.edu/funfacts/ffiles/20004.2-3.shtml>

## Linearization

The **linearization** of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  is the tangent line

$$L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a).$$

It serves as an approximation (“standard linear approximation”) of  $f$  near  $a$ .

**Example 82.** Find the linearization of  $f(x) = x^3(2x + 1)^{10}$  at  $x = -1$ .

**Solution.**  $f'(x) = 3x^2(2x + 1)^{10} + x^3 \cdot 10(2x + 1)^9 \cdot 2 = 3x^2(2x + 1)^{10} + 20x^3(2x + 1)^9$  and  $f'(-1) = 23$ .

Since  $f(-1) = -1$ , the linearization therefore is  $L(x) = -1 + 23(x + 1)$ .

**Example 83.** Find a linearization of  $f(x) = \ln(x)$  at a suitable integer  $x$  near 1.01 and use that to estimate  $f(1.01)$  without a calculator.

**Solution.** The only suitable point near 1.01 is 1. Using  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ , we have  $f(1) = \ln(1) = 0$  and  $f'(1) = 1$ .

Hence  $L(x) = 0 + 1(x - 1) = x - 1$  is the linear approximation of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 1$ .

Using that, we estimate  $f(1.01) \approx L(1.01) = 0.01$ .

**For comparison.** The exact value is  $f(1.01) = \ln(1.01) = 0.00995033\dots$

**Make a rough sketch.** Since the tangent line at  $x = 1$  lies above the graph of  $f(x)$ , we know that our approximation is an overestimate.

**Comment.** Techniques like this are indeed used by calculators to evaluate transcendental functions.

**Example 84.** Approximate  $e^{-0.0015}$  using an appropriate linear approximation.

**Solution.** We use the linearization of  $f(x) = e^x$  at  $x = 0$ . Since  $f(0) = 1$  and  $f'(0) = 1$ , the linearization is  $L(x) = 1 + 1(x - 0) = x + 1$ .

Using that, we estimate  $e^{-0.0015} = f(-0.0015) \approx L(-0.0015) = 1 - 0.0015 = 0.9985$ .

**For comparison.** From a sketch, we know that our estimate is an underestimate (because the tangent line is below the graph). The exact value is  $e^{-0.0015} = 0.998501\dots$